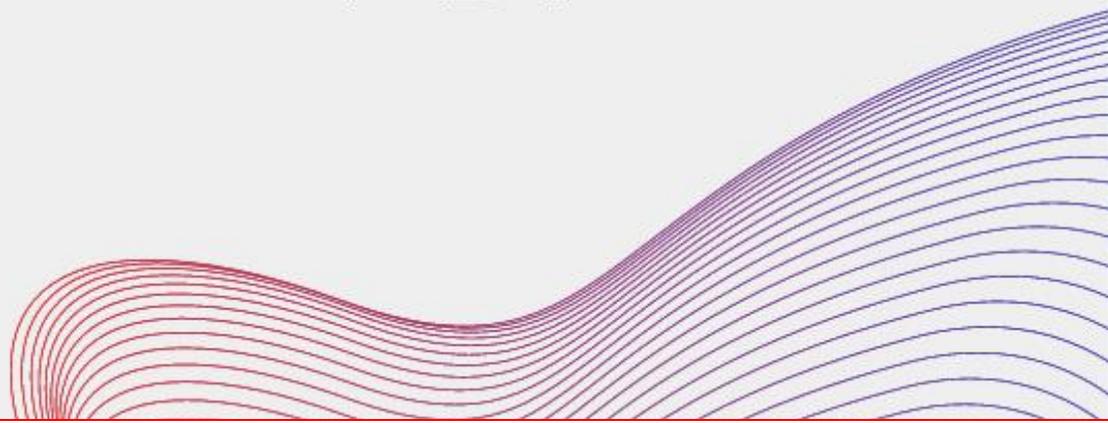




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JULY 2023

Current Affairs PDF



1. Which state government has launched the 'Jagananna Amma Vodi' scheme?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 'जगनन्ना अम्मा वोडी' योजना शुरू की है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Andhra Pradesh CM launches 'Jagananna Amma Vodi' scheme

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the 'Jagananna Amma Vodi' scheme for the fourth year.

Under this financial assistance of Rs 6,393 crore will be deposited into the bank accounts of 43 lakh beneficiaries.

Under the Amma Vodi scheme, eligible mothers who send their children to schools will receive Rs 15,000 financial aid to meet the educational expenses.

The state has credited a total of Rs 26,067 crore under Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme, including Rs 6,393 crore disbursement set in motion.

About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
- **Governor** – S. Abdul Nazeer

2. Who has inaugurated the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC) at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली के प्रगति मैदान में 17वीं भारतीय सहकारी कांग्रेस (ICC) का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated 17th Indian Cooperative Congress in New Delhi

PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC) at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

The two days Indian Cooperative Congress would be organized by the National Cooperative Union of India.

Theme 2023: Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India

It chaired by the Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah

The objective of the meeting is to discuss various trends in the cooperative movement, to showcase the best practices being adopted by the successful cooperatives and to deliberate on challenges being faced by the cooperative world.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi chairs **42nd PRAGATI interaction**
- 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

3. Which company has launched its first commercial space flight with paying customers?

किस कंपनी ने भुगतान करने वाले ग्राहकों के साथ अपनी पहली वाणिज्यिक अंतरिक्ष उड़ान शुरू की है?

- (a) Virgin Galactic / वर्जिन गैलेक्टिक
- (b) Blue Origin / ब्लू ओरिजिन
- (c) Rocket Lab / रॉकेट लैब
- (d) SpaceX / स्पेसएक्स
- (e) Lockheed Martin / लॉकहीड मार्टिन

Ans. a

Sol. Virgin Galactic launches first commercial spaceflight

Space tourism company Virgin Galactic, founded by Sir Richard Branson in 2004, completed its long-awaited first commercial spaceflight, called Galactic 01.

Taking off from Spaceport America in New Mexico, the company's spacecraft was flown by a pair of pilots and carried four passengers: a Virgin Galactic trainer, to oversee the mission from inside the cabin, and its first trio of paying customers.

The three paying passengers are members of the Italian Air Force. The flight also carried 13 research payloads onboard.

If Galactic 01 was a success, it would plan to fly its second mission as soon as August and then aim to begin flying its spacecraft, VSS Unity, once a month.

4. Which country has become the first country in the world to ban thin plastic bags at supermarkets?

कौन सा देश सुपरमार्केट में पतली प्लास्टिक थैलियों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने वाला दुनिया का पहला देश बन गया है?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) India / भारत
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. b

Sol. New Zealand becomes 1st country in the world to ban thin plastic bag

New Zealand became the first country in the world to ban thin plastic bags at supermarkets on July 1, 2023.

The ban applies to single-use plastic bags that are less than 70 microns thick.

This includes bags used to carry fruit and vegetables, as well as bags used for bread and other items.

The new ban will also extend to plastic straws and silverware, as the government expands a campaign against single-use plastics it started in 2019 when it banned the thicker plastic shopping bags that customers used to carry home their grocery items.

About New Zealand

- **Capital** – Wellington
- **Currency** – Dollar
- **Prime Minister** - Chris Hipkins
- **Deputy Prime Minister** - Carmel Sepuloni

5. Which bank has launched a 'Centralized Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell' to boost priority sector lending?
किस बैंक ने प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र को ऋण देने को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 'केंद्रीकृत पूल बाय-आउट और सह-उधार सेल' लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) City Union Bank / सिटी यूनियन बैंक
- (b) Indian Overseas Bank / इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक
- (c) Bank of India / बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
- (d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
- (e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. Bank of India launched Centralised Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell

Bank of India has launched a 'Centralized Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell' to boost priority sector lending in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Cell will be equipped with an end-to-end digital underwriting system to onboard pool buy-outs and co-lending of loans in partnership with NBFCs (non-banking finance companies).

Through this platform, seamless integration will be provided between the Bank and multiple NBFCs.

The Cell will onboard loan assets under Retail, MSME and the Agriculture segment with a dedicated team. So far, the Bank had been underwriting the aforementioned loans via various branches spread across the country.

About Bank of India (BOI)

- Founded- 7 September 1906
- Founder- Ramnarain Ruia
- Headquarters- Mumbai
- MD & CEO - Rajneesh Karnatak
- Tagline - Relationship beyond Banking

6. How much lakh crore rupees was GST collected in June 2023?

जून 2023 में कितने लाख करोड़ रुपये का जीएसटी संग्रह हुआ?

- (a) 1,45,867 crore
- (b) 1,61,497 crore
- (c) 1,49,577 crore
- (d) 1,60,122 crore
- (e) 1,51,718 crore

Ans. b

Sol. GST collection grows 12% to over ₹1.61 lakh crore in June

India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection crossed ₹1,61,497 crore in June.

The government has settled ₹36,224 crore to CGST and ₹30,269 crore to SGST from IGST.

The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of June 2023 after regular settlement is ₹67,237 crore for CGST and ₹68,561 crore for the SGST. The revenues for the month of June 2023 are 12% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year.

During the month, the revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) are 18% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year

It is for the fourth time, the gross GST collection has crossed Rs. 1.60 lakh crore mark. The average monthly gross GST collection for the first quarter of the FY 2021-22, FY 22-23 & FY 23-24 are Rs. 1.10 lakh crore, Rs. 1.51 lakh crore and Rs. 1.69 lakh crore respectively.

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

7. Ajay Bhatnagar has been appointed as the Special Director of which of the following?

अजय भटनागर को निम्नलिखित में से किसके विशेष निदेशक के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) NSG
- (b) CBI
- (c) CRPF
- (d) CISF
- (e) ED

Ans. b

Sol. IPS officer Ajay Bhatnagar appointed as Special Director in CBI

Ajay Bhatnagar has been appointed as the Special Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Bhatnagar is a senior IPS officer of the 1989 batch from Jharkhand cadre.

Currently serving as Additional Director in the CBI, Bhatnagar will hold the position of Special Director until his superannuation on November 20, 2024.

Anurag, who was previously Joint Director in the CBI, has been promoted to the role of Additional Director in the agency for a period until July 24, 2023, which completes his seven-year tenure.

Manoj Sashidhar, a 1994 batch IPS officer from Gujarat cadre, has been appointed as Additional Director in the CBI for a three-year term. He is currently serving as Joint Director in the agency.

Recent Appointments

- **Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** - Ravi Sinha (replace Samant Kumar Goel)
- **Director general of the Border Security Force (BSF)** - Nitin Agarwal
- **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

8. Gernot Dollner has been appointed as Chairman and CEO of the luxury car brand Audi. Audi is the company of which country?

गर्नोट डॉल्लर को लक्जरी कार ब्रांड ऑडी के अध्यक्ष और सीईओ के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है। ऑडी किस देश की कंपनी है?

- (a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (b) USA / यूएसए
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (e) Germany / जर्मनी

Ans. e

Sol. Gernot Dollner appoints as Chairman and CEO of Audi

German luxury car brand Audi has appointed Gernot Dollner as Chairman of the Board of Management, effective September 1, 2023.

He will take over Markus Duesmann.

Gernot Dollner joined Volkswagen as a Ph.D. candidate in 1993 and subsequently served in a number of management roles at Porsche, including as head of Concept Development and head of the Panamera Series.

Since 2021, he has overseen the Volkswagen Group's Product and Group Strategy and the General Secretariat.

9. Who has been appointed as senior advisor of Deloitte?

डेलॉइट के वरिष्ठ सलाहकार के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Manoj Kohli / मनोज कोहली
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. b

Sol. Deloitte appoints Manoj Kohli as senior advisor

Deloitte has appointed Manoj Kohli as a senior advisor to leverage his extensive business and industry knowledge.

Kohli has 44 years of experience across 30 countries, with expertise in technology, telecommunications, renewables, and digital sectors.

He played a pivotal role in expanding Softbank India's presence in India.

Prior to that, he served as the CEO and Managing Director of Bharati Airtel, driving the company's growth and market dominance in India's telecommunications industry

Recent Appointment

- **MD and CEO of Hindustan Unilever** - Rohit Jawa (replace Sanjiv Mehta)
- **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)

10. Who has been honored with Point of Light Award 2023 by British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak?

ब्रिटिश प्रधान मंत्री ऋषि सुनक द्वारा पॉइंट ऑफ़ लाइट अवार्ड 2023 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Dalai Lama / दलाई लामा
- (b) Rajindar Singh Dhatt / राजिंदर सिंह धट्ट
- (c) Raghu Ram Pillarisetti / रघु राम पिल्लरीसेट्टी
- (d) Shanti Lakra /शांति लकड़ा
- (e) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा

Ans. b

Sol. Rajindar Singh Dhatt honoured with the Points of Light Award 2023

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak honoured Rajindar Singh Dhatt with a Points of Light award at a UK-India Week reception at 10 Downing Street.

He was recognized for his service and work running the 'Undivided Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association'.

The Points of Light award recognize outstanding people whose service is making a difference in their communities and whose stories can inspire others towards innovative solutions to social challenges in their own communities and beyond.

Dhatt was one of the last surviving Sikh soldiers who fought in World War II.

Dhatt had joined the British Indian Army during the Second World War and excelled up the ranks, being promoted to Havildar Major (Sergeant Major) in 1943.

Recent Awards

- **1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award** - Pt P. D. Baul
- **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)

11. India beat which country in the Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023 in Busan, Korea?

बुसान, कोरिया में एशियाई कबड्डी चैंपियनशिप 2023 में भारत ने किस देश को हराया?

- (a) China / चीन
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Iran / ईरान

Ans. e

Sol. India beat Iran to win Asian Kabaddi Championship in Busan, India beat Iran 42-32 in the final of the Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023 in Busan, Korea.

This is India's eighth title in nine editions.

Indian captain Pawan Sehrawat led from the front with a super 10.

Earlier in the day, India had beaten Hong Kong 64-20 to end the league stage of the tournament undefeated.

The next big challenge for the Indian kabaddi teams will be the upcoming Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.

Six teams – India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei and Hong Kong – participated in the Championships.

12. National Postal Worker Day is celebrated every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय डाक कर्मचारी दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 July / 1 जुलाई
- (b) 2 July / 2 जुलाई
- (c) 3 July / 3 जुलाई
- (d) 4 July / 4 जुलाई
- (e) 5 July / 5 जुलाई

Ans. a

Sol. 1 July - National Postal Worker Day

National Postal Worker Day is celebrated every year on July 1 to honour and appreciate the hard work and dedication of postal workers.

They brave various weather conditions, gruelling schedules, and challenging circumstances to deliver mail to homes and businesses, keeping the communication channels open and operational.

From delivering letters and packages to providing essential services, postal workers have been an integral part of our society for several decades.

The inaugural National Postal Worker Day took place in 1997, initiated by a postal carrier in the Seattle area as a means to honor postal employees.

On that memorable day, a remarkable achievement was accomplished by postal workers across the United States.

Approximately 490,000 postal workers embarked on a journey, walking an average of 4 to 8 miles, to successfully deliver a full load of letters and packages to every doorstep.

Since then, National Postal Worker Day has been celebrated annually as a way to express gratitude and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of postal workers.

13. Canada Day is celebrated every year on which day?

कनाडा दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 July / 1 जुलाई
- (b) 2 July / 2 जुलाई
- (c) 3 July / 3 जुलाई
- (d) 4 July / 4 जुलाई
- (e) 5 July / 5 जुलाई

Ans. a

Sol. 1 July - Canada Day

Canada day is celebrated every year on 1 July. It is a national holiday of Canada.

The day marks the country's confederation, which brought together the three provinces into a single Dominion within the British Empire in 1867.

The day is celebrated with excitement and joy on 1 July as on this date Canada became a self-governing nation and a Constitution was enacted.

14. National Doctor's Day is celebrated every year on July 1st. What is the theme of National Doctors' Day 2023?

राष्ट्रीय चिकित्सक दिवस हर साल 1 जुलाई को मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय चिकित्सक दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Celebrating Resilience and Healing Hands
- (b) Family Doctors on the Front Line
- (c) Doctors are Life Savers
- (d) Lessen the mortality of COVID-19
- (e) Zero tolerance to violence against doctors and clinical establishments

Ans. a

Sol. 1 July - National Doctors' Day

National Doctor's Day is celebrated on July 1st every year in India.

Objective - To create awareness about the importance of doctors, their selfless service, and the valuable role they play in improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities.

Theme 2023 - Celebrating Resilience and Healing Hands

The history behind National Doctor's Day dates back to the birth anniversary of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, a renowned physician and the second Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Dr. Roy was born on July 1, 1882, and he dedicated his life to the medical profession, making significant contributions to the field of healthcare and public health.

This day also commemorates the birth anniversary of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, a prominent figure in the medical field, and serves as a platform for discussions and activities that aim to enhance healthcare services and promote a healthier nation.

It was in his honour and as a tribute to his invaluable contributions that the Government of India designated July 1st as National Doctor's Day in 1991.

This decision was taken to recognise the importance of doctors and their role in society, as well as to commemorate Dr. Roy's legacy, professionalism, and humanitarian values.

15. Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day is observed every year on 1 July to commemorate the implementation of the GST regime in the country. In which year GST idea was first proposed in India to simplify the complex tax system?

देश में जीएसटी व्यवस्था के कार्यान्वयन के उपलक्ष्य में हर साल 1 जुलाई को वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (जीएसटी) दिवस मनाया जाता है। जटिल कर प्रणाली को सरल बनाने के लिए भारत में पहली बार जीएसटी का विचार किस वर्ष प्रस्तावित किया गया था?

- (a) 1996
- (b) 2000
- (c) 2005
- (d) 2008
- (e) 2017

Ans. b

Sol. 1 July - GST Day

Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day is observed every year on 1 July to commemorate the implementation of the GST regime in the country.

GST is a comprehensive indirect tax imposed on the supply of goods and services nationwide.

GST was implemented in India on July 1, 2017, marking a significant milestone in the country's economic history.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) idea was first proposed in India in the early 2000s to simplify the complex tax system.

The Kelkar Task Force, a dedicated team, suggested a comprehensive indirect tax system as a replacement for the existing structure that was impeding the economic growth of the country.

After discussions and negotiations, the Parliament passed the Constitution (101st Amendment) Act in August 2016, giving the central government the power to levy and collect GST.

To oversee the implementation, the government formed the GST Council, comprising Finance Ministers from both central and state governments.

The council held meetings to determine GST rates, exemptions, and address concerns. Finally, on July 1, 2017, GST was implemented across India, creating a unified market for seamless trade between states.

GST has replaced multiple indirect taxes charged by the central and state governments, including excise duty, service tax, value-added tax (VAT), and others, making the tax system more straightforward and transparent. The implementation of GST has also reduced compliance costs for taxpayers, promoting ease of doing business and improving the country's overall business climate.

16. National Chartered Accountants Day (CA Day) is observed on July 1 to commemorate the findings of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). In which year Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) was established?
इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ चार्टर्ड अकाउंटेंट्स ऑफ इंडिया (आईसीएआई) के निष्कर्षों की याद में 1 जुलाई को राष्ट्रीय चार्टर्ड अकाउंटेंट दिवस (सीए दिवस) मनाया जाता है। इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ चार्टर्ड अकाउंटेंट्स ऑफ इंडिया (आईसीएआई) की स्थापना किस वर्ष हुई थी?

- (a) 1947
- (b) 1948
- (c) 1949
- (d) 1952
- (e) 1956

Ans. c

Sol. 1 July - National Chartered Accountants Day

National Chartered Accountants Day (CA Day) is observed on July 1 to commemorate the findings of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) by Parliament in 1949.

The day recognizes the contribution of India's oldest and most professional financial and accounting organization - the ICAI. This year ICAI celebrates its 75th year of existence.

The ICAI is India's exclusive licensing and regulatory authority for the accounting profession and financial auditing. Every accounting and finance organization, including the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), is required to adopt the accounting standards guidelines issued by them.

On July 1, 1949, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) was established.

17. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047 in which state?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने किस राज्य में राष्ट्रीय सिकल सेल एनीमिया उन्मूलन मिशन 2047 का उद्घाटन किया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047 in Lalpur village of Madhya Pradesh.

The Prime Minister also participated in several programs in Shahdol district including distribution of 3.57 crore Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana cards.

What is the mission?

- The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission, announced in the union budget 2023, aims to address the pressing health challenges posed by sickle cell disease, particularly among the tribal population.
- The mission aims to eliminate sickle cell disease as a public health problem by 2047.
- The mission will be implemented in 278 districts of 17 states in India, viz., namely Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, and Uttarakhand.
- The mission entails focus on awareness creation, universal screening of approximately seven crore people in the 0-40 years age group in affected tribal areas, and counseling through collaborative efforts of central ministries and state governments.

What is sickle cell anaemia?

- According to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) is described as a collection of inherited red blood cell conditions that have an impact on haemoglobin, which transports oxygen throughout the body.
- When a person has SCA, their haemoglobin becomes defective, which makes the red blood cells hard and sticky, giving them the appearance of the C-shaped form implement known as a 'sickle.'
- According to Forbes, India has the second-highest global prevalence of Sickle Cell Disease. As per a National Health Mission report, MP also has the highest burden of sickle cell anaemia.

About Madhya Pradesh

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

18. Which state has become India's Top Electronics Exporter of 2023 with the export worth USD 5.37 billion?

कौन सा राज्य 5.37 बिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर के निर्यात के साथ 2023 में भारत का शीर्ष इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स निर्यातक बन गया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Tamil Nadu emerges as India's top electronics exporter in 2023

Tamil Nadu has become India's Top Electronics Exporter of 2023 with the export worth USD 5.37 billion while Uttar Pradesh was second.

Companies like Tata Electronics and Pegatron starting production have helped Tamil Nadu overtake three states - Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra - to become India's top exporter of electronic goods in FY23.

In 2020-21, of India's total electronics goods export of \$15.59 billion, Tamil Nadu's share was 11.98 percent. However, this zoomed to 22.83 percent, out of a total value of \$23.57 billion, according to Central government data.

Tamil Nadu is now home to over 15 leading electronics manufacturers, including Foxconn, Tata Electronics, Salcomp and Pegatron.

About Tamil Nadu

- **Capital** – Chennai
- **Chief Minister** – M K Stalin
- **Governor** – R N Ravi

19. A National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) will be developed in which state at a cost of Rs 4,500 crore under the government's Sagarmala programme?

सरकार के सागरमाला कार्यक्रम के तहत 4,500 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से किस राज्य में एक राष्ट्रीय समुद्री विरासत परिसर (एनएमएचसी) विकसित किया जाएगा?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Government to develop National Maritime Heritage Complex in Gujarat

A National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) will be developed in Lothal, Gujarat at a cost of Rs 4,500 crore under the government's Sagarmala programme.

NMHC would be developed as an international tourist destination at Lothal, where the maritime heritage of India from ancient to modern times would be showcased and an "edutainment approach" using the latest technology would be adopted to spread awareness about the country's maritime heritage.

About Gujarat

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

20. India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in which state started commercial operations?

भारत के पहले स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित 700 मेगावाट के परमाणु ऊर्जा रिएक्टर काकरापार परमाणु ऊर्जा परियोजना (KAPP) ने किस राज्य में वाणिज्यिक परिचालन शुरू किया?

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

Ans. c

Sol. India's first indigenous nuclear reactor starts operation in Gujarat

India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Gujarat started commercial operations.

The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is building two 700 MW pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWRs) at Kakrapar, which is also home to two 220 MW power plants.

Various commissioning activities were underway at KAPP 4, which had achieved 96.92 percent progress by May end.

The NPCIL plans to build sixteen 700 MW PHWRs across the country and has granted financial and administrative sanction for the same.

Construction of 700 MW nuclear power plants is underway at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan (RAPS 7 and 8) and at Gorakhpur in Haryana (GHAVP 1 and 2).

About Gujarat

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

21. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Coal India Limited (CIL)?

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड (सीआईएल) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Vijay Jasuja / विजय जसुजा
- (c) P M Prasad / पी एम प्रसाद
- (d) N S Rajana / एन एस राजन
- (e) Vinayak Godse / विनायक गोडसे

Ans. c

Sol. P M Prasad takes over as Coal India chairman

P M Prasad has been appointed as the new Chairman of Coal India Limited (CIL).

He succeeds Pramod Agrawal who stepped down on 30 June.

He has over 30-year experience in the coal mining sector and is a post-graduate in mining engineering from the Indian School of Mines IIT Dhanbad.

Prasad began his CIL career in 1984 as a management trainee at Western Coalfields Limited and served in different capacities across different CIL's subsidiaries.

He also had a three year stint in NTPC as Executive Director (coal mining).

Recent Appointment

- **Senior advisor of Deloitte** - Manoj Kohli
- **Special Director of CBI** - Ajay Bhatnagar
- **Additional Director of CBI** - Anurag
- **MD and CEO of Hindustan Unilever** - Rohit Jawa (replace Sanjiv Mehta)
- **President of BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Vertical** - Ruby Sinha

22. Who took oath as the Deputy chief minister of Maharashtra after joining the Eknath Shinde-led government?

एकनाथ शिंदे के नेतृत्व वाली सरकार में शामिल होने के बाद महाराष्ट्र के उप मुख्यमंत्री के रूप में किसने शपथ ली?

- (a) Sanjay Raut / संजय राऊत
- (b) Sharad Pawar / शरद पवार
- (c) Praful Patel / प्रफुल्ल पटेल
- (d) Ajit Pawar / अजित पवार
- (e) Supriya Sule / सुप्रिया सुले

Ans. d

Sol. Ajit Pawar sworn in as Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader, Ajit Pawar took oath as the Deputy chief minister of Maharashtra after joining the Eknath Shinde-led government.

He is the son of Sharad Pawar's elder brother Anantrao. He made his first foray into politics by being elected to the board of a sugar cooperative in 1982.

In 1991, Ajit became the chairman of Pune District Cooperative Bank, a post he served for the next 16 years.

Elected as an MP to the Lok Sabha from Baramati in 1991, Ajit later vacated the seat for Sharad Pawar who was the defence minister in the P.V. Narasimha Rao government. He later went on to become a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly (MLA) from the Baramati Assembly

Before the ceremony, Ajit submitted a letter of support of 35 NCP MLAs to Governor Ramesh Bais.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe & Ajit Pawar
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

23. Who was re-appointed as the Solicitor General of India for a term of three years?
तीन साल की अवधि के लिए भारत के सॉलिसिटर जनरल के रूप में किसे पुनः नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
- (b) Harish Salve / हरीश साल्वे
- (c) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (d) Tushar Mehta / तुषार मेहता
- (e) Kapil Sibal / कपिल सिब्बल

Ans. d

Sol. Tushar Mehta reappointed as Solicitor General of India

Senior advocate Tushar Mehta was re-appointed as the Solicitor General of India for a term of three years.

Mehta was appointed as Solicitor General on 10 October 2018 and since then he had been granted extension twice.

Besides Mehta, six Additional Solicitors General for the Supreme Court were also re-appointed for a period of three years.

Six ASGs who were re-appointed for the top court are Vikramjit Banerjee, K M Nataraj, Balbir Singh, S V Raju, N Venkataraman and Aishwarya Bhati.

Additional Solicitors General Chetan Sharma for Delhi High Court, Satya Pal Jain for Punjab and Haryana High Court, Devang Girish Vyas for Gujarat High Court and Krishna Nandan Singh for Patna High Court were also re-appointed for a period of three years.

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

24. Who has stepped down as HDFC chairman after 46 years recently?

हाल ही में किसने 46 वर्षों के बाद एचडीएफसी के अध्यक्ष पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया है?

- (a) Rakesh Makhija / राकेश मखीजा
- (b) Sunil Mehta / सुनील मेहता
- (c) Sashidhar Jagdishan / शशिधर जगदीशन
- (d) Deepak Parekh / दीपक पारेख
- (e) Atanu Chakraborty / अतनु चक्रवर्ती

Ans. d

Sol. Deepak Parekh steps down as HDFC chairman after 46 years

Deepak Parekh has announced his decision to step down as HDFC chairperson after serving as the chairman for 46 years.

He left his Manhattan Bank job in 1978 to join HDFC when he was 33 and built it

The board of the HDFC and HDFC Bank conduct a meeting on 30 June to approve the merger, Deepak Parekh told reporters. He dubbed the merger as the biggest transaction in India's corporate history and the proposed entity will have combined assets of ₹18 lakh crore.

The reverse merger of parent HDFC Ltd with HDFC Bank is effective from July 1.

The reports said that HDFC vice chairman and CEO Keki Mistry and HDFC MD Renu Karnad will be members of the board of HDFC Bank.

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25. Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra has recently resigned from her post as chief financial officer (CFO). He was the CFO of which bank?

चरणजीत सुरिंदर सिंह अत्रा ने हाल ही में मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी (सीएफओ) के पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया है। वह किस बैंक के सीएफओ थे?

- (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. a

Sol. SBI's chief financial officer Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra resigns

State Bank of India (SBI)'s chief financial officer, Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra has resigned.

Attra, who took on the role on October 2, 2020, had previously worked as a Partner at EY India and held a senior executive position at ICICI Securities.

Before Attra, the CFO position was held by Prashant Kumar, who moved to Yes Bank as part of a rescue plan led by SBI.

SBI also appointed four directors on the bank's central board for a period of three years.

Ketan Shivji Vikamsey and Mrugank Madhukar Paranjape, have been re-elected.

while, other two directors who have appointed are Rajesh Kumar Dubey and Dharmendra Singh Shekhawat.

About State Bank of India (SBI)

- **Founded** - 1 July 1955
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Dinesh Kumar Khara
- 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

26. Who has been awarded the prestigious PEN Pinter Prize 2023 for his work in poetry and literature for children?

बच्चों के लिए कविता और साहित्य में उनके काम के लिए प्रतिष्ठित PEN पिंटर पुरस्कार 2023 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Michael Rosen / माइकल रोसेन
- (c) Salman Rushdie / सलमान रुश्दी
- (d) Nick Sharratt / निक शरर्ट
- (e) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत

Ans. b

Sol. Michael Rosen wins 2023 year's PEN Pinter Prize

Michael Rosen has been awarded the prestigious PEN Pinter Prize 2023 for his work in poetry and literature for children.

Rosen is known for making poetry accessible to children through his work and performances, and his themes are often social, political, and ethical. Michael Rosen is one of our most tenacious and fearless writers. He is one of our most significant contemporary poets writing for young people.

In over 140 books, he has championed a way of writing for children which reflects their everyday worlds, using humour and wordplay to validate their imaginative ways of thinking and being, and which has informed his succinct interventions into the lifeless way that children are taught literacy in schools..."

Rosen's first book of children's poems, Mind Your Own Business, came out in 1974. At present, he is a professor of children's literature at Goldsmiths, University of London.

Recent Awards

- **Points of Light Award 2023 by British PM** - Rajindar Singh Dhatt
- **1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award** - Pt P. D. Baul
- **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

27. Olympian Neeraj Chopra has won Lausanne Diamond League 2023 with a best throw of _____.

ओलंपियन नीरज चोपड़ा ने _____ के सर्वश्रेष्ठ थ्रो के साथ लॉज़ेन डायमंड लीग 2023 जीता है।

- (a) 83.66 m
- (b) 84.66 m
- (c) 85.66 m
- (d) 86.66 m
- (e) 87.66 m

Ans. e

Sol. Olympian Neeraj Chopra wins Lausanne Diamond League 2023

Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra obtained the top spot in Lausanne Diamond League 2023 with a best throw of 87.66 m.

He opened his account with a throw of 83.52m in his second attempt, which put him in third place behind Julian Weber (86.20m) and Jakub Vadlejch (84.71m).

Chopra won his first Diamond League Trophy when he won the Lausanne League in August 2022.

He went on to win the Diamond League Trophy in the final in 2022.

The Tokyo Olympic gold medallist had won the Diamond League meeting in Doha on May 5 with a throw of 88.67 meters.

28. Who has made history by becoming the first Indian cricketer to be signed for the Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL)?

महिला कैरेबियन प्रीमियर लीग (WCPL) के लिए अनुबंधित होने वाली पहली भारतीय क्रिकेटर बनकर किसने इतिहास रचा है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Harmanpreet Kaur / हरमनप्रीत कौर
- (c) Renuka Singh / रेणुका सिंह
- (d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (e) Shreyanka Patil / श्रेयंका पाटिल

Ans. e

Sol. Shreyanka Patil becomes first player to be signed up for Women's CPL

Young spin bowler Shreyanka Patil has made history by becoming the first Indian cricketer to be signed for the Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL). Patil is also the first Indian player to be offered a contract in an overseas league before making her international debut. Shreyanka Patil made a name for herself when she was selected for Royal Challenger's Bangalore (RCB) in the inaugural edition of the WPL. In the 7 matches she played for RCB, the all-rounder took 6 wickets and scored 62 runs.

Patil has been selected for Guyana Amazon Warriors in the WCPL, which will be held from 31 August to 10 September.

29. International Plastic Bag Free Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्लास्टिक बैग मुक्त दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 July / 1 जुलाई
- (b) 2 July / 2 जुलाई
- (c) 3 July / 3 जुलाई
- (d) 4 July / 4 जुलाई
- (e) 5 July / 5 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 3 July - International Plastic Bag Free Day

International Plastic Bag Free Day is celebrated every year on July 3.

Objective - To increase public awareness of the damaging effects that single-use plastic bags have on the environment.

On July 3, 2008, Rezero, a member of Zero Waste Europe (ZWE), initiated the inaugural International Plastic Bag Free Day.

In its first year, the occasion was only observed in Catalonia. However, a year later, ZWE introduced the European Union to the International Plastic Bag Free Day.

30. World Sports Journalists Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व खेल पत्रकार दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 July / 1 जुलाई
- (b) 2 July / 2 जुलाई
- (c) 3 July / 3 जुलाई
- (d) 4 July / 4 जुलाई
- (e) 5 July / 5 जुलाई

Ans. b

Sol. 2 July - World Sports Journalists Day

World Sports Journalists Day is observed every year on 2 July.

The purpose of the occasion is to support those who promote different forms of sports, spreading the culture among the general masses.

In 1994, the International Sports Press Association (AIPS) established World Sports Journalist Day, the day commemorates the formation of AIPS as an organization on July 2 during the Summer Olympics in Paris.

Over the years, numerous sports media professionals have been honored for their accomplishments on this special day.

31. World UFO Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व यूएफओ दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 July / 1 जुलाई
- (b) 2 July / 2 जुलाई
- (c) 3 July / 3 जुलाई
- (d) 4 July / 4 जुलाई
- (e) 5 July / 5 जुलाई

Ans. b

Sol. 2 July - World UFO Day

World UFO Day is observed every year on 2 July.

It aims to promote the gathering of people who are interested in observing the skies for unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

On July 2, 1952, a significant event took place in Washington, D.C., involving multiple sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

These sightings were not only reported by numerous individuals but were also confirmed by radar operators and witnessed by experienced pilots.

World UFO Day was officially established in 2001 by Haktan Akdoğan, a Turkish UFO researcher. Initially, it was celebrated on June 24 to commemorate the first widely reported UFO sighting in the United States.

32. Union Minister for Home and Cooperation Amit Shah has virtually launched the 'Akshar River Cruise' on which Riverfront?

केंद्रीय गृह और सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने वस्तुतः किस रिवरफ्रंट पर 'अक्षर रिवर कूज़' लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Narmada Riverfront / नर्मदा रिवरफ्रंट
- (b) Sabarmati Riverfront / साबरमती रिवरफ्रंट
- (c) Mahi Riverfront / माही रिवरफ्रंट
- (d) Ganga Riverfront / गंगा रिवरफ्रंट
- (e) Tapi Riverfront / गंगा रिवरफ्रंट

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah launches Akshar River Cruise in Ahmedabad

Union Minister for Home and Cooperation Amit Shah has virtually launched the 'Akshar River Cruise' on Sabarmati Riverfront. This cruise is developed under Public Private Partnership by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and Sabarmati Riverfront Development Corporation Limited.

The cruise is the first passenger catamaran built in the country under Make in India at a cost of Rs 15 crore with twin engines where 165 passengers can travel safely for one-and-a-half hours.

The cruise has been designed keeping in mind the convenience of the citizens and is equipped with 180 life safety jackets, fire safety and emergency rescue boat.

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of 'Balidaan Stambh' in Srinagar
- 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

33. Who has inaugurated first-of-its-kind exhibition 'Banking on World Heritage' in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में अपनी तरह की पहली प्रदर्शनी 'बैंकिंग ऑन वर्ल्ड हेरिटेज' का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Smriti Irani / स्मृति ईरानी
- (d) Meenakashi Lekhi / मीनाक्षी लेखी
- (e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. First of its kind exhibition 'Banking on World Heritage' inaugurated

The first-of-its-kind exhibition 'Banking on World Heritage' was Inaugurated in New Delhi by the Minister of Culture and External Affairs, Meenakshi Lekhi.

The exhibition displays banknotes of G20 member nations, depicting world heritage sites listed by UNESCO, in a unique manner. The exhibition will help to connect the youth, who are mostly engaged on the digital platform, to their heritage through the physical currency notes.

The G20 countries have 70 percent of declared Heritage of the world and the exhibition brings out the collective effort of these countries to preserve and conserve Heritage and to connect the current generation to the greatness of their past.

The exhibition has been curated by the scholar Rukmini Dahanukar.

34. Which university has achieved a significant milestone by securing the first rank among India's private universities in the latest edition of the coveted Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking 2023?

प्रतिष्ठित क्वाक्युरेली साइमंड्स (QS) वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग 2023 के नवीनतम संस्करण में भारत के निजी विश्वविद्यालयों में प्रथम रैंक हासिल करके किस विश्वविद्यालय ने एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि हासिल की है?

- (a) University of Delhi
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi University
- (c) University of Kerala
- (d) Chandigarh University
- (e) Jawaharlal Nehru University

Ans. d

Sol. Chandigarh University ranked number 1 private university

Chandigarh University (CU) has achieved a significant milestone by securing the first rank among India's private universities in the latest edition of the coveted Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking.

As per QS WUR-2024, in which 2963 institutions were evaluated, Chandigarh University – keeping continuing its success streak – has secured an overall rank of 771-780, which is higher than its 801-1001 rank in the previous edition of the ranking released last year.

The university's overall score in this year's ranking is 15.2.

As many as 45 Indian universities have featured in the 20th edition of the QS rankings and the all-India rank of Chandigarh University is 20 – among all public and private institutes. The university also stood at 233rd spot in Asia.

While Chandigarh University (CU) climbed up the ladder as India's number one ranked private University, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has emerged as the number one ranked Indian public institute, in this year's coveted QS World University Rankings 2024.

The university also attained 27th rank in India's top universities in the recently released NIRF Rankings 2023.

Last year, Chandigarh University became the Youngest University to feature in the Top 200 QS Asia University Rankings 2023.

35. Union minister Jitendra Singh has launched Mission Karmayogi and mid-career training program in New Delhi. The program will be implemented by which ministry?

केंद्रीय मंत्री जितेंद्र सिंह ने नई दिल्ली में मिशन कर्मयोगी और मध्य-कैरियर प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है। कार्यक्रम किस मंत्रालय द्वारा कार्यान्वित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Ministry of Corporate Affairs/ कॉर्पोरेट मामलों के मंत्रालय
- (b) Ministry of Ayush / आयुष मंत्रालय
- (c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology / इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
- (d) Ministry of Finance / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (e) Ministry of Home Affairs / गृह मंत्रालय

Ans. c

Sol. Government launches Mission Karmayogi, mid-career training programmes

Union minister Jitendra Singh launched Mission Karmayogi and mid-career training program in New Delhi.

Mission Karmayogi is a human resources management transformation initiative of the Government of India.

The program will be implemented by the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

The aim of these initiatives is to train officers and equip them to contribute to the development of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) by making optimal use of new technology.

Mission Karmayogi is designed to provide world-class capacity-building opportunities to all government officials based on the key principle of "role-based" rather than "rule-based" and "competency-based" learning.

The programme aims to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of government servants in fulfilling their roles.

36. The Startup20 Shikhar summit is being held in which city under the India G20 Presidency?

स्टार्टअप20 शिखर शिखर सम्मेलन भारत जी20 प्रेसीडेंसी के तहत किस शहर में आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) Panaji / पणजी
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Gurugram/ गुरुग्राम

Ans. e

Sol. Startup20 Shikhar summit begins in Gurugram, Haryana

The Startup20 Shikhar summit is being held in Gurugram, Haryana.

The summit is being hosted by the Startup20 Engagement Group, which operates under the India G20 Presidency.

The startup-20 strives to create a conducive business environment across G20 nations and assist such talents from diverse background to commercialize, scale up and innovation further.

During the summit, startup 20 communique was released, which urged G20 leaders to raise the joint investment in the global startup ecosystem to one trillion US dollar by 2030.

Six hundred stakeholders from different countries are participating in the summit. Two hundred international delegates from Sixteen G20 nations and Six invitees nation are participating in the summit.

The Startup20 Shikhar Summit signifies India's commitment to fostering an enabling environment for startups and reinforcing its position as a global leader in innovation and entrepreneurship.

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

- **U20 Engagement Group of Mayoral Summit** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat (7 – 8 July 2023)
- **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)

37. Which bank has launched 34 Transaction Banking Hubs in the top 21 district centres across the country to provide customers with quick and efficient transaction banking solutions?

ग्राहकों को त्वरित और कुशल लेनदेन बैंकिंग समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए किस बैंक ने देश भर के शीर्ष 21 जिला केंद्रों में 34 लेनदेन बैंकिंग हब लॉन्च किए हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. SBI launches 'Transaction Banking Hubs' for efficient solutions

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched 34 Transaction Banking Hubs in the top 21 district centres across the country to provide customers with quick and efficient transaction banking solutions.

Dinesh Khara, the chairman of the SBI, inaugurated the hubs, on the occasion of the 68th foundation day of the bank.

India's largest bank said its goal is to meet all customer needs and provide comprehensive solutions for their transaction, payment, and collection requirements under one roof.

The newly launched hubs will be staffed by product specialists who will also assist business customers with their other financial service needs by leveraging the 'Power of One' within the SBI Group by enabling seamless connectivity with different business verticals and subsidiary companies.

About State Bank of India (SBI)

- **Founded** - 1 July 1955
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Dinesh Kumar Khara
- 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

38. The boards of directors of Housing Development Finance Corp Ltd (HDFC) and HDFC Bank have approved the merger between the two institutions creating the world's _____ biggest bank by market value.

हाउसिंग डेवलपमेंट फाइनेंस कॉर्प लिमिटेड (एचडीएफसी) और एचडीएफसी बैंक के निदेशक मंडल ने बाजार मूल्य के हिसाब से दुनिया का _____ सबसे बड़ा बैंक बनाने वाले दोनों संस्थानों के बीच विलय को मंजूरी दे दी है।

- (a) First / पहला
- (b) Second / दूसरा
- (c) Third / तीसरा
- (d) Fourth / चौथा
- (e) Fifth / पांचवां

Ans. d

Sol. HDFC merger to create world's fourth-largest bank by market capitalization

The boards of directors of Housing Development Finance Corp Ltd (HDFC) and HDFC Bank have approved the merger between the two institutions creating the world's fourth-biggest bank by market value.

The merged entity will be the world's fourth largest bank by market cap in the world — behind JPMorgan Chase, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, and Bank of America.

HDFC Bank announced in April last year that it will be acquiring its parent company Housing Development Finance Corporation, the largest home financing lender in India, in a \$40 billion all-stock deal.

The merger was carried out efficiently due to the "common culture" that both companies have, said Nilesh Shah, managing director at Kotak Mahindra Asset Management.

HDFC shareholders will receive 42 shares of HDFC Bank for every 25 shares they own, and HDFC will cease operations on the Indian stock market on 13 July.

The new entity now holds a market cap of approximately \$172 billion, Rajan said, adding it will become India's second most-valued company by market cap after Reliance Industries.

39. What is the rank of India in the Global Peace Index 2022 report released by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)?
इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर इकोनॉमिक्स एंड पीस (IEP) द्वारा जारी ग्लोबल पीस इंडेक्स 2022 रिपोर्ट में भारत का स्थान क्या है?

- (a) 101st
- (b) 112th
- (c) 120th
- (d) 126th
- (e) 85th

Ans. d

Sol. IEP report 2023: Afghanistan least peaceful country in the world

Afghanistan is the least peaceful country in the world for the fifth consecutive year, according to the 'Global Peace Index 2022' report released by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).

Yemen, Syria, Russia, and South Sudan are followed by Afghanistan in the Global Peace Index 2022 report. All these countries have remained among the ten least peaceful nations for the past three years, Tolo News reported.

India stands at 126 ranks out of 163 countries in the Global Peace Index.

While Iceland has most peaceful country followed by Denmark, Ireland.

Recent index

- **Global Competitiveness Index 2023:** India ranked 40; topped by Denmark
- **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

40. Recently, who has become the first woman minister in the new government led by Eknath Shinde?

हाल ही में, एकनाथ शिंदे के नेतृत्व वाली नई सरकार में पहली महिला मंत्री कौन बनी हैं?

- (a) Pratibha Pawar / प्रतिभा पवार
- (b) Pankaja Munde / पंकजा मुंडे
- (c) Aditi Tatkare / अदिति तटकरे
- (d) Praniti Shinde / प्रणीति शिंदे
- (e) Supriya Sule / सुप्रिया सुले

Ans. c

Sol. Aditi Tatkare becomes first woman minister in Eknath Shinde govt

Aditi Tatkare has become the first woman minister in the new government led by Eknath Shinde.

She was sworn in as the Minister of State for Water Resources and Medical Education on July 3, 2023.

Previously serving as a minister of state in the MVA (Maha Vikas Aghadi) government from 2019 to 2022, she successfully handled various portfolios, including tourism and industries, contributing to the state's development.

Tatkare is a member of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and has been a member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly since 2009.

Aditi is the daughter of former Maharashtra CM Sushilkumar Shinde.

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41. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) has sealed an agreement worth Rs 2,725 crore with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) for refurbishment and life certification of which INS?

रक्षा मंत्रालय (एमओडी) ने किस आईएनएस के नवीनीकरण और जीवन प्रमाणन के लिए मझगांव डॉक शिपबिल्डर्स लिमिटेड (एमडीएल) के साथ 2,725 करोड़ रुपये के समझौते पर मुहर लगा दी है?

- (a) INS Satpura / आईएनएस सतपुरा
- (b) INS Sahyadri / आईएनएस सह्याद्री
- (c) INS Suvarna / आईएनएस सुवर्ण
- (d) INS Shankush / आईएनएस शंकुश
- (e) INS Karma / आईएनएस कर्म

Ans. d

Sol. Defence ministry inks a Rs 2725 cr deal with MDL for INS Shankush

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has sealed an agreement worth Rs 2,725 crore with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) for the refurbishment and life certification of INS Shankush, a formidable submarine from the Indian Navy's sub-surface killer (SSK) class.

The project, known as Medium Refit with Life Certification (MRLC), aims to upgrade the submarine's combat capabilities.

The INS Shankush submarine is projected to be combat-ready and integrated into the active fleet of the Indian Navy after the completion of MRLC.

The upgraded vessel is scheduled for delivery in 2026, equipped with enhanced combat capabilities.

42. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has signed a three-year sponsorship deal with which of the following?
भारतीय क्रिकेट कंट्रोल बोर्ड (बीसीसीआई) ने निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ तीन साल के प्रायोजन समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Vivo
- (b) TATA
- (c) Dream 11
- (d) Rummy Circle
- (e) Paytm

Ans. c

Sol. BCCI announces Dream11 as new lead sponsor for Team India

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) signed a three-year sponsorship deal with fantasy sports gaming platform Dream 11.

The fantasy gaming platform Dream11 has replaced the ed-tech platform Byju as the next lead sponsor for Team India.

The change in lead sponsor comes ahead of crucial Test series against West Indies which will be the first task for Team India in the ICC World Test Championship 2023-25 cycle. Back in 2019, Byju's replaced Oppo as the sponsor of the national team and signed a deal for three years until 2022. The learning app extended its contract until 2023 before being replaced by Dream 11, one of the most popular fantasy platforms around the world.

About Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

- Founded - 1928
- Headquarters - Wankhede Stadium
- 1st President - R E Grant Govan
- 39th President - Roger Binny (12 oct)
- Vice president - Rajeev Shukla
- Secretary - Jay Shah
- Men's coach - Rahul Dravid
- Women's coach - Ramesh Powar

43. Who has won the Formula One Austrian Grand Prix 2023?

फॉर्मूला वन ऑस्ट्रियन ग्रैंड प्रिक्स 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 Austrian GP 2023

Red Bull driver, Max Verstappen has won the Formula One Austrian Grand Prix 2023.

This win further solidified his pursuit of a third consecutive world title.

Charles Leclerc, the previous year's winner at this circuit, finished in second place, crossing the finish line 5.2 seconds after Verstappen.

Meanwhile, Sergio Perez secured the third position, finishing 17.2 seconds behind the leader.

Recent Grand Prix Winner

- **Canadian Grand Prix 2023** - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- **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)

44. Which of the following cricket team failed to qualify for the Cricket World Cup 2023 for the first time in their history after losing to Scotland?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी क्रिकेट टीम स्कॉटलैंड से हारने के बाद अपने इतिहास में पहली बार क्रिकेट विश्व कप 2023 के लिए क्वालीफाई करने में विफल रही है?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) West Indies
- (d) Scotland
- (e) Bangladesh

Ans. c

Sol. West Indies fail to qualify for World Cup 2023 for first time

West Indies cricket team failed to qualify for the Cricket World Cup 2023 for the first time in their history after losing to Scotland. West Indies won the first two editions of the men's 50-over cricket World Cup in 1975 and 1979 and also the runners-up in 1983. In the World Cup Qualifiers, West Indies were grouped with Zimbabwe, Netherlands, USA, and Nepal in Group A. And as per the format, only the top three teams from each of the two groups made it to the Super Six stage, which West Indies succeeded too. But with the defeat to Scotland in Group B, the maximum West Indies can get to is four points, which is not sufficient for them to qualify for a World Cup ticket to India.

Before this, West Indies managed to get 2019 ODI World Cup in England, via the World Cup Qualifiers. But, they did not qualify for the Super 12 stage of the 2022 T20 World Cup in Australia, as they won just one against Zimbabwe and lost two to Scotland and Ireland in their group matches.

45. A photo of an elephant taken at the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) has emerged as the winner of the Siena Drone Photo Awards 2023. Anamalai Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

अनामलाई टाइगर रिजर्व (एटीआर) में ली गई एक हाथी की तस्वीर सिएना ड्रोन फोटो अवार्ड्स 2023 के विजेता के रूप में उभरी है। अनामलाई टाइगर रिजर्व किस राज्य में स्थित है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. An elephant image shot has emerged the winner at Drone Photo Awards

A photo of an elephant taken at the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) in Tamil Nadu has emerged as the winner of the Siena Drone Photo Awards 2023

The photo was taken by wildlife photographer, Mathanraj S and will receive a cash prize of \$10,000.

The photo shows a herd of elephants crossing a river in the reserve.

The photo was chosen as the winner by a panel of judges from around the world.

What is Siena Drone Photo Awards?

- It is the most important worldwide competition in aerial photography and video.
- It's a project of Siena Awards, dedicated to a different photographic genre deliberately separated from being compared to traditional photography.
- The competition is open to aerial photography and videos whose platforms also include fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, unmanned aerial vehicles, balloons, blimps and dirigibles, rockets, kites, and parachutes.

Recent Awards

- **PEN Pinter Prize 2023** - Michael Rosen
- **Points of Light Award 2023 by British PM** - Rajindar Singh Dhatt
- **1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award** - Pt P. D. Baul
- **Indian Medical Association (IMA) Award** - Dr K Venugopal
- **Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023** - Priya A S (for Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal)

46. The United States celebrated the 247th anniversary of its on which day?

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका ने किस दिन अपनी स्वतंत्रता की 247वीं वर्षगांठ मनाई?

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

Ans. b

Sol. 4 July - USA Independence Day

The United States celebrated the 247th anniversary of its independence on 4th July.

The Star-Spangled Banner, the national anthem of the United States is sung during various events to mark the historic day.

According to the Library of Congress, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was officially adopted by the Second Continental Congress, signifying the colonies' decision to break away from the Kingdom of Great Britain.

After the War of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain, the tradition of celebrating patriotism on July 4 became more widespread. In 1870, the U.S. Congress established July 4 as a federal holiday, and in 1941, it was expanded to grant federal employees a paid holiday.

47. Which of the following has launched a web portal for filing Contribution Reports, and Audited Annual Accounts?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने योगदान रिपोर्ट और लेखापरीक्षित वार्षिक खाते दाखिल करने के लिए एक वेब पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Finance Ministry / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (b) Reserve bank of India / भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक
- (c) Election Commission of India / भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
- (d) NITI Aayog / नीति आयोग
- (e) Bureau of Indian Standards / भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो

Ans. c

Sol. Election Commission launches web portal for Contribution Reports

Political parties will now be able to file their financial accounts online to the EC.

The Commission has launched a web portal for filing of Contribution Reports, Audited Annual Accounts and Election Expenditure Statements by Political Parties. These financial statements are required to be submitted by political parties to the poll body from time to time as per the Representation of People's Act and transparency guidelines. The facility has been created to facilitate political parties in overcoming the difficulties in the physical filing of reports and to ensure the timely filing of financial statements. The online availability of the data is expected to enhance the level of compliance and transparency. The portal also has a facility for sending reminders in the form of messages on the registered mobile number and registered emails of the authorised representatives of the political party.

The Poll Panel has said the political parties not wishing to file the financial report through online mode will have to convey the reasons for not filing online to it in writing and may continue to file its reports in hard copy along with CDs and Pen drives.

About Election Commissioner of India (ECI)

- It is a constitutional body to conduct and regulate elections in the country.
- It consists of a chief election commissioner (CEC) and two election commissioners (usually retired IAS or IRS officers)
- Founded - 25 January 1950
- 25 January - Voter's Day
- HQ - New Delhi
- 1st Chief - Sukumar Sen
- 1st Women Chief - V.S. Ramadevi
- 25th Chief - Rajiv Kumar
- Commissioner - Anup Chandra Pandey & Arun Goel
- Tenure - 6/65yrs

48. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved the release of Rs 6,194.40 crore to how many states under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने राज्य आपदा प्रतिक्रिया कोष (एसडीआरएफ) के तहत कितने राज्यों को 6,194.40 करोड़ रुपये जारी करने की मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 10
- (b) 15
- (c) 19
- (d) 25
- (e) 28

Ans. c

Sol. Home Minister approves release of Rs 6,194 crore disaster relief fund to 19 States

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved the release of Rs 6,194.40 crore to 19 states under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). The amount includes Rs 1,209.60 crore as a central share of the SDRF to four states (Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh) for 2022-23. Rs 4,984.80 crore will also be given to 15 states (Andhra Pradesh, AP Assam, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, HP, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, TN, and Tripura) for 2023-24.

The Central government has already approved the release of ₹3,649.40 crore as Central share of SDRF to nine States during 2023-24. Based on the 15th Finance Commission's recommendations, the Central government has allocated ₹1,28,122.40 crore for SDRF for the years 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Amit Shah in News

- Amit Shah launches Akshar River Cruise Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of 'Balidaan Stambh' in Srinagar
- 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

49. Which of the following has launched the eSARAS mobile App to support marketing for products made by women of Self-help Groups (SHGs)?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एसएचजी) की महिलाओं द्वारा बनाए गए उत्पादों के विपणन का समर्थन करने के लिए eSARAS मोबाइल ऐप लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Smart Cities Mission
- (b) Ayushman Bharat Yojana
- (c) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- (d) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission
- (e) Atal Pension Yojana

Ans. d

Sol. DAY-NRLM launches eSARAS mobile App

The Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) launched the eSARAS mobile App to support marketing for products made by women of Self-help Groups (SHGs).

eSARAS is an e-commerce mobile app that provides a platform for marketing handicrafts and hand-looms made by SHG Didis.

The eSARAS fulfillment centre will be managed by the Foundation for Development of Rural Value Chains (FDRVC), a not-for-profit company constituted jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and Tata Trust.

This fulfillment centre will be used for processing, packaging and shipping of products that customers purchase through the eSARAS portal and eSARAS mobile app. It will handle the logistics required to bring an online order to a customer's doorstep.

50. Which city's police has established a 'Drone Police Unit' to assist cops in aerial surveillance?

किस शहर की पुलिस ने हवाई निगरानी में पुलिस की सहायता के लिए 'ड्रोन पुलिस यूनिट' स्थापित की है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. India's first 'Police Drone Unit' launched in Chennai

Greater Chennai Police has established a 'Drone Police Unit' to assist cops in aerial surveillance.

This will particularly be helpful in case of large gatherings, real-time checking of vehicle registration data and spotting of suspects. According to the police, a total of nine drones under three categories are available in this unit: Quick Response Surveillance Drones (6), Heavy Lift Multirotor Drone (1) and Long Range Survey Wing Plane (2).

These are all equipped with built-in artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities and can be operated up to a distance of 5-10 km from the ground station.

These drones equipped with AI technology can accurately estimate crowds during festivals or other gatherings, thereby enabling police to correctly plan crowd control strategies. Also, the drones are equipped with ANPR cameras which are capable of doing real-time checking with the vehicles registration database and spot suspects, stolen vehicles.

The Heavy Lift Drone, equipped with thermal cameras, is capable of detecting and rescuing people caught in sea waves by deploying life jackets, even during the night.

51. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated Sai Hira Global Convention Centre in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh via video conferencing. In this, he has named 'Amrit Kaal' as _____.

पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी ने वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिए आंध्र प्रदेश के पुट्टपर्थी में साईं हीरा ग्लोबल कन्वेंशन सेंटर का उद्घाटन किया है। इसमें उन्होंने 'अमृत काल' को _____ नाम दिया है।

- (a) Krishi Kaal / कृषि काल
- (b) Aatmnirbhar Kaal / आत्मनिर्भर काल
- (c) Kirti Kaal / कीर्ति काल
- (d) Kaushal Kaal / कौशल काल
- (e) Kartavya Kaal / कर्तव्य काल

Ans. e

Sol. PM inaugurates Sai Hira Global Convention Centre in Puttaparthi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated the Sai Hira global convention centre at Prasanthi Nilayam at Puttaparthi in Sri Sathya Sai district of Andhra Pradesh. The next 25 years of India's independence is going to be the "Kartavya Kaal" as the country will accord top priority to performing its duties. Moving forward towards the journey of 100 years of Indian independence, we have named this "Amrit Kaal" as the "Kartavya Kaal".

The new global convention centre established with the generous support of philanthropist Ryuko Hira, is a testament to the vision of promoting cultural exchange, spirituality and global harmony.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi inaugurates **National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047** in Lalpur village of Madhya Pradesh
- PM Modi inaugurated **17th Indian Cooperative Congress** in New Delhi
- PM Modi chairs **42nd PRAGATI interaction**
- 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).

52. Which organization has approved \$1.5 billion in financing to accelerate India's development of low-carbon energy?

किस संगठन ने भारत में निम्न-कार्बन ऊर्जा के विकास में तेजी लाने के लिए 1.5 बिलियन 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 USD 1.5 bn financing for India's low-carbon transition

World Bank's board of executive directors has approved \$1.5 billion in financing to accelerate India's development of low-carbon energy.

The financing will help India promote low-carbon energy by scaling up renewable energy, developing green hydrogen, and stimulating climate finance for low-carbon energy investments.

Centre has set a target of achieving 500 GW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2070.

Further, recently the Indian government launched the much-anticipated incentive scheme for the production of green hydrogen worth over ₹17,000 crore.

The 'First Low-Carbon Energy Programmatic Development Policy Operation', the first in a series of two envisaged operations, will support India in developing green hydrogen.

The program will support the successful implementation of the National Green Hydrogen Mission that aims to stimulate \$100 billion in private sector investment by 2030,"

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)

53. Which bank has launched a digital service under the 'Project WAVE' initiative in partnership with National E-Governance Service Limited (NeSL)?

किस बैंक ने नेशनल ई-गवर्नेंस सर्विस लिमिटेड (NeSL) के साथ साझेदारी में 'प्रोजेक्ट WAVE' पहल के तहत एक डिजिटल सेवा शुरू 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. Indian Bank rolls out digital services under 'Project WAVE' initiative

Indian Bank, in partnership with National E-Governance Service Limited (NeSL), has rolled out e-BG (electronic bank guarantee) services under Project WAVE to reduce the number of old paper-based process.

CEO and Managing Director of Indian Bank, S L Jain has launched the digital service at an event in Chennai.

The e-BG rollout will reduce the turn-around time of the bank issuance and delivery to the beneficiary within few minutes from the 3-4 working days. In addition, e-BG by Indian Bank would replace physical stamp paper and physical signatures of customers by e-signature and e-stamps.

Besides, Indian Bank has also introduced a new facility under Project WAVE, to ensure fully end-to-end digitally pre-approved business loans, for easy and smooth loan process. The facility is available to process a loan of ₹25 lakh.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Bank of India launched **Centralised Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell**
- Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance launches '**Nishchit Pension Plan**'
- 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

54. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the State Bank of India?

भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के नए मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी (सीएफओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rakesh Makhija / राकेश मखीजा
- (b) Sunil Mehta / सुनील मेहता
- (c) Sashidhar Jagdishan / शशिधर जगदीशन
- (d) Deepak Parekh / दीपक पारेख
- (e) Kameshwar Kodavanti / कामेश्वर कोडवंती

Ans. e

Sol. SBI appoints Kameshwar Kodavanti as new CFO

The State Bank of India board has appointed Kameshwar Kodavanti as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

He has replaced Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra, who has resigned from his post.

He has been working with the State Bank of India since August 1991 and has experience in fields of banking, forex, finance, and accounting.

He brings expertise in banking, forex, finance, and accounting to his new position.

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

55. Union government has re-appointed Brajendra Navnit as India's ambassador to World Trade Organization (WTO) for 9 months. Where is the headquarters of WTO?

केंद्र सरकार ने ब्रजेन्द्र नवनीत को 9 महीने के लिए विश्व व्यापार संगठन (डब्ल्यूटीओ) में भारत के राजदूत के रूप में फिर से नियुक्त किया है। WTO का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Nyon, Switzerland / न्योन, स्विट्जरलैंड
- (b) Berlin, Germany / बर्लिन, जर्मनी
- (c) Paris, France / पेरिस, फ्रांस
- (d) Geneva, Switzerland / जिनेवा, स्विट्जरलैंड
- (e) Vienna, Austria / वियना, ऑस्ट्रिया

Ans. d

Sol. Govt re-appoints Brajendra Navnit as India's ambassador to WTO

Union government has re-appointed Brajendra Navnit as India's ambassador to World Trade Organization (WTO) for 9 months.

He assumed office in June 2020 and his tenure ended in June 2023.

This decision comes ahead of the crucial 13th ministerial conference of the WTO in 2024.

India seeks extension of the waiver for global intellectual property rights concerning Covid therapeutics and diagnostics.

The 13th Ministerial Conference of the WTO will take place in Abu Dhabi in Feb 2024.

About World Trade Organization (WTO)

- Founded - 1 January 1995
- Headquarters - Geneva Switzerland
- 1st Director General - Peter Sutherland
- Director General - Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria)
- Member Countries - 164

Recent Appointment

- **Solicitor General of India** - Tushar Mehta (re-appointment)
- **Chairman of Coal India Limited (CIL)** - P M Prasad (replace Pramod Agrawal)
- **Senior advisor of Deloitte** - Manoj Kohli
- **Special Director of CBI** - Ajay Bhatnagar
- **Additional Director of CBI** - Anurag

56. Debadatta Chand has been appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of which bank?

देबदत्त चंद को किस बैंक का प्रबंध निदेशक और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी नियुक्त किया गया 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. Debadatta Chand takes charge as Bank of Baroda MD

Debadatta Chand has assumed charge as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of Baroda (BoB).

He has taken over charge from Sanjiv Chadha, whose tenure ended on June 30, 2023.

Before this role, Chand was serving as the Executive Director at the bank since March 2021.

He was overseeing corporate & institutional credit, corporate & institutional banking, treasury & global markets, mid-corporate business, and trade & foreign exchange.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Part-time Chairman of Federal Bank** - AP Hota
- **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

57. Which space company has launched the European space telescope Euclid to explore the 'dark universe'?
किस अंतरिक्ष कंपनी ने 'अंधेरे ब्रह्मांड' का पता लगाने के लिए यूरोपीय अंतरिक्ष दूरबीन यूक्लिड लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) NASA
- (c) SpaceX
- (d) JAXA
- (e) Blue Origin

Ans. c

Sol. SpaceX launches European space telescope Euclid to explore 'dark universe'

SpaceX launched the European Space Agency's Euclid observatory toward its ultimate destination 1.5 million km away.

The telescope's highly anticipated 3D map of the cosmos will span both space and time in a bid to explain how the dark universe evolved and why its expansion is speeding up.

The lead scientist for the \$1.5 billion mission (€1.4 billion) said Euclid will measure dark energy and dark matter with unprecedented precision.

Four metres tall and almost as wide, Euclid sports a 1.2-meter telescope and two scientific instruments capable of observing the cosmos in both visible light and near-infrared.

This telescope has been named after the ancient Greek mathematician, Euclid.

It will take a month to get there and another two months before it starts its ambitious six-year survey this autumn.

58. Which of the following has won the first Global Chess League after defeating Mumba Masters 2-0 in the final?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने फाइनल में मुंबा मास्टर्स को 2-0 से हराकर पहली ग्लोबल शतरंज लीग जीती है?

- (a) Balan Alaskan Knights /बालन अलास्का नाइट्स
- (b) Chingari Gulf Titans /चिंगारी गल्फ टाइटन्स
- (c) Ganges Grandmasters /गंगा ग्रैंडमास्टर्स
- (d) SG Alpine Warriors /एसजी अल्पाइन वारियर्स
- (e) Triveni Continental Kings / त्रिवेणी महाद्वीपीय राजा

Ans. e

Sol. HESS Triveni Continental Kings crowned champions of Global Chess League

Triveni Continental Kings were crowned champions of the inaugural Global Chess League after defeating Mumba Masters 2-0 in the final.

The Kings finished the league stage with 15 points, two points ahead of Mumba Masters

The final was played in a best-of-three format, with each team playing two rapid games. The Kings won the first rapid game, with Levon Aronian defeating Maxime Vachier-Lagrave

The winner was decided through three stages of tie-breaks. After two rounds of rapid ending in a draw, another two rounds of blitz were played, but still finished with draws.

The champion was ultimately decided in a series of sudden-death blitz games where the decisive outcome came in the fourth game. With this crucial victory, Bjerre not only clinched the title for his team but also won the \$500,000 prize. The overall prize fund for the tournament was a stunning \$1 million.

59. Which state has won the 6th Youth Women's National Boxing Championships in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh?

भोपाल, मध्य प्रदेश में छठी युवा महिला राष्ट्रीय मुक्केबाजी चैंपियनशिप किस राज्य ने जीती है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Haryana wins 6th Youth Women's National Boxing Championships

Haryana has won the 6th Youth Women's National Boxing Championships in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Haryana finished with a total of 13 medals, including five gold, four silver, and four bronze

Uttarakhand and Delhi claimed the second and third spots with 32 and 20 points respectively.

Led by 2 times Asian Junior Champion Nikita Chand, Uttarakhand won 3 gold and 1 silver medal. Delhi ended their campaign with 3 silver and 1 bronze medal.

Haryana's Priya (57kg) was adjudged best boxer due to her phenomenal display in the 57kg category while Madhya Pradesh's Anjali Singh won the most promising boxer award

60. India has won the South Asian Football Federation Championship 2023 by defeating which country?

भारत ने किस देश को हराकर दक्षिण एशियाई फुटबॉल फेडरेशन चैम्पियनशिप 2023 जीती है?

- (a) Kuwait / कुवैत
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Iran / ईरान

Ans. a

Sol. India won the title of SAFF Championship 2023

India has won the South Asian Football Federation Championship 2023.

The Indian men's football team beat Kuwait 5-4 in a thrilling penalty shootout.

India triumphed in their ninth SAFF Championship out of 14 editions.

The final took place at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bangalore.

Goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh turned out as the hero for the Indian side, saving the final kick from the Kuwaiti captain.

In the semi-final, India defeated Lebanon while Kuwait defeated Bangladesh 1-0 in the other last-four clash.

SAFF Championship 2023 Prize Winners

- Winner - India
- Runner-up- Kuwait
- Top goal scorer- Sunil Chhetri (6 goals)
- Most Valuable Player (MVP) Sunil Chhetri
- Fairplay Award- Nepal Football Team
- Best Goalkeeper- Anisur Rahman Zico

61. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has virtually laid the foundation stone of the country's first cooperative-run Sainik School in which state?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने वस्तुतः किस राज्य में देश के पहले सहकारी संचालित सैनिक स्कूल की आधारशिला रखी है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. HM laid foundation for country's first cooperative-run Sainik School

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has virtually laid the foundation stone of the country's first cooperative-run Sainik School near Mehsana in Gujarat.

This Sainik School has been started in honor of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to start 100 new Sainik Schools on PPP basis in the country.

The Sainik School will be established at Boriyavi village, 11 kilometers away from Mehsana city by the leading cooperative Dudh Sagar Dairy at the cost of 75 crores rupees.

About Gujarat

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

62. The Uttar Pradesh government plans to create dedicated monkey forests in which city to help sustain the simian population and reduce human-monkey conflict?

उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार सिमियन आबादी को बनाए रखने और मानव-बंदर संघर्ष को कम करने में मदद करने के लिए किस शहर में समर्पित बंदर वन बनाने की योजना बना रही है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Forests for monkeys to come up in Lucknow

The Uttar Pradesh government plans to create dedicated monkey forests in Lucknow to help sustain the simian population and reduce human-monkey conflict.

Some dedicated 'monkey forests' (Vanar Vans) will be created in the state capital during the proposed annual plantation drive for simian population.

These Vanar Vans will be created in three categories by nagar nigam, forest, and rural development departments.

The project is expected to cost around Rs 10 crore and will be completed in a year.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

63. Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) has partnered with Indian manufacturer VVDN Technologies to begin manufacturing some of its high-volume servers in India. Hewlett is the company of which country?

हेवलेट पैकार्ड एंटरप्राइज (HPE) ने भारत में अपने कुछ उच्च-मात्रा सर्वरों का निर्माण शुरू करने के लिए भारतीय निर्माता VVDN Technologies के साथ साझेदारी की है। हेवलेट किस देश की कंपनी है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Hewlett Packard to manufacture high-end servers in India

American multinational information technology company, Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) has partnered with Indian manufacturer VVDN Technologies to begin manufacturing some of its high-volume servers in India.

This announcement comes in the wake of the recent Prime Minister Narendra Modi's State visit to the US.

HPE has partnered with Indian manufacturer VVDN Technologies to manufacture HPE's products from its plant in Manesar in Haryana.

The manufacturing operation will support the growing demand from customers in India and further strengthen and diversify HPE's global supply chain.

HPE has its largest workforce outside the US in India.

HPE's largest campus in the world at Mahadevapura in Bengaluru is home to many of HPE's worldwide product development resources. More than 4,000 scientists, engineers, and research teams are based out of HPE's R&D hub at this campus.

64. Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 11 national highway (NH) projects worth ₹5600 crore in which state?
सड़क परिवहन मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने किस राज्य में ₹5600 करोड़ की 11 राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग (एनएच) परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन और शिलान्यास किया है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Nitin Gadkari inaugurates and lays foundation stone of 11 highway project

Union minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 11 national highway (NH) projects worth ₹5600 crore in Pratapgarh, Rajasthan.

The ceremony marked the inauguration of four NH projects, spanning a total length of 219 km and costing ₹3,775 crore. The 6-laning project from Kishangarh to Gulbapura section on National Highway 48 aims to bolster the economic and social development of Ajmer and Bhilwara districts.

Furthermore, the 6-laning of Gulabpura to Chittorgarh section will strengthen connectivity between Udaipur, Jaipur, and Kota regions, benefiting Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts.

Additionally, the construction of a 4-lane Railway Over Bridge (ROB) on National Highway 162A at Fatehnagar will alleviate traffic congestion at the railway crossing.

Foundation stone for seven projects with a cumulative cost of ₹1850 crore and spanning a total length of 221 km, was laid during the ceremony. These projects include the development of direct connectivity from the revered religious site Nathdwara to Udaipur airport.

Furthermore, the tribal areas of Dungarpur, Udaipur, and Banswara will witness improved connectivity, and the construction of bypasses in Sangwara and Garhi will reduce the distance between Dungarpur and Banswara by 10 km. Thirteen animal underpasses will also be constructed in the Todgarh Wildlife Sanctuary on the Beawar-Gomti road to safeguard wildlife.

During the event, it was announced that 74 projects under the Central Road Fund (CRF), with an estimated cost of ₹2250 crore, have been approved for Rajasthan.

Nitin Gadkari In News

- Nitin Gadkari inaugurates four projects worth Rs 1450 Crore in Assam
- 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.

65. Which state / UTs has raised the age of superannuation for university professors from 62 to 65 years recently?

हाल ही में किस राज्य/केंद्रशासित प्रदेश ने विश्वविद्यालय के प्रोफेसरों के लिए सेवानिवृत्ति की आयु 62 से बढ़ाकर 65 वर्ष कर दी है?

- (a) Delhi / दिल्ली
- (b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर
- (d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. c

Sol. J&K Govt increases retirement age for university professors to 65

Jammu and Kashmir Government has raised the age of superannuation for university professors in the union territory. The Administrative Council under the Chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, raised the retirement age of University Professors from 62 to 65 years.

The government's decision aims to recognize the invaluable expertise and experience possessed by university professors and provide them with a longer tenure to contribute to the academic landscape of the region. By extending the retirement age, the government hopes to retain qualified and dedicated faculty members who can continue to enrich the teaching, research, and administrative aspects of the universities.

66. G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting was held in which city?

G20 रिसर्च एंड इनोवेशन इनिशिएटिव गैदरिंग (RIIG) शिखर सम्मेलन और अनुसंधान मंत्रियों की बैठक किस शहर में आयोजित की गई?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. Mumbai host G20 RIIG Summit

G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting was held in Mumbai.

The RIIG Summit was chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) Dr Srivari Chandrasekhar.

India has taken forward the RIIG during its presidency in 2023 under the theme "Research and Innovation for Equitable Society".

A total of about 107 foreign delegates including Research Ministers from 29 G20 members, invited guest countries and international organizations are participated in the meeting.

The Ministerial Declaration of the G20 science engagements will be discussed and adopted at the two-day RIIG Summit and Research Ministers' meeting.

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

- **Startup20 Shikhar Summit** - Gurugram, Haryana (3 July 2023)
- **U20 Engagement Group of Mayoral Summit** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat (7 – 8 July 2023)
- **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 -1 7 June 2023)

67. Which state government is set to take stringent measures against recruitment exam paper leaks by introducing a bill in the upcoming assembly session?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार आगामी विधानसभा सत्र में एक विधेयक पेश करके भर्ती परीक्षा पेपर लीक के खिलाफ कड़े कदम उठाने के लिए तैयार है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Rajasthan government aims to bring bill against paper leaks

The Rajasthan government is set to take stringent measures against recruitment exam paper leaks by introducing a bill in the upcoming assembly session. The objective is to eradicate malpractices and create a level playing field for all aspiring candidates.

The bill aims to elevate the punishment for such offenses from 10 years to life imprisonment.

The decision comes in the wake of growing concerns over paper leaks and cheating incidents in government recruitment tests.

The proposed bill seeks to address the rampant issue of paper leaks in recruitment exams. By upgrading the maximum punishment to life imprisonment, the government aims to instill fear among those involved in such illegal activities.

The earlier bill, passed in March 2022, prescribed a maximum sentence of 10 years and a fine of Rs 10 crore for paper leaks and cheating in recruitment tests. Chief Minister Gehlot emphasized the importance of transparency in competitive exams to restore public trust and ensure a fair selection process.

About Rajasthan

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

68. Which state government has decided to organize a campaign under Road Safety Fortnight from 17 to 31 July to raise public awareness about traffic rules?

किस राज्य सरकार ने यातायात नियमों के बारे में जन जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए 17 से 31 जुलाई तक सड़क सुरक्षा पखवाड़ा के तहत एक अभियान आयोजित 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 govt to begin Road Safety Fortnight campaign from July 17

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to organize a campaign under Road Safety Fortnight from July 17 to 31.

The initiative is aimed at reducing the number of road accidents and raising public awareness about traffic rules.

During the 15-day campaign, the employees at a department who arrive to the office on two-wheeler without wearing helmet, they would be marked absent at work and would not be given entry to the office.

A 15-day action plan has also been prepared to organize Road Safety Fortnight campaign under which programmes have been proposed to educate people about road safety.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

69. The National Centre of Seismology (NCS) has recently installed how many seismogram towers in Joshimath to monitor land subsidence and develop a robust solution?

नेशनल सेंटर ऑफ सीस्मोलॉजी (एनसीएस) ने हाल ही में जोशीमठ में भूमि धंसाव की निगरानी और एक मजबूत समाधान विकसित करने के लिए कितने सीस्मोग्राम टावर स्थापित किए हैं?

- (a) 4
- (b) 5
- (c) 6
- (d) 10
- (e) 12

Ans. c

Sol. Six seismogram towers set up in Joshimath to monitor land sinking

The National Centre of Seismology (NCS) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences recently installed six seismogram towers in Joshimath to monitor land subsidence and develop a robust solution.

These towers will facilitate compiling data for a study on whether the region has natural or man-made hydrological changes causing land subsidence.

The study will help prepare seismic micro-zonation maps, which are very useful in urban planning because they help predict the impact of earthquakes. After this, the Chamoli region, where Joshimath is located, will have its own building design code for future development.

It will also help in long-term planning for the sustainable development of high seismic zones in the Himalayan region. The result of this study will come in December this year.

There was already one seismogram tower set up in Joshimath in 1991. "The first tower measured earthquakes at a regional scale, whereas new towers are dedicated to measuring earthquakes at the local scale to get more detailed information.

NCS had conducted a similar study in Gujarat's Bhuj in 2003, after the great Bhuj earthquake of 2001. Dr. Mishra and his team studied the crack density saturation there.

70. Which of the following company is planning to launch a microblogging app 'Threads'?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी कंपनी माइक्रोब्लॉगिंग ऐप 'थ्रेड्स' लॉन्च करने की योजना बना रही है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Meta to launch 'Threads' app

Meta Platforms, the parent company of the social media platform Facebook, is planning to launch a microblogging app 'Threads', Instagram's text-based conversation app.

Threads, Instagram's text-based conversation app and will allow users to follow the accounts they follow on the photo-sharing platform and keep the same username.

The launch comes after Twitter announced a slate of restrictions on the app, including the need to be verified in order to use TweetDeck.

71. Harsh Chouhan resigned with eight months left for his term to end recently. He was the chairman of which of the following?

हर्ष चौहान ने हाल ही में अपना कार्यकाल समाप्त होने में आठ महीने शेष रहते हुए इस्तीफा दे दिया। वह निम्नलिखित में से किसके अध्यक्ष थे?

- (a) National Commission for Scheduled Castes / राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग
- (b) National Commission for Backward Classes / राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग
- (c) National Commission for Minorities / राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग
- (d) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes / राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
- (e) National Human Rights Commission of India / भारत का राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग

Ans. d

Sol. Harsh Chouhan resigns as NCST chairman 8 months before end of term

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) Chairman Harsh Chouhan resigned with eight months left for his term to end. His resignation was accepted by President Droupadi Murmu.

Following his resignation, the tribal rights body is left functioning with a lone member, Ananta Nayak.

He was appointed as the chairman of the NCST in February 2021 for a three-year term.

Chouhan has worked extensively for tribals in Madhya Pradesh and has been associated with Sangh bodies, including the Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram.

72. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the Senior Men's Selection Committee by the Board of Control of Cricket (BCCI)?

क्रिकेट कंट्रोल बोर्ड (बीसीसीआई) द्वारा सीनियर पुरुष चयन समिति का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ashish Nehra / आशीष नेहरा
- (b) Anil Kumble / अनिल कुंबले
- (c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
- (d) Ajit Agarkar / अजीत अगरकर
- (e) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी

Ans. d

Sol. Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee appoints Ajit Agarkar as Chairman

The Board of Control of Cricket (BCCI) has been appointed former Indian cricketer Ajit Agarkar as the chairman of the Senior Men's Selection Committee.

The decision was made by the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC), consisting of Sulakshana Naik, Ashok Malhotra, and Jatin Paranjape.

The Senior Men's Selection Committee now consists of Ajit Agarkar (Chairperson), Shiv Sundar Das, Subroto Banerjee, Salil Ankola, and Sridharan Sharath.

The former India all-rounder represented the country in 26 Tests, 191 ODIs, and four T20Is, in addition to playing 110 first-class, 270 List A, and 62 T20 matches.

As a former fast bowler, he was part of India's victorious squad in the inaugural T20 World Cup held in South Africa in 2007.

He still holds the record for the fastest half-century by an Indian batter in ODI, achieved with a 21-ball fifty against Zimbabwe in 2000.

He also held the record for being the fastest to reach 50 ODI wickets for nearly a decade, accomplishing the milestone in just 23 matches.

73. Which Indian Naval Air Squadron at INS Dega in Visakhapatnam has celebrated its first anniversary?

विशाखापत्तनम में INS डेगा में किस भारतीय नौसेना एयर स्क्वाड्रन ने अपनी पहली वर्षगांठ मनाई है?

- (a) Rafale
- (b) INAS 324
- (c) INAS 311
- (d) INAS 301
- (e) Mig III

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Naval Air Squadron 324 celebrates first anniversary at INS Dega

Indian Naval Air Squadron 324 (INAS 324) at INS Dega in Visakhapatnam celebrated its maiden anniversary.

Indian Naval Air Squadron 324 is equipped with indigenous ALH Mk III helicopters.

The crew upholds their motto "Nidruvith Dhrud Veeryvath" - "Faithful, Tenacious, Fearless"

Their deployment significantly enhances maritime surveillance capability and strengthens coastal security along the east coast.

With the inclusion of removable Medical ICUs, the aircraft also has the ability to provide critical medical support during emergencies.

74. Who has been named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for 2022-23?

2022-23 के लिए एआईएफएफ पुरुष फुटबॉलर ऑफ द ईयर किसे नामित किया गया है?

- (a) Naorem Mahesh Singh / नाओरेम महेश सिंह
- (b) Sunil Chhetri / सुनील छेत्री
- (c) Anirudh Thapa / अनिरुद्ध थापा
- (d) Liston Colaco / लिस्टन कोलाको
- (e) Lallianzuala Chhangte / लालियानजुआला चांगते

Ans. e

Sol. Lallianzuala Chhangte wins AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year award 2022-23

Indian football team midfielder Lallianzuala Chhangte has been named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for 2022-23.

He beat Nandhakumar Sekar and Naorem Mahesh Singh of East Bengal to win the award.

While Manisha Kalyan won her second consecutive Women's Footballer of the Year award.

AIFF Men's Coach of the Year award - Clifford Miranda

AIFF Women's Coach of the Year - Priya Parathi Valappil

AIFF Men's Emerging Footballer of the Year 2022-23- Akash Mishra

AIFF Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year 2022-23- Shilji Shaji

AIFF President- Kalyan Chaubey

75. World Zoonoses Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व जूनोज़ दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 8 July / 8 जुलाई
- (b) 4 July / 4 जुलाई
- (c) 5 July / 5 जुलाई
- (d) 6 July / 6 जुलाई
- (e) 7 July / 7 जुलाई

Ans. d

Sol. 6 July - World Zoonoses Day

World Zoonoses Day is observed every year on July 6 marks the historic milestone of the first vaccination against a zoonotic disease.

Objective - To increase awareness about zoonotic diseases and their effects on both human and animal health.

This day serves as a crucial reminder of the interconnectedness between humans and animals and the potential risks of zoonotic diseases like influenza, Ebola and West Nile virus. Caused by viruses, parasites, bacteria and fungi, these diseases can lead to serious complications in both humans and animals, sometimes even resulting in death.

The origins of World Zoonoses Day can be traced back to 1885 when French scientist, Louis Pasteur developed a successful rabies vaccine. The day was officially recognized and observed on July 6, 2007, honouring the 100th death anniversary of Louis Pasteur.

76. The Taiwanese government will establish a Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in which city as part of a broader aim to further deepen cooperation with India?

ताइवान सरकार भारत के साथ सहयोग को और गहरा करने के व्यापक उद्देश्य के तहत किस शहर में ताइपे आर्थिक और सांस्कृतिक केंद्र (TECC) स्थापित करेगी?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. Taiwan to set up Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in Mumbai

The Taiwanese government will establish a Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in Mumbai as part of a broader aim to further deepen cooperation with India. At present, Taiwan has TECCs in Delhi and Chennai.

Taiwan's decision to set up the TECC in India's financial capital came at a time when leading Taiwanese companies are increasingly looking at relocating their production bases from China to India.

India is keen on having production facilities of leading Taiwanese chip producers, including Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (TSMC), the world's largest chipmaker whose clients included Apple.

Since the TECC in Chennai was set up in 2012, nearly 60 percent of all Taiwanese businesses investing and opening factories in India have chosen to develop their operations in southern India.

In 1995, New Delhi set up the India-Taipei Association (ITA) in Taipei to promote interactions between the two sides and to facilitate business, tourism and cultural exchanges.

Though India and Taiwan do not have formal diplomatic ties, the bilateral trade relations have been on an upswing.

About Taiwan

- Capital- Taipei City
- Currency- New Taiwan dollar
- President -Chen Chien-jen

77. As part of India's G20 Presidency, the 4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting has begun in which city?
भारत की G20 अध्यक्षता के हिस्से के रूप में, अंतरिक्ष अर्थव्यवस्था नेताओं की बैठक का चौथा संस्करण किस शहर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. a

Sol. 4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting begin in Bengaluru

As part of India's G20 Presidency, the 4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting has started in Bengaluru.

The Chairman of ISRO S Somanath informed that partnerships between space agencies, industries, and start-ups were discussed during the meeting.

The theme of the meeting, namely towards a new space era -Economy, Responsibility, and the alliance was extensively discussed during the Heads of Space Agencies session.

The discussion also covered the possibilities of the rule of law in space, guidelines and regulations in space missions, the possibility of upgrading the G20 Space Economy Leaders forum, and how to bring new countries into the space sector, helping them to build rockets and ground stations.

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

- **G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (4 – 5 July 2023)
- **Startup20 Shikhar Summit** - Gurugram, Haryana (3 July 2023)
- **U20 Engagement Group of Mayoral Summit** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat (7 – 8 July 2023)
- **G-20 Labour Engagement Summit** – Patna, Bihar (22 – 23 June 2023)

78. Which state government has decided to allow all restaurants across the state to remain open 24x7?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य भर के सभी रेस्तरां को 24x7 खुले रहने की अनुमति देने का निर्णय लिया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Haryana restaurants can now remain open 24X7

The Haryana government decided to allow all restaurants across the state to remain open 24x7. There will be no restriction on them to close at night. The decision was announced by Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala.

Keeping in mind the convenience of the restaurants and the general public, the restaurant owners of the state who want to keep their restaurants open for 24 hours in the future, can keep them open.

No one can force them to shut down, but they will have to register with the Labour Department and follow other terms and conditions (Section 9 and 10 of the Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958)."

Section 9 of the Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958, caters to "Opening and Closing Hours of establishments". It mentions, "Government shall, by notification, fix the opening and closing hours of all classes of establishments.

Section 10 of the Act mentions about the "Close Day" of the establishment under which the employer can alter the operational timings by informing the government prior to implementing such timings.

If any restaurant owner feels that someone is harassing them unnecessarily, they can register their complaint through email on MSME's mail id — hepcharyana@gmail.com.

About Haryana

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

79. The University of Jaffna has signed an MoU with which IITs to foster academic collaboration and promote research initiatives?

जाफना विश्वविद्यालय ने शैक्षणिक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने और अनुसंधान पहल को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस आईआईटी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. University of Jaffna & IIT Madras sign MoU for promote research initiatives

The University of Jaffna has signed an MoU with IIT Madras to foster academic collaboration and promote research initiatives. This initiative aims to enhance cross-cultural learning experiences and promote academic diversity.

The MoU entails a range of opportunities for both institutions, including student and faculty exchanges. Initially, the exchange program will facilitate the transfer of approximately 10 students and faculty members each year at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. IIT Madras has generously offered its expertise to support the establishment of joint research platforms in this domain. Additionally, the University of Jaffna intends to establish an incubation cell, modeled after the successful unit at IIT Madras.

IITs in News

- IIT Kanpur successfully conducts test flight for cloud seeding
- YES Bank collaborates with IIT Kanpur to offer support to Incubated Startups
- BITS Pilani develops face mask with sensor to check for illness
- IIT Madras partnered with DRDO to develop sensor technology for underwater communications
- IIT-Kanpur launched cybersecurity skilling programme

80. IFFCO will procure how many agri-drones to promote the use of nano fertilizers across the country?

इफको देश भर में नैनो उर्वरकों के उपयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कितने कृषि-ड्रोन खरीदेगी?

- (a) 500
- (b) 1500
- (c) 2500
- (d) 1100
- (e) 3000

Ans. c

Sol. IFFCO to procure 2500 agricultural drones to spray fertilizers

To promote the use of nano fertilizers across the country, IFFCO will procure 2,500 agri-drones and train 5,000-odd rural entrepreneurs as part of its national campaign launched in July 2023.

Already, IFFCO has signed an agreement for procurement of drones, to be used for spraying of its products nano urea and nano di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), in a phased manner.

IFFCO will also procure 2,500 electric three-wheelers (loader type) to carry the drone to farmers' field along with nano fertilisers and associated utilities.

It is expected that one agri-drone would be able to cover 20 acres per day for spraying IFFCO nano fertilizers and bio-stimulants like Sagarika, Agrochemicals, etc with backup.

These EV 3-wheelers are environment friendly, the cooperative said, adding this will also support recently launched scheme PM-PRANAM that aims to reduce chemical fertilizers and promote alternative fertilizers.

81. Shravani Mela 2023, one of the largest religious congregations in the country's eastern region, was inaugurated in which state?

देश के पूर्वी क्षेत्र की सबसे बड़ी धार्मिक सभाओं में से एक, श्रावणी मेला 2023 का उद्घाटन किस राज्य में किया गया?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Jharkhand / झारखंड
- (c) Bihar / बिहार
- (d) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. b

Sol. World famous Shravani Mela inaugurated in Deoghar

Shravani Mela 2023, one of the largest religious congregations in the country's eastern region, was inaugurated in the Deoghar district of Jharkhand.

State Agriculture Minister Badal Patralekh inaugurated the fair at Kanwariyapath in Dumma, bordering Bihar.

This year, the fair will be organized for two consecutive months from July 3 to August 31.

After 19 years, this is for the first time when there will be eight Mondays during the Shravani fair.

Devotees from various parts of the country and abroad visit Deoghar during the month of 'Shravan' and offer prayers at Baba Baidyanath Dham temple.

Baba Baidyanathdham Temple is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in the country.

About Jharkhand

- **Capital** – Ranchi
- **Chief Minister** – Hemant Soren
- **Governor** - C.P. Radhakrishnan

82. Which state government has doubled the insurance coverage under Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (PMJAY)?
किस राज्य सरकार ने प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना (PMJAY) के तहत बीमा कवरेज दोगुना कर दिया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat government doubles insurance cover under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya scheme

Gujarat state government has doubled the insurance coverage under Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana.

Now, the beneficiaries of PMAY will get an insurance cover of Rs 10 lakhs instead of the earlier 5 lakhs.

The decision will benefit nearly 1.78 crore Ayushman Bharat cardholders in the state. The beneficiaries will get a free of cost medical treatment over two thousand government hospitals and 795 private hospitals in the state under PMAY.

More than 39 lakh claims have been received in Gujarat under PMAY. The state ranks fifth in the country in terms of number of claims and has secured second position in terms of amount of claims cleared under PMAY so far.

The claims worth over 2800 crore have been cleared in the state so far.

About Gujarat

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

83. Bandhan Mutual Fund has launched an open-ended equity scheme, Bandhan Financial Services Fund. Where is the headquarters of Bandhan Bank?

बंधन म्यूचुअल फंड ने एक ओपन-एंडेड इक्विटी स्कीम, बंधन फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज फंड लॉन्च की है। बंधन बैंक का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Bandhan Mutual Fund launched Bandhan Financial Services fund

Bandhan Mutual Fund has launched an open-ended equity scheme, Bandhan Financial Services Fund.

This new scheme offers investors the opportunity to benefit from the multi-year growth opportunities in the financial services sector.

This new fund will open on July 10 for subscription and will close on July 24, 2023.

The Bandhan Financial Services Fund will use a 3-factor model for stock selection. The fund manager will prioritize the stock's Earnings

Trajectory, Management Quality, and Competitive Positioning, thereby focusing on both the quality and growth aspects of the portfolio.

Bandhan Financial Services Fund has a bottom-up stock selection approach with flexible allocation across market cap segments, facilitating

focus on growth-oriented companies that have proven competitive positioning, good management quality, and a robust earnings trajectory.

About Bandhan Bank

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

84. Which bank has become the first bank to officially roll out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme?

कौन सा बैंक आधिकारिक तौर पर महिला सम्मान बचत प्रमाणपत्र (MSSC) योजना शुरू करने वाला पहला बैंक बन गया है?

- (a) Bank of India / बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
- (b) Punjab National Bank / पंजाब नेशनल बैंक
- (c) UCO Bank / यूको बैंक
- (d) Indian Bank / इंडियन बैंक
- (e) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. Bank of India becomes first bank to offer Mahila Samman Savings Certificate

Bank of India, one of the largest public sector banks (PSBs) in the country, has become the first bank to officially roll out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme. The scheme was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during her Budget Speech 2023.

The scheme offers an interest rate of 7.5 percent per annum, compounded quarterly.

Individual girls or women can open an account under the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate scheme or a guardian can open an account on behalf of a minor girl. The account will mature after two years from the date of opening. Accounts under this scheme can be opened until March 31, 2025.

According to a statement by the bank, while the minimum investment is Rs 1,000, any sum in multiples of Rs 100 can be deposited, up to a maximum limit of Rs 2 lakh.

Individuals can open multiple accounts with a gap of three months between each account, subject to the overall investment cap of Rs 2 lakh.

Account closure can be requested by the customer in case of emergencies or at their discretion, with a penalty of 2 percent after six months from the date of account opening, and the applicable interest rate will be 5.5 percent.

Account holders can also make partial withdrawals, up to 40 percent of the eligible balance, after one year from the date of opening the account.

All earnings under the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate will be taxable as per existing income tax provisions. However, TDS (Tax Deducted at Source) will not be deducted under the scheme.

About Bank of India (BOI)

- Founded- 7 September 1906
- Founder- Ramnarain Ruia
- Headquarters- Mumbai
- MD & CEO - Rajneesh Karnatak
- Tagline - Relationship beyond Banking

85. China's QU Dongyu was re-elected to a second term as Director-General of which organization?

चीन के क्यू डोंगयु को किस संगठन के महानिदेशक के रूप में दूसरे कार्यकाल के लिए फिर से चुना गया?

- (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) Food and Agriculture Organization / खाद्य और कृषि संगठन

Ans. e

Sol. QU Dongyu re-elected as Director-General of FAO

China's QU Dongyu was re-elected to a second term as Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

He was elected during the 43rd session of the conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) held in Rome, Italy.

The international community has welcomed Qu's reappointment as head of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

He was the only candidate standing for the role of FAO director-general and received 168 out of 182 votes in a ballot in Rome on Sunday.

Qu, a former Chinese government minister who was nominated for the post by Beijing, will serve a new four-year term from August 1.

Qu, a biologist by training, was vice-minister of agriculture before taking over as head of the U.N. agency in 2019.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee** - Ajit Agarkar
- **India's ambassador to World Trade Organization (WTO)** - Brajendra Navnit (reappointment)
- **Solicitor General of India** - Tushar Mehta (re-appointment)
- **Chairman of Coal India Limited (CIL)** - P M Prasad (replace Pramod Agrawal)
- **Senior advisor of Deloitte** - Manoj Kohli

86. Who has been appointed as the new brand ambassador of Asics India Private Limited?

एसिक्स इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड का नया ब्रांड एंबेसडर किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Anushka Sharma / अनुष्का शर्मा
- (b) Shraddha Kapoor / श्रद्धा कपूर
- (c) Priyanka Chopra / प्रियंका चोपड़ा
- (d) Katrina Kaif / कैटरीना कैफ
- (e) Aishwarya Rai / ऐश्वर्या राय

Ans. b

Sol. Asics signs actor Shraddha Kapoor as brand ambassador

A sports gear company, Asics India Private Limited has appointed actor Shraddha Kapoor as its new brand ambassador.

The company focuses on the theme of 'Sound Mind, Sound Body', and the actor will endorse the brand's footwear and women's sportswear segment.

In absolute terms, celebrity brand valuations accounted for \$1.6 billion in 2022 as compared to \$1.4 billion in 2021.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Rashmika Mandanna - Printer company Epson India
- 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)

87. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Global cybersecurity solutions provider, Quick Heal Technologies Ltd?
वैश्विक साइबर सुरक्षा समाधान प्रदाता, क्विक हील टेक्नोलॉजीज लिमिटेड 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) Vishal Salvi / विशाल साल्वी

Ans. e

Sol. Quick Heal Technologies appoints Vishal Salvi as CEO

Global cybersecurity solutions provider, Quick Heal Technologies Ltd has appointed Vishal Salvi as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with immediate effect.

Vishal Salvi, a former executive at Infosys, has over 29 years of experience in the cybersecurity and information technology domains in India and globally.

Prior to joining Quick Heal Technologies, Salvi held the position of Global Chief Information Security Officer, Business Head of the Cybersecurity Service Line & Senior Vice President at Infosys Ltd.

Salvi's extensive expertise in cybersecurity and information technology has been honed through various leadership roles at renowned organizations such as PwC, HDFC Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, Global Trust Bank, Development Credit Bank, and Crompton Greaves.

Kailash Katkar will continue in the role of Chairman and Managing Director.

Quick Heal is an Indian multinational cybersecurity software company, headquartered in Pune, Maharashtra, India.

Recent Appointment

- **MD and CEO of Hindustan Unilever** - Rohit Jawa (replace Sanjiv Mehta)
- **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)

88. Who has been elected as the President of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI)?

भारतीय बास्केटबॉल महासंघ (बीएफआई) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Aadhav Arjuna / अद्भुत अर्जुन
- (b) K Govindaraj / के गोविंदराज
- (c) Kulvinder Singh Gill / कुलविंदर सिंह गिल
- (d) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह
- (e) Mary Kom / मैरी कॉम

Ans. a

Sol. Aadhav Arjuna elected as President of the Basketball Federation of India

Aadhav Arjuna has been elected as the President of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI).

Aadhav received an impressive 38 out of the 39 votes, defeating the incumbent president, K Govindaraj.

Kulvinder Singh Gill, a former player and the president of the Madhya Pradesh Basketball Association, was elected as the secretary-general.

About Basketball Federation of India (BFI)

- BFI was established in 1950 and is the governing body for basketball in India.
- It holds affiliation with FIBA Asia and the Indian Olympic Association.
- The first national basketball championships took place in 1934.
- India joined FIBA in 1936.
- This includes organizing national and international tournaments and providing training and support to players and coaches.
- The BFI's primary responsibility is to foster the development and promotion of basketball in India.

89. Which country has won gold in the Junior mixed team at the World Archery Youth Championship 2023?

विश्व तीरंदाजी युवा चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में जूनियर मिश्रित टीम में किस देश ने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. a

Sol. India win gold in Junior mixed team at World Archery Youth Championship 2023
India's Priyansh and Avneet Kaur won gold in the junior mixed team compound event, defeating Israel 146-144 in a keenly-contested final of the World Archery Youth Championships.
India's Manav Jadhav and Aishwarya Sharma also won a bronze medal defeating Mexico in the cadet mixed compound event.

The event is taking place at the University of Limerick in the west of Ireland from July 3-9

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

विश्व चॉकलेट दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 9 July / 9 जुलाई
- (b) 8 July / 8 जुलाई
- (c) 5 July / 5 जुलाई
- (d) 6 July / 6 जुलाई
- (e) 7 July / 7 जुलाई

Ans. e

Sol. 7 July - World Chocolate Day

World Chocolate Day is celebrated every year on July 7.

This special occasion pays tribute to one of life's most delightful indulgences.

On this day, chocolate enthusiasts of all ages come together to relish their favorite treats, be it a plain chocolate bar, a decadent truffle, or a delectable chocolate cake.

Established in 2009, World Chocolate Day commemorates the anniversary of chocolate's introduction to Europe in 1550.

Before 1550, chocolate was primarily available in specific countries across South and Central America, such as Mexico. However, foreign explorers desired to bring this special treat to the European continent.

91. Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation has signed an MoU with which of the following for cooperation in unmanned aircraft systems and innovative air mobility?

भारतीय विमानन नियामक नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय ने मानव रहित विमान प्रणालियों और नवीन वायु गतिशीलता में सहयोग के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Federal Aviation Administration / संघीय विमानन प्रशासन
- (b) European Union Aviation Safety Agency / यूरोपीय संघ विमानन सुरक्षा एजेंसी
- (c) Spanish Aviation Safety and Security Agency / स्पेनिश विमानन सुरक्षा और सुरक्षा एजेंसी
- (d) Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore / सिंगापुर का नागरिक उड्डयन प्राधिकरण
- (e) Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia / मलेशिया का नागरिक उड्डयन प्राधिकरण

Ans. b

Sol. DGCA signs MoU with EU Aviation Safety Agency for drone systems

Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation has signed an MoU with the European aviation regulator European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for cooperation in unmanned aircraft systems and innovative air mobility.

This MoU will focus on collaboration on unmanned aircraft and innovative air mobility between the two civil aviation authorities.

This would include cooperation between the two organizations in the areas of development of certification standards, environmental standards, related requirements for the certification, use of unmanned aircraft system, innovative air mobility operations which includes licensing of personnel, training, air traffic management and infrastructure, including Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management (UTM) standards and services.

The agreement will also ensure regular information sharing between the two authorities on the technological developments and research in this area and also their respective strategies for outreach to relevant stakeholders.

Further, this will result in collaboration in conducting conferences, workshops, training programmers by DGCA and EASA in the matter.

92. The Ministry of Home Affairs has launched the "Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States" with a total budget of how many rupees?

गृह मंत्रालय ने कुल कितने रुपये के बजट के साथ "राज्यों में अग्निशमन सेवाओं के विस्तार और आधुनिकीकरण की योजना" शुरू की है?

- (a) 500 cr
- (b) 1500 cr
- (c) 1000 cr
- (d) 5000 cr
- (e) 5100 cr

Ans. d

Sol. Government launches Rs. 5000 crore scheme to enhance fire services in states

The Ministry of Home Affairs launched the "Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States" with a total budget of Rs. 5,000 crore.

The scheme, part of the preparedness and capacity building funding window under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), aims to strengthen fire services across the country.

Out of the allocated amount, Rs. 500 crore has been reserved for incentivizing states based on their legal and infrastructure-related reforms.

The primary objective of the scheme is to expand and modernize fire services at the state level through the preparedness and capacity-building components of the NDRF.

The concerned State Governments shall have to contribute 25% of the total cost of such projects/proposals from their budgetary resources.

93. Union government has signed an MoU with which country to set up the IIT Madras campus?

केंद्र सरकार ने किस देश के साथ आईआईटी मद्रास परिसर स्थापित करने के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. a

Sol. Union govt signs an MoU with Tanzania to set up IIT Madras campus

IIT Madras has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) of Zanzibar-Tanzania to establish a campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar.

The signing took place in the presence of S. Jaishankar, the External Affairs Minister of India and Hussein Ali Mwinyi, the President of Zanzibar.

This milestone marks the first-ever establishment of an IIT campus outside of India. It emphasizes India's commitment to fostering people-to-people connections across Africa and the Global South.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes internationalization and recommends that high-performing Indian universities should be encouraged to establish campuses in other countries.

The campus is scheduled to launch its programs in October 2023.

The partnership aims to bring the renowned educational expertise of IIT Madras to a prominent destination in Africa, addressing the region's current needs.

About Tanzania

- **Capital**- Dodoma
- **Currency**- Tanzanian shilling
- **President**- Samia Suluhu Hassan

94. India and which country will co-host a two-day 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' on 30 - 31 August 2023?
भारत और कौन सा देश, 30 - 31 अगस्त 2023 को दो दिवसीय 'भारत-अफ्रीका अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाजरा सम्मेलन' की सह-मेजबानी करेंगे?

- (a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
- (b) Uganda / युगांडा
- (c) Nigeria / नाइजीरिया
- (d) Ghana / घाना
- (e) Kenya / केन्या

Ans. e

Sol. Govt of India and Kenya to co-host 'International Millet Festival'

India and Kenya will co-host a two-day 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' on 30 - 31 August 2023.

The event will witness participation from government leaders, researchers, farmers, entrepreneurs and industry associations from around the globe.

Through the international conference, the government of India and Kenya aim to raise public awareness about millet as the world's emerging smart food.

The government of India spearheaded the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution for declaring the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

Additionally, they are also drought-resistant, pest-resilient, climate-friendly crops that can boost income opportunities and livelihoods of smallholder farmers, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. India produces all the nine commonly known traditional millets viz. Sorghum, Pearl Millet, Finger Millet, Foxtail Millet, Proso Millet, Little Millet, Barnyard Millet, Browntop Millet and Kodo Millet.

Millet is a common term for categorizing small-seeded grasses that are often called Nutri-cereals. Most of the states in India grow one or more millet crop species.

Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana are the major millets producing states.

In March, India held its first mega-global event Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference in Delhi to celebrate 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM).

About Kenya

- Capital- Nairobi
- Currency- Kenyan Shilling
- Continent - Africa
- President- William Ruto
- Official languages- Swahili, English

95. India has signed a protocol document with which country to extend the current MoU on cooperation in personnel management and public administration until 2028?

भारत ने कार्मिक प्रबंधन और सार्वजनिक प्रशासन में सहयोग पर वर्तमान समझौता ज्ञापन को 2028 तक बढ़ाने के लिए किस देश के साथ एक प्रोटोकॉल दस्तावेज़ पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. d

Sol. India & Singapore sign MoU to co-operate on public administration

India signed a protocol document with Singapore to extend the current MoU on cooperation in personnel management and public administration until 2028.

The MoU aims to strengthen the partnership between India and Singapore through various forms of cooperation between both countries' public services.

The cooperation in areas such as administrative reforms & public sector transformation, public service delivery, leadership, and talent development, e-governance, capacity building, and training form part of the areas to be covered under the activities of MoU.

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- Israel ties up with IIT-M to set up water technology centre
- India signed an MoU with Israel on Industrial R&D Cooperation
- India signed air service agreement with Guyana to facilitate easier travel between the two nations.
- India signed MoC with Sweden to promote research networking
- India & Australia sign audio-visual co-production agreement

96. Which Municipal Corporation has become the first urban body in the country to get the Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR)?

कौन सा नगर निगम विस्तारित उत्पादक उत्तरदायित्व (ईपीआर) प्राप्त करने वाला देश का पहला शहरी निकाय बन गया है?

- (a) Delhi Municipal Corporation / दिल्ली नगर निगम
- (b) Bengaluru Municipal Corporation / बेंगलुरु नगर निगम
- (c) Noida Municipal Corporation / नोएडा नगर निगम
- (d) Indore Municipal Corporation / इंदौर नगर निगम
- (e) Mumbai Municipal Corporation / मुंबई नगर निगम

Ans. d

Sol. Indore Municipal Corporation 1st urban body in India to get EPR credit

Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) has become the first urban body in the country to get the Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) credit by recycling the banned single-use plastic items after seizing them.

Notably, Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the sixth time in a row last year in the central government's annual cleanliness survey.

Single-use plastic is completely banned in the city. About eight tonnes of such plastic in the recent past and stopped from getting circulated.

On average, 1,162 tonnes of solid waste is generated every day in Indore, which includes about 164 tonnes of plastic waste.

This waste is collected under different categories from every doorstep in the city by civic vehicles and disposed of the same day in the plant being run under the PPP model.

97. Which state has overtaken Tamil Nadu to become the state with the highest microlending borrowings in India as of March 2023?

मार्च 2023 तक कौन सा राज्य तमिलनाडु को पछाड़कर भारत में सबसे अधिक सूक्ष्म ऋण उधार लेने वाला राज्य बन गया है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Bihar overtakes Tamil Nadu to become India's largest MFI market

Bihar has overtaken Tamil Nadu to become the state with the highest microlending borrowings in India as of March 2023.

The report, published by credit information company Crif High Mark, highlighted Bihar's impressive growth with a 13.5 percent increase in the gross lending portfolio during the March quarter compared to the previous quarter.

As of March 2023, Bihar's microfinance (MFI) borrowings amounted to Rs 48,900 crore, accounting for 14.5 percent of the overall portfolio.

Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu's MFI borrowings stood at Rs 46,300 crore, representing 13.7 percent of the total outstanding.

Among the top ten states, which collectively account for 85 percent of the outstanding portfolio, Bihar's rise to the top was accompanied by Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Kerala. These states have experienced significant growth in microfinance borrowings, contributing to the overall strength of the sector.

Additionally, the eastern region of India dominated the MFI landscape, representing one-third of the outstanding portfolio.

98. Which country will ban mobile phones, tablets, and smartwatches from classrooms starting 1 January 2024?

कौन सा देश 1 जनवरी 2024 से कक्षाओं में मोबाइल फोन, टैबलेट और स्मार्टवॉच पर प्रतिबंध लगाएगा?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (d) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

Ans. a

Sol. Netherlands to ban mobile phones from classrooms

The Netherlands government will ban mobile phones, tablets, and smartwatches from classrooms starting 1 January 2024.

School authorities are asked to develop internal rules with teachers, parents, and pupils by October.

Devices will only be allowed if they are specifically needed, for instance during lessons on digital skills, for medical reasons or for people with disabilities.

Students need to be able to concentrate and need to be given the opportunity to study well. Mobile phones are a disturbance, scientific research shows. We need to protect students against this.

Schools can find their own way to organize the ban, but legal rules will follow if this does not yield enough results by the summer of 2024

The ban is aimed at improving students' concentration and academic performance.

The ban applies to all students, regardless of their age or grade level..

About Netherlands

- Capital- Amsterdam
- Currency- Euro
- Prime Minister - Mark Rutte

99. RBI's working group has recommended the inclusion of the rupee in the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) basket and recalibration of the foreign portfolio investor (FPI) regime to accelerate the pace of internationalization of the rupee. These recommendations have been given by an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG) headed by _____.

आरबीआई के कार्य समूह ने रुपये के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण की गति को तेज करने के लिए रुपये को विशेष आहरण अधिकार (एसडीआर) बास्केट में शामिल करने और विदेशी पोर्टफोलियो निवेशक (एफपीआई) शासन के पुनः अंशांकन की सिफारिश की है। ये सिफारिशें _____ की अध्यक्षता वाले एक अंतर-विभागीय समूह (आईडीजी) द्वारा दी गई हैं।

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Radha Shyam Ratho / राधा श्याम राठो
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. d

Sol. RBI panel recommends measures for internationalization of rupee

RBI's working group has recommended the inclusion of the rupee in the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) basket and recalibration of the foreign portfolio investor (FPI) regime to accelerate the pace of internationalization of the rupee.

The recommendations by an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG), headed by RBI Executive Director Radha Shyam Ratho.

The group was constituted by RBI Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar to review the position of the rupee as an international currency and to frame a road map for the internationalization of the domestic currency.

Internationalization of the rupee is a process that involves increasing the use of the local currency in cross-border transactions.

The rupee has the potential to become an internationalized currency as India is one of the fastest-growing countries and has shown remarkable resilience even in the face of major headwinds.

Last year in July, the RBI put in place a mechanism to settle international trade in rupees in order to promote growth of global trade with emphasis on exports from India and to support the increasing interest of the global trading community in the rupee.

As part of the long-term measures to achieve internationalization of the rupee, the group suggested inclusion of the rupee in SDR (Special Drawing Rights) basket.

The SDR is an international reserve asset created by the IMF (International Monetary Fund) to supplement the official reserves of its member countries. The value of the SDR is based on a basket of five currencies—the U.S. dollar, the euro, the Chinese renminbi, the Japanese yen, and the British pound sterling.

The RBI should also look at expanding the footprint of the rupee-denominated payment mechanism.

For the medium term, the group recommended review of withholding tax for masala bonds issuances, expansion of RTGS (Real Time Gross Settlement) system for settling international transactions and inclusion of the rupee in the Continuous Linked Settlement (CLS) system.

100. Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited has launched five all-women branches as part of its commitment to diversity and equal opportunities. What is the name of these branches?

पीरामल कैपिटल एंड हाउसिंग फाइनेंस लिमिटेड ने विविधता और समान अवसरों के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता के तहत पांच पूर्ण महिला शाखाएं शुरू की हैं। इन शाखाओं का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Mitra / मित्रा
- (b) Mahila / महिला
- (c) Shakti /शक्ति
- (d) Maitreyi /मैत्रेयी
- (e) Sujal / सुजल

Ans. d

Sol. Piramal Finance launches five all-women branches

Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited has launched five all-women branches as part of its commitment to diversity and equal opportunities.

These branches, named 'Maitreyi,' are part of the company's efforts to foster gender equality and provide women with equal workforce opportunities.

The five branches are d in Ajmer Road (Rajasthan), Chattarpur (New Delhi), Mohali (Punjab), Mumbai (Maharashtra), and Tripunithura (Kerala).

These full-service branches will have a dedicated team of 7 to 15 women employees.

The 'Maitreyi' branches will provide loans to MSMEs and home loans.

Piramal Finance aims to provide simplified, efficient, and impactful lending solutions that cater to consumer financing needs.

Managing Director of Piramal Finance - Jairam Sridharan

101. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)?

राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (एनजीटी) का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Anish Dayal Singh / अनीश दयाल सिंह
- (b) Sujoy Lal Thaosan / सुजॉय लाल थाउसेन
- (c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति
- (d) Pankaj Kumar Singh / पंकज कुमार सिंह
- (e) Sheo Kumar Singh / शिव कुमार सिंह

Ans. e

Sol. Justice S K Singh appointed acting chairperson of NGT

Justice Sheo Kumar Singh has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

The appointment was made by the Central Government after the superannuation of Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel.

Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel, who was appointed as chairperson in July 2018.

He also served as Judge, of the Industrial Tribunal UP, Chairman of the Oversight Committee, UP constituted by National Green Tribunal.

About National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- Founded - 18 October 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
- Headquarters- Delhi
- Regional Offices - 4 (Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai)
- Tenure- Term of 3 years or till the age of 65 years and not eligible for reappointment.
- Objective- To speed up disposal of environmental issues
- India is the third (first developing) country in the world after Australia and New Zealand to set up a Special Environment Tribunal.

Recent Appointment

- **CEO of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd** - Vishal Salvi
- **DG of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** - QU Dongyu (China)
- **Chairman of Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee** - Ajit Agarkar
- **India's ambassador to World Trade Organization (WTO)** - Brajendra Navnit (reappointment)
- **Solicitor General of India** - Tushar Mehta (re-appointment)

102. Who has been appointed as Executive Director by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) द्वारा कार्यकारी निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) P Vasudevan / पी वासुदेवन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. a

Sol. RBI appoints P Vasudevan as new executive director

P Vasudevan has been appointed as Executive Director by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Vasudevan will look after the Department of Currency Management, Corporate Strategy and Budget Department (Areas other than that of Budget & Funds), and Enforcement Department.

Prior to being promoted as executive director, Vasudevan was the Chief General Manager-in-charge of the Department of Payment and Settlement Systems.

Over a span of nearly 30 years in the Reserve Bank, served in the supervision of banks and non-banking financial companies, payment and settlement systems and other areas in the Reserve Bank, including a stint as Member of Faculty in Bankers' Training College. He has worked in the Central Office as well as Bengaluru, Mumbai and New Delhi Regional Offices of the Reserve Bank.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of SBI** - Kameshwar Kodavanti (replace Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra)
- **MD & CEO of Bank of Baroda** - Debadatta Chand
- **Part-time Chairman of Federal Bank** - AP Hota
- **MD of DBS Bank India** - Rajat Verma
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Swaminathan Janakiraman (MD of SBI)

103. Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of UK based Lloyds Banking Group?

यूके स्थित लॉयड्स बैंकिंग ग्रुप के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) P Vasudevan / पी वासुदेवन
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Sirisha Voruganti / सिरिशा वोरुगंती

Ans. e

Sol. Sirisha Voruganti appointed as MD & CEO of Lloyds Banking Group

Lloyds Banking Group, one of the leading UK-based financial services groups has appointed Sirisha Voruganti the chief executive officer and managing director of its new Lloyds Technology Centre, based in Hyderabad, India.

Sirisha Voruganti has extensive experience in IT architecture, data engineering, and fintech innovation and has held several senior technology positions in multiple global firms.

She was the first woman managing director for JP Morgan Chase in Technology in India and has served as an executive vice president of architecture, data and shared services for Mastercard.

The Lloyds Technology Centre is part of Lloyds Banking Group's Rs 3 billion strategic investments to transform its digital offering. Lloyds Banking Group is a British financial institution formed through the acquisition of HBOS by Lloyds TSB in 2009.

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

104. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of the Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) of India?

भारत के वित्तीय योजना मानक बोर्ड (एफपीएसबी) के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pradeep Kharola / प्रदीप खरोला
- (b) Aryama Sundaram / आर्यमा सुंदरम
- (c) R Venkataramani / आर वेंकटरमणि
- (d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
- (e) Krishna Mishra / कृष्णा मिश्रा

Ans. e

Sol. FPSB India appoints Krishna Mishra as CEO

The Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) of India has appointed Krishna Mishra as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with effect from 1 August 2023.

FPSB India is the Indian subsidiary of FPSB, a global standard-setting organization for the financial planning profession.

Krishna Mishra will lead the strategy and operations of FPSB India as CEO.

His primary focus will be on advancing the financial planning profession in India.

About Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB)

- FPSB is a global non-profit organization that sets and supports standards for the financial planning profession.
- It aims to protect the public interest and promote professionalism, integrity and competence among financial planners globally.
- The FPSB develops and maintains the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification program, which is recognized as the global standard for financial planning excellence.

105. Which edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) hosted by the Indian Navy is being conducted at Visakhapatnam?

भारतीय नौसेना द्वारा आयोजित द्विपक्षीय जापान-भारत समुद्री अभ्यास 2023 (JIMEX 23) का कौन सा संस्करण विशाखापत्तनम में आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) 7th
- (b) 8th
- (c) 9th
- (d) 11th
- (e) 12th

Ans. a

Sol. Japan, India Maritime Exercise JIMEX23 commences in Visakhapatnam

The bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) has commenced in Visakhapatnam.

The seventh edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) hosted by the Indian Navy, is being conducted at Visakhapatnam.

This edition marks the 11th anniversary of JIMEX, since its inception in 2012.

JIMEX 23 will witness the participation of INS Delhi, India's first indigenously built guided missile destroyer, INS Kamorta, an indigenously designed and built Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette, fleet tanker INS Shakti, a submarine, maritime patrol aircraft P8I and Dornier, ship-borne helicopters and fighter aircraft.

The exercise will be conducted over six days in two phases - a Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam comprising professional, sports and social interactions, after which, the two navies will jointly hone their warfighting skills at sea and enhance their interoperability through complex multi-discipline operations in the surface, sub-surface and air domains.

Recent Exercise

- Indian Army participates in multinational exercise '**Khaan Quest 2023**' - Mongolia
- **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

106. Which university will be offering PhD courses in three foreign languages —French, Russian, and German on its campus?

कौन सा विश्वविद्यालय अपने परिसर में तीन विदेशी भाषाओं - फ्रेंच, रूसी और जर्मन में पीएचडी पाठ्यक्रम पेश करेगा?

- (a) Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University / बाबा साहेब भीमराव अंबेडकर विश्वविद्यालय
- (b) Delhi University / दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
- (c) Jawaharlal Nehru University / जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय
- (d) Allahabad University / इलाहबाद विश्वविद्यालय
- (e) Banaras Hindu University / बनारस हिंदू विश्वविद्यालय

Ans. d

Sol. Allahabad University to now offer PhD in three foreign languages

For the first time, Allahabad University (AU) will be offering PhD courses in three foreign languages on its campus.

Following the University Grants Commission (UGC)'s permission for PhDs to be supervised by teachers even during probationary period of their appointment, now a framework has been prepared by the university for conducting PhD in three languages—French, Russian and German.

Last year, the AU authorities had appointed three teachers to teach French, German and Russian on the campus.

The teachers appointed as assistant professors included Kanchan Chakraborty for French, Prashant Kumar Pandey for German and Mona Agnihotri for Russian.

Now, students will be able to do PhD in Hindi, English, Urdu, Arabic/Persian, Sanskrit besides in these three foreign languages at AU.

107. Which state government has signed six MoUs with private industries for the mangrove plantation under the MISTHI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) Scheme?

किस राज्य सरकार ने MISTHI (तटरेखा आवास और मूर्त आय के लिए मैंग्रोव पहल) योजना के तहत मैंग्रोव वृक्षारोपण के लिए निजी उद्योगों के साथ छह समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat inks six MoUs for mangrove plantation under MISHTI scheme

The Gujarat government has signed six MoUs with private industries for the mangrove plantation under the MISTHI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) Scheme.

Led a plantation drive for mangroves, under PM Narendra Modi's visionary Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes program, at a site near Rukmini Temple.

The importance of core activities such as mangrove plantation target, stock of mangrove nurseries, livelihood opportunities, publicity and outreach programme as well as eco-tourism in mangrove areas through self helps groups (SHGs) to help achieve 30% increase in the mangrove sink.

The mangrove forest will be developed at a cost of Rs 510 lakhs in the next five years.

About Gujarat

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

108. Which state government has announced free accident and life insurance cover of Rs 4 lakh to gig workers?

किस राज्य सरकार ने गिग वर्कर्स को 4 लाख रुपये का मुफ्त दुर्घटना और जीवन बीमा कवर देने की घोषणा की है?

- (a) Punjab / पंजाब
- (b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Karnataka / कर्नाटक
- (e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. d

Sol. Gig workers to get insurance cover up to Rs four lakh in Karnataka

The Karnataka government has announced a free accidental and life insurance cover worth Rs 4 lakh, for which it will entirely bear the cost of the annual premium.

Those employed as full-time or part-time delivery personnel for Swiggy, Zomato, Amazon etc are set to benefit from the insurance cover announced by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the budget presented.

The cover comprises life insurance and accidental insurance of Rs 2 lakh each. An association of gig workers had submitted a request to the labour department to provide accidental cover for all the gig workers in the state, where there are over 2-4 lakh of them. The food aggregator also has a claim status tracking function to help the delivery partners avail of insurance claims fast and without hassles. The company provides visibility to network hospitals and gives the option to partners to directly edit details. It has also launched a 24×7 helpline for queries about moving from physical document submission to online submission.

Zomato last year launched a pilot initiative to give its delivery partners and their dependents a health insurance cover of Rs 3 lakh.

About Karnataka

- **Capital** – Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** – Siddaramaiah
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - DK Shivakumar
- **Governor** – Thawar Chand Gehlot

109. Which state government will soon launch 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' to saturate recognition of rights pertaining to the Forest Rights Act (FRA)?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार जल्द ही वन अधिकार अधिनियम (एफआरए) से संबंधित अधिकारों की मान्यता को संतुष्ट करने के लिए 'मो जंगल जामी योजना' शुरू करेगी?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha government will soon launch 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana'

Odisha state government will soon launch 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' to saturate recognition of rights pertaining to the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and speed up the post-rights recognition activities within the prescribed time frame.

Under the scheme, designed by the ST & SC Development department, it has been decided to constitute forest rights cells at the tehsil and district level with human resources to ensure and assist in the effective implementation of FRA, 2006.

Odisha is one of the leading states in the implementation of FRA with a distribution of 4.56 lakhs of IFR titles in the country as of now.

About Odisha

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

110. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)?

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद (आईसीएआर) की अनुसंधान सलाहकार समिति (आरएसी) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Nidhi Khatri / निधि खत्री
- (b) Sunil Bajpai / सुनील बाजपेयी
- (c) Sanjay Agrawal / संजय अग्रवाल
- (d) Neeraj Prabhakar / नीरज प्रभाकर
- (e) Chandra Prakash Goyal / चंद्र प्रकाश गोयल

Ans. d

Sol. Neeraj Prabhakar became the chairman of the research advisory committee of ICAR

Vice-Chancellor of Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University, B. Neeraj Prabhakar has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR) at Pedavegi, Andhra Pradesh. Prabhakar will head the ten-member committee in this position for three years.

In addition, Prabhakar has also served as a member of the Telangana Oil Palm Advisory Committee, which advises the state government on various issues for the cultivation and promotion of oil palm.

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR) at Pedavegi (Andhra Pradesh) is the only dedicated institute in India dedicated to research on oil palm and developing technologies applicable to all oil palm growing states.

Recent Committees

- Government sets up panel to recommend reforms in arbitration law; Headed by - T K Vishwanathan (Former law secretary)
- 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

111. The Election Commission of India has signed an MoU with which country to establish the institutional framework for their ongoing cooperation in the field of election management and administration?

भारत के चुनाव आयोग ने चुनाव प्रबंधन और प्रशासन के क्षेत्र में अपने चल रहे सहयोग के लिए संस्थागत ढांचा स्थापित करने के लिए किस देश के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Panama / पनामा
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. d

Sol. India & Panama Sign MoU on Electoral Cooperation

The Election Commission of India has signed an MoU with the Electoral Tribunal (ET) of Panama to establish the institutional framework for their ongoing cooperation in the field of election management and administration.

Under this agreement, both countries will set up an institutional framework for ongoing cooperation in the field of election management and administration.

ECI has already signed MoUs with Mexico, Brazil, and Chile to expand its links and cooperation with foreign Election Management Bodies (EMBs) through its 'International Cooperation Programme'.

This is the fourth MoU signed with an election management body in the Latin America region.

This MoU reflects the commitment of the Election Commission to engage with election bodies around the world and strengthen democratic processes.

About Panama

- Capital- Panama City
- Currencies- Panamanian Balboa, United States Dollar
- Official language- Spanish

112. In which city the three-day World Hindu Convention (WHC) organized by Vishwa Hindu Foundation will begin from 24 November?

विश्व हिंदू फाउंडेशन द्वारा आयोजित तीन दिवसीय विश्व हिंदू सम्मेलन (डब्ल्यूएचसी) 24 नवंबर से किस शहर में शुरू होगा?

- (a) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (b) Berlin / बर्लिन
- (c) Paris / पेरिस
- (d) Tokyo / टोक्यो
- (e) Bangkok / बैंकॉक

Ans. e

Sol. Third World Hindu Conference organized in Bangkok

The three-day World Hindu Conference (WHC), being organized by the World Hindu Foundation, is scheduled to start on November 24 at a convention centre in Bangkok.

From North America to South America, Europe to Africa, and Asia to Australia delegates from over 60 countries are expected to take part in the conference.

These delegates would include businessmen, professionals, academicians, media persons, and eminent people from the Hindu society living in different parts of the world.

The World Hindu Foundation had organized the first international conference in Delhi in 2014 and the second in Chicago in 2018.

The theme of the WHC-2023 is "Jayasya Aayatnam Dharmah", meaning "dharma, the abode of victory".

The event will provide an opportunity for participants to "network, exchange ideas, work confidently and model their future course of action".

113. The Urban 20 (U20) Mayoral Summit has begun in which city?

अर्बन 20 (U20) मेयरल शिखर सम्मेलन किस शहर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. Urban-20 Mayoral Summit begins in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar

The Urban 20 (U20) Mayoral Summit began in the twin cities of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar.

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishore inaugurated the summit being organized at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar.

Delegates and participants from 57 cities across the world and 35 cities from India including 45 Mayors, deputy Mayors of global cities are participating in the two-day summit.

U20 is a great opportunity to showcase urban development experience and successful solutions to challenges like rising urbanization.

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

- **4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (6 July 2023)
- **G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (4 – 5 July 2023)
- **Startup20 Shikhar Summit** - Gurugram, Haryana (3 July 2023)
- **U20 Engagement Group of Mayoral Summit** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat (7 – 8 July 2023)
- **G-20 Labour Engagement Summit** – Patna, Bihar (22 – 23 June 2023)

114. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has set a "flexible" net zero target for the global shipping industry by which year?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुद्री संगठन (आईएमओ) ने वैश्विक शिपिंग उद्योग के लिए किस वर्ष तक "लचीला" शुद्ध शून्य लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है?

- (a) 2035
- (b) 2040
- (c) 2050
- (d) 2060
- (e) 2070

Ans. c

Sol. IMO sets 2050 as net zero target

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) agreed on a "flexible" net zero target of 2050 for the global shipping industry.

The target is "by or around" 2050 and includes a clause that it only applies if national circumstances allow.

The IMO also agreed to reduce emissions by at least 20% by 2030, and by at least 70% by 2040.

The London-based IMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations which is responsible for measures to improve the safety and security of international shipping and to prevent pollution from ships.

The Maritime Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of IMO has also agreed on a goal to uptake zero GHG emission technologies, fuels and energy sources, "at least 5 percent, striving for 10 percent by 2030".

Most of the developing nations had been lobbying for the mid-century target -- could be 2051, 2052 or 2053, insisting on not strictly fixing 2050 as the year for achieving net zero.

115. Chandrayaan-3 will lift off on July 14 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. Chandrayaan-3 will be launched which launch vehicle?

चंद्रयान-3 14 जुलाई को श्रीहरिकोटा के सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र से उड़ान भरेगा। चंद्रयान-3 को किस प्रक्षेपण यान से लॉन्च किया जाएगा?

- (a) PSLV III
- (b) LVM III
- (c) ASLV III
- (d) Atlas V
- (e) Long March 7

Ans. b

Sol. India to launch Chandrayaan 3 moon lander and rover on July 14

India's third lunar mission, Chandrayaan-3 will lift off from the spaceport in Sriharikota at 2.35 PM on July 14 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. Chandrayaan-3 will be launched over LVM-3, which was previously known as Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk-III (GSLV-3). ISRO chairman S Somanath said "If the launch takes place on that day [July 14], we'll reach the Moon by the end of August. Landing will be on August 23 or 24 as we want the landing to happen when the Sun rises on the Moon so we get 14-15 [Earth] days to work.

If landing cannot happen on these two dates, we'll wait for another month and land in September.

Chandrayaan-3 is a follow-on mission to Chandrayaan-2. Unlike its predecessor, which carried an orbiter along with Vikram and Pragyan (the rover), Chandrayaan-3 is a composite of three modules: propulsion, lander and rover.

The spacecraft will weigh 3,900 kg — the propulsion module weighs 2,148 kg and the lander module, including the rover, weighs 1,752 kg.

The life of the lander and rover will be for 14 Earth days but the same could get extended. Fourteen Earth days would be one lunar day, which is measured in terms of time between Sunrise and Sunset on Moon, or the time taken for Sun to return to the same position in the lunar sky.

About Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)

- **Founded** - 15 August 1969
- **Headquarters** - Bangalore, Karnataka
- **Founder / 1st Chairman** - Vikram Sarabhai
- **10th Chairman** - S Somanath
- Aryabhata India's first satellites Launched on 19 April 1975

116. The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with which company for the procurement of two Dornier Aircraft for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) along with an associated engineering support package at an overall cost of Rs 458.87 crore?
रक्षा मंत्रालय ने 458.87 करोड़ रुपये की कुल लागत पर संबंधित इंजीनियरिंग सहायता पैकेज के साथ भारतीय तट रक्षक (ICG) के लिए दो डोर्नियर विमानों की खरीद के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ एक अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. c

Sol. Defense ministry signs with HAL to upgrade Dornier Aircraft for ICG

The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the procurement of two Dornier Aircraft for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) along with an associated engineering support package at an overall cost of Rs 458.87 crore.

The aircraft will be procured under the Buy (Indian) Category. The aircraft will be fitted with several advanced equipment including a glass cockpit, maritime patrol radar, electro-optic infrared device, and mission management system.

The addition will further bolster the aerial surveillance capability of maritime areas of responsibilities of the ICG.

The Dornier aircraft are being indigenously manufactured at HAL (Transport Aircraft Division), Kanpur, and will significantly contribute in achieving Aatmanirbharta in defence, in consonance with the 'Make in India' initiative of the government.

Recent MoUs in Defence Sector

- GE Aerospace signs MoU with HAL to produce fighter jet engines
- The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of 500 crore rupees with ICOMM Tele Limited to strengthen the Indian Army's communication system.
- Mazagon Dock signs deal with Germany to build diesel submarines
- Ministry of Defence signed Rs 1,700 crore contract with BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd. for procurement of next-generation maritime mobile coastal batteries and BrahMos missiles

117. IPL edition's Impact player rule will be used in which upcoming trophy?

आईपीएल संस्करण के इम्पैक्ट प्लेयर नियम का उपयोग किस आगामी ट्रॉफी में किया जाएगा?

- (a) Irani Cup
- (b) Ranji Trophy
- (c) Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy
- (d) Vijay Hazare Trophy
- (e) Deodhar trophy

Ans. c

Sol. IPL version of Impact Player rule in Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy

The IPL version of the much-talked about Impact Player Rule will be used in the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy (SMAT) beginning October 16, the BCCI Apex Council approved.

The Impact Player was introduced in SMAT last season but it had to be brought before the end of the 14th over and had to be named before the toss.

Like IPL, the teams will be allowed to name four substitutes besides the playing eleven before the toss. Out of the four substitutes, only one can be used as an Impact Player.

Both teams are allowed to use one Impact Player per match. It is, however, not compulsory.

Impact Player was used widely by the 10 IPL teams but the introduction of it divided opinions.

118. Who has been awarded the highest honor 'Philippe Chatrier Award 2023'?

सर्वोच्च सम्मान 'फिलिप चैटरियर अवार्ड 2023' से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Victoria Azarenka / विक्टोरिया अजारेंका
- (b) Mary Pierce / मैरी पियर्स
- (c) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
- (d) Justine Henin / जस्टिन हेनिन
- (e) Serena Williams / सेरेना विलियम्स

Ans. d

Sol. Belgian tennis player Justine Henin receives the Philippe Chatrier Award

The International Tennis Federation (ITF) has awarded the highest honor ' Philippe Chatrier Award 2023' to Belgian tennis player Justine Henin. Henin won seven Grand Slam singles titles, an Olympic gold medal, and was part of Belgium's team that won the Fed Cup now called the Billie Jean King Cup in 2001.

The award, named after the former ITF president, was introduced in 1996 and recognizes people who have made significant contributions to the sport on and off the court.

Henin won the French Open four times, the U.S. Open twice and the Australian Open once. She was a two-time runner-up at Wimbledon. She won Olympic gold at the 2004 Athens Games.

The award will be presented Saturday at the ITF World Champions Awards at London's Victoria and Albert Museum.

The 41-year-old Henin has established a successful academy in Belgium and a charitable foundation that helps provide sporting opportunities for children with disabilities.

Recent Awards

- **Siena Drone Photo Awards 2023** - Mathanraj S (at **Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu**)
- **PEN Pinter Prize 2023** - Michael Rosen
- **Points of Light Award 2023 by British PM** - Rajindar Singh Dhatt
- **1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award** - Pt P. D. Baul
- **Indian Medical Association (IMA) Award** - Dr K Venugopal

119. World Population Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व जनसंख्या दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 13 July / 13 जुलाई
- (b) 12 July / 12 जुलाई
- (c) 11 July / 11 जुलाई
- (d) 10 July / 10 जुलाई
- (e) 9 July / 9 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 11 July - World Population Day

World Population Day is celebrated every year on 11 July.

Objective - To create awareness and inform people of the issues pertaining to the global population and the rise of it.

Theme 2023 - Unleashing the power of gender Equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities.

This special day was established by the United Nations in 1989. On July 11, 1987, the world population reached five billion – this influenced the start of celebrating World Population Day, as proposed by Dr KC Zachariah.

The first World Population Day was observed on 11 July 1990, in more than 90 countries. Since then, numerous organizations, institutions, and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) country offices, in partnership with governments and civil society, have been marking this day to bring attention to population-related concerns.

120. National Fish Farmer's Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय मछली किसान दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 13 July / 13 जुलाई
- (b) 12 July / 12 जुलाई
- (c) 11 July / 11 जुलाई
- (d) 10 July / 10 जुलाई
- (e) 9 July / 9 जुलाई

Ans. d

Sol. 10 July - National Fish Farmer's Day

India observed the National Fish Farmer's Day on July 10 annually.

National Fish Farmer's Day 2023 is an opportunity for the entire nation to recognize the immense contributions of fish farmers and their commitment toward sustainable aquaculture.

NFFD is celebrated to honour and commemorate the contribution of Professor Dr. Hiralal Chaudhury and his colleague Dr. K. H. Alikunhi, in Indian fisheries sector who had guided the induced breeding and reproduction in Indian Major Carps by Hypophysation technique, on this day 1957.

On July 10, 1957, they successfully achieved the induced breeding of Indian Major Carps in the country, at Angul in Odisha.

 **ambitious baba**
INDIA'S NET GOVERNMENT JOBS PORTAL

121. India's first Vedic-themed Park known as the Ved Van Park has been opened to the public in which city?

भारत का पहला वैदिक-थीम वाला पार्क जिसे वेद वन पार्क के नाम से जाना जाता है, किस शहर में जनता के लिए खोला गया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Noida / नोएडा
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. India's first Vedic-themed Park unveiled in Noida

India's first Vedic-themed Park has been opened to the public in Noida's Sector 78, inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath.

Known as the Ved Van Park, the place is home to over 50,000 plants, such as banyan, kalpavriksha, and coconut, which have been mentioned in Vedic literature.

It will also highlight excerpts from the four Vedic literature pieces- Rig Veda, Atharva Veda, Yajur Veda, and Sama Veda- via laser shows, wall paintings, and sculptures.

Reportedly built with a budget of Rs 27 crores. The park aims to accomplish a dual objective by both educating and entertaining its visitors.

The park is divided into seven zones, each named after renowned Vedic sages: Kashyap, Agastya, Vishvamitra, Vasishtha, Atri, Gautam, and Bharadwaj. Within the park, visitors can explore informative displays featuring holy scriptures that delve into the lives of these sages and the teachings of the Vedas.

Furthermore, the walls of the park are adorned with vivid depictions portraying scenes from the Vedas. It is also home to a gym and an amphitheater, both powered by solar energy.

The park also features a Vedic Knowledge Centre, serving as a central hub for delving into the depths of Vedic literature. Visitors can participate in workshops and attend lectures on various subjects, including Vedic astrology, Ayurveda, and traditional Indian music.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

122. Which state's prisons department has launched a "video call" facility for foreign nationals lodged in different jails across the state?

किस राज्य के जेल विभाग ने राज्य भर की विभिन्न जेलों में बंद विदेशी नागरिकों के लिए "वीडियो कॉल" सुविधा शुरू की है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Foreigners in Maharashtra jails can make video calls to their families

The Maharashtra Prisons Department has launched a "video call" facility for foreign nationals lodged in different jails across the state.

According to the order, foreign nationals including convicts and undertrials lodged in different jails of the state would be allowed to make video calls (to their family members and lawyers) for 15 minutes in two weeks, through the 'E-prison' system developed by the central government.

The video call facility, however, will not be available to Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals, along with those facing terrorism charges.

Indian nationals lodged in these prisons have already been using the 'E-prison' system for making calls to their family members and lawyers.

Now, the same facility has been made available to foreign nationals in prisons.

As on May 31, 2023, there are as many as 637 foreign nationals — 523 men and 114 women — from 44 countries lodged in different jails across Maharashtra. Of them, 605 foreigners — 494 men and 111 women — are undertrials in different offences, while 32 — 29 men and three women — are convicts.

The maximum number of foreigners lodged in these jails are from Bangladesh, followed by Nigeria and Nepal.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Deputy CM** – Devendra Fadnavis & Ajit Pawar
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

123. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 29 development projects worth over 12,110 crore rupees in which city of Uttar Pradesh?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने उत्तर प्रदेश के किस शहर में 12,110 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की 29 विकास परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन और शिलान्यास किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi launches development projects in Varanasi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 29 development projects worth over 12,110 crore rupees in Varanasi. He inaugurated 19 projects worth 10,720 crore rupees and laid the foundation stone of 10 projects of 1389 crore rupees.

Modi dedicated the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Junction-Sone Nagar railway line of the Dedicated Freight Corridor built at a cost of over Rs 6,760 crore. He also inaugurated three railway lines and widening to four-lanes of Varanasi-Jaunpur section of NH-56.

PM Modi laid the foundation stone for construction of 3 two-lane rail over bridges, construction and renovation of 15 PWD roads, redevelopment of Manikarnika and Harishchandra ghats and floating changing room ghats at six ghats and 192 rural drinking water schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission.

PM Modi in News

- PM inaugurates **Sai Hira Global Convention Centre** in Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh.
- PM Modi inaugurates **National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047** in Lalpur village of Madhya Pradesh
- PM Modi inaugurated **17th Indian Cooperative Congress** in New Delhi
- PM Modi chairs **42nd PRAGATI interaction**
- PM Modi inaugurated **first-ever National Training Conclave** in New Delhi

124. Which state government has launched the 'Ama Pokhari Yojana to rejuvenate around 2,000 large water bodies in all 115 urban local bodies of the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य के सभी 115 शहरी स्थानीय निकायों में लगभग 2,000 बड़े जल निकायों को पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए 'अमा पोखरी योजना' शुरू की है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha CM launches 'Ama Pokhari' to rejuvenate water bodies

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched 'Ama Pokhari Yojana.

Under the scheme, about 2,000 large water bodies spread over 115 urban areas in the State will be renovated for public, the work for which will be undertaken in partnership with Mission Shakti Women Self-Help Groups and educated youths of the State.

These renovated ponds will be used as recreation centres for the people and will provide a healthy atmosphere.

The state government would invest 120 crore rupees in the implementation of the initiative.

The project will be implemented using natural and organic methodology to improve the climate of surrounding areas.

About Odisha

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

125. India and which country have recently started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries?

भारत और किस देश ने हाल ही में स्थानीय मुद्राओं में व्यापार समझौता शुरू किया है और इस नई पहल से दोनों देशों के बीच वाणिज्य को बढ़ावा देने में मदद मिलेगी?

- (a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. a

Sol. India & Tanzania begin trade settlements in local currencies

India and Tanzania have started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries.

India-Tanzania bilateral trade has seen very strong growth and stood at USD 6.4 billion in 2022-23.

This is not only a very substantial bilateral trade, but it's also actually a bilateral trade, which is getting increasingly balanced. Many new products are being added to the trade baskets. India remains the biggest destination for Tanzanian exports.

Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and Canara Bank have operations in Tanzania.

About 18 countries have already opened special vostro accounts with Indian banks.

About Tanzania

- **Capital-** Dodoma
- **Currency-** Tanzanian shilling
- **President-** Samia Suluhu Hassan

126. EAM S Jaishankar has filed his nomination papers for elections to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat. How many Rajya Sabha seats are there in the state of Gujarat at present?

विदेश मंत्री एस जयशंकर ने गुजरात से राज्यसभा चुनाव के लिए अपना नामांकन पत्र दाखिल किया है। गुजरात राज्य में वर्तमान में राज्यसभा की कितनी सीटें हैं?

- (a) 9
- (b) 11
- (c) 15
- (d) 17
- (e) 19

Ans. b

Sol. S Jaishankar files nomination for Rajya Sabha elections from Gujrat

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has filed his nomination papers for elections to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat.

Four years ago, Jaishankar had filed his nomination for the first time from Gujarat for the Rajya Sabha.

Out of the 11 Rajya Sabha seats from Gujarat, eight are currently held by the BJP and the rest by the Congress.

Of the eight seats held by the BJP, the terms of S Jaishankar, Jugalji Thakor and Dinesh Anavadiya will end on August 18. Polls will be held for these three seats.

The last date for filing nominations is July 13 and the candidates can withdraw their nomination till July 17.

127. Which of the following country has launched its first homegrown open-source operating system named "Openkylin" for computers?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने कंप्यूटर के लिए "ओपेनकिलिन" नाम से अपना पहला घरेलू ओपन-सोर्स ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. e

Sol. China launched its computer operating system

China has launched its first homegrown open-source operating system named Openkylin for computers.

The country steps up efforts to cut reliance on US technology.

The OpenKylin 1.0 was developed by a group of Chinese companies led by China Electronics Corp, the country's largest State-owned comprehensive electronic information enterprise group.

It is based on the existing open-source Linux operating system, China's version was built by a community of about 4,000 developers and is used in its space programme and industries such as finance and energy.

The system has been designed as a rival to the ubiquitous Windows and MacOS systems.

Previous versions of the software had already been deployed on the computers of some government departments.

About China

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

128. State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched the virtual branch, PNB Metaverse. Where is the headquarters of PNB?

राज्य के स्वामित्व वाले पंजाब नेशनल बैंक (पीएनबी) ने वर्चुअल शाखा, पीएनबी मेटावर्स लॉन्च की है। पीएनबी का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. PNB launches its virtual branch in the Metaverse State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched the virtual branch, PNB Metaverse. It is a virtual branch of the bank, which will deliver a unique experience of banking to existing and new customers.

With the help of this, customers can explore the bank's products and services such as bank deposits, retail/MSME loans, digital products, women/senior citizens, 'Do It Yourself', and government flagship schemes.

PNB has developed the Bank's Metaverse Branch, where its esteemed customers will get exclusive access to its virtual environment from the comfort of their home or office through their mobile phones and laptops.

In addition, the bank will offer an immersive 3D experience to the customers while performing traditional banking activities through their digital avatars.

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

129. Which of the following has constituted a five-member working group for implementing the recommendations of the Reserve Bank of India's committee on the "working of the Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)"?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने "परिसंपत्ति पुनर्निर्माण कंपनियों (एआरसी) के कामकाज" पर भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की समिति की सिफारिशों को लागू करने के लिए पांच सदस्यीय कार्य समूह का गठन किया है?

- (a) Finance Ministry / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (b) Reserve bank of India / भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक
- (c) Indian Banks' Association / भारतीय बैंक संघ
- (d) NITI Aayog / नीति आयोग
- (e) SEBI / सेबी

Ans. c

Sol. IBA sets up a group to implement the RBI committee recommendations on ARCs

The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has constituted a five-member working group for implementing the recommendations of the Reserve Bank of India's committee on the "working of the Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)".

The Group comprises Ajit Kumar (MD and CEO of Secondary Loan Market Association), Hari (CEO of Association of ARCs in India), Mythili Balasubramanian (Executive Director of Edelweiss ARC), Dharmendra Pali (senior officials from SBI) and Anupama Ranade (senior officials from ICICI Bank).

The Group has been constituted at the behest of the RBI. The central bank wants IBA and SLMA to take appropriate measures for early implementation of the committee's recommendations in consultation with the lenders and ARCs.

In light of the committee's recommendations aimed at enabling ARCs to fulfill the increasing demand of the financial sector, the working group will undertake a thorough review of assignment agreements and trust deed templates.

IBA is expected to provide a model process document to lenders for ensuring certainty and transparency in auctions conducted by them.

RBI had set up a committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the working of ARCs under the chairmanship of Sudarshan Sen, former ED, RBI, on April 28, 2021. The report of the committee was released on November 2, 2021.

Recent Committees

- Chairman of the research advisory committee of ICAR - B Neeraj Prabhakar
- Government sets up panel to recommend reforms in arbitration law; Headed by - T K Vishwanathan (Former law secretary)
- 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

130. Who has been appointed as the new chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय सेवा केंद्र प्राधिकरण (IFSCA) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
- (b) K Rajaraman / के. राजारमन
- (c) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (d) Tushar Mehta / तुषार मेहता
- (e) Kapil Sibal / कपिल सिब्बल

Ans. b

Sol. K. Rajaraman appointed as new chairperson of IFSCA

The government has appointed senior bureaucrat and telecom secretary K Rajaraman as the next Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA).

Rajaraman is an Indian Administrative Service officer of the 1989 batch.

His appointment is for a period of three years. He succeeds the first IFSCA Chairperson Injeti Srinivas who led the authority since 2020.

Rajaraman's term will be for three years from the date of his assumption of charge of the post, or till attaining the age of 65 years, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest.

IFSCA was set up in April 2020 under the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019, at GIFT City, Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

IFSCA is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).

At present, the GIFT IFSC is the maiden international financial services centre in India. Prior to the establishment of IFSCA, RBI, SEBI, PFRDA and IRDAI regulated the business in IFSC.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **CEO of Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB)** - Krishna Mishra
- **MD & CEO of UK-based Lloyds Banking Group** - Sirisha Voruganti
- **Executive Director by RBI** - P Vasudevan
- **Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of SBI** - Kameshwar Kodavanti (replace Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra)
- **MD & CEO of Bank of Baroda** - Debadatta Chand

131. 7th edition of the SALVEX exercise conducted in Kochi between India and which country?

भारत और किस देश के बीच कोच्चि में SALVEX अभ्यास का 7वां संस्करण आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. d

Sol. 7th edition of SALVEX exercise conducted in Kochi

The Seventh edition of the Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX was conducted at Kochi.

IN and USN have been participating in joint Salvage and EOD exercises since 2005.

Objective - To enhance the skill sets of the Diving teams in a number of diverse disciplines such as mine detection and neutralization, wreck location, and salvage.

The exercise saw participation from both the navies which included the ships – INS Nireekshak and USNS Salvor in addition to Specialist Diving and EOD teams.

The Diving teams of both countries shared experiences on Maritime Salvage and trained together in various facets of EOD Operations on land as well at sea.

SALVEX also saw conduct of joint training exercises towards enhancing interoperability, cohesiveness and gaining from best practices mutually in Maritime Salvage and EOD operations.

Recent Exercise

- **7th edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23)** - Visakhapatnam
- Indian Army participates in multinational exercise '**Khaan Quest 2023**' - Mongolia.
- **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.

132. Who has won the Formula 1 British Grand Prix Title 2023?

फॉर्मूला 1 ब्रिटिश ग्रं प्री खिताब 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 won British Grand Prix 2023

Red Bull's driver, Max Verstappen has clinched F1 2023 British Grand Prix title, held at the Silverstone Circuit, England.

Lando Norris for McLaren placed second and Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton placed third on the podium.

2023 is the 74th season of the F1 world championship.

Recent Grand Prix Winner

- **Austrian Grand Prix 2023** - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- **Canadian Grand Prix 2023** - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- **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)

133. Who has defeated China's Li Shi Feng in straight sets 21-18 and 22-20 to clinch the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023?

कनाडा ओपन 2023 में पुरुष एकल का खिताब जीतने के लिए किसने चीन के ली शी फेंग को सीधे सेटों में 21-18 और 22-20 से हराया है?

- (a) Chirag Shetty / चिराग शेट्टी
- (b) Srikanth Kidambi / श्रीकांत किदांबी
- (c) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy / सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी
- (d) Lakshya Sen / लक्ष्य सेन
- (e) Chirag Sen / चिराग सेन.

Ans. d

Sol. Lakshya Sen wins Canada Open

Indian Badminton player Lakshya Sen defeated China's Li Shi Feng to clinch the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023.

The 21-year-old Lakshya Sen triumphed over the reigning All England Champion Li Shi Feng by winning the first set by 21-18 and the second set by 22-20.

A Commonwealth Games gold medalist, Lakshya Sen secured his second BWF World Tour after winning the Indian Open in 2022.

Lakshya Sen went on to win his second Super 500 title of his career after the India Open, beating the reigning All-England champion.

134. Voyager Space has signed an MoU with which company to foster collaboration in spacecraft launch and deployment opportunities onboard Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)?

वोयाजर स्पेस ने छोटे उपग्रह प्रक्षेपण यान (एसएसएलवी) और ध्रुवीय उपग्रह प्रक्षेपण यान (पीएसएलवी) पर अंतरिक्ष यान प्रक्षेपण और तैनाती के अवसरों में सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) New Space India Limited / न्यू स्पेस इंडिया लिमिटेड
- (b) Dhruva Space / ध्रुव अंतरिक्ष
- (c) National Atmospheric Research Laboratory / राष्ट्रीय वायुमंडलीय अनुसंधान प्रयोगशाला
- (d) Larsen & Toubro / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो
- (e) Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre / विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र

Ans. a

Sol. Voyager Space signed MoU with NewSpace India Limited

Voyager Space has signed an MoU with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to foster collaboration in spacecraft launch and deployment opportunities on board NSIL's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

NSIL is the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Under this MoU, Voyager Space and NSIL will explore launch and deployment opportunities for small satellites orbited by SSLV and PSLV.

The two organizations will also study the use of space-qualified components from NSIL in support of spacecraft manufacturing, deployment, operations, and other areas of interest.

This partnership is a unique opportunity as we join forces to drive innovation and advancement in the small satellite launch industry. We look forward to growing Voyager's presence in India and providing additional opportunities for our customers.

Recent MoUs

- Defense ministry signs with HAL to upgrade Dornier Aircraft for ICG
- GE Aerospace signs MoU with HAL to produce fighter jet engines
- 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

135. The third Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting has begun in which city?

तीसरी व्यापार और निवेश कार्य समूह की बैठक किस शहर में शुरू हुई है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. 3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting begins in Kevadia

The third Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting has begun in Kevadia, Gujarat.

More than 75 international delegates from various G20 countries are taking part in the three-day meeting at Kevadiya.

The meeting offers an opportunity for India to showcase its global trade and export potential and a platform to showcase our carbon-free handicraft products.

The meeting began with delegates participating in a 'Trade Infrastructure' seminar.

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

- **Urban-20 Mayoral Summit** - Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar, Gujarat (7 July 2023)
- **4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (6 July 2023)
- **G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (4 – 5 July 2023)
- **Startup20 Shikhar Summit** - Gurugram, Haryana (3 July 2023)
- **U20 Engagement Group of Mayoral Summit** – Ahmedabad, Gujarat (7 – 8 July 2023)

136. The India Literacy Board proposes to set up a Literacy Museum at its premises, popularly known as Literacy House in which city?

भारत साक्षरता बोर्ड ने अपने परिसर में एक साक्षरता संग्रहालय स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव रखा है, जो किस शहर में साक्षरता हाउस के नाम से लोकप्रिय है?

- (a) Lucknow / लखनऊ
- (b) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (c) Rampur / रामपुर
- (d) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (e) Amravati / अमरावती

Ans. a

Sol. India Literacy House in Lucknow to be tourist destination with a museum

The India Literacy Board proposes to set up a Literacy Museum at its premises, popularly known as Literacy House, in Lucknow.

The board has also requested the state tourism department to declare the campus as a destination for literacy tourism to attract national and international visitors.

Exhibiting how pictorial books, puppets and other tools were used to educate people in the past.

The museum will come up at a cost of ₹8 crore and will be based on the design of noted architect Laurie Baker.

U.S. citizen Welthy Honsinger Fisher had set up the India Literacy Board or Literacy House in Lucknow in 1956 with a mission to end illiteracy and enlighten society with its motto: "It is better to light a lamp than to curse the darkness."

Situated on Kanpur Road here, the Literacy House was designed like an Indian village by Laurie Baker and consists of a cluster of simple yet innovative brick buildings.

An institution of international repute, the India Literacy Board is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

137. Who has inaugurated a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi?
नई दिल्ली में एक दिवसीय मेगा कॉन्क्लेव "एफपीओ के माध्यम से पैक्स को मजबूत करना" का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah inaugurated mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi. The conclave is aimed at discussing ways to strengthen Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) through Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).

The conclave witnesses the participation of experts from the sector as well as members from the FPOs.

Under the FPOs scheme, financial assistance of 33 lakh rupees is provided to each FPO. Further, financial assistance of 25 lakh rupees per FPO is given to the Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) for promoting and handholding the FPOs.

In order to realize Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sahkar se Samridhhi and with the efforts of Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, a decision was also taken recently to form 1100 new FPOs in the Cooperative sector.

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah approved the release of Rs 6,194.40 crore to 19 states under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).
- Amit Shah launches Akshar River Cruise Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of 'Balidaan Stambh' in Srinagar
- 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

138. Indian Mango Festival 'Aamras' has been inaugurated by UP's Minister of State Dinesh Pratap Singh in which country?
भारतीय आम महोत्सव 'आमरस' का उद्घाटन यूपी के राज्य मंत्री दिनेश प्रताप सिंह ने किस देश में किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. MoS DP Singh inaugurates Indian Mango Festival 'Aamrus' in Russia

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Uttar Pradesh Government, Dinesh Pratap Singh and Ambassador of India to Russia Pavan Kapoor have participated in the inauguration of the Indian Mango Festival 'Aamrus' in Moscow.

In the festival, the "enthusiastic" Russian audience got to enjoy five samples of different varieties of Mangoes from Uttar Pradesh – Dasheri, Langra, Chausa, Amrapali and Mallika.

The festival was organized by the Embassy of India with the support of the Uttar Pradesh Government, APEDA, and DISHA.

About Russia

- **Capital** – Moscow
- **Currency** – Rubel
- **President** – Vladimir Putin

139. According to Global Firepower, a data website that tracks global defense-related information, which country has the weakest military force in the world?

वैश्विक रक्षा संबंधी जानकारी पर नज़र रखने वाली डेटा वेबसाइट ग्लोबल फायरपावर के अनुसार, दुनिया में सबसे कमजोर सैन्य बल किस देश के पास है?

- (a) Iceland / आइसलैंड
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Somalia / सोमालिया
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. c

Sol. United States has world's most powerful military

The US has the strongest military force in the world, with Russia and China in second and third and India in fourth place, according to Global Firepower, a data website that tracks global defense-related information.

The 2023 Military Strength list - which also includes the nations with the weakest military force in the world, which includes Bhutan and Iceland - assessed over 60 factors.

The top four nations remain as they were in the 2022 Global Firepower list.

However, the UK has moved up from eighth place last year to fifth this year. South Korea remains in sixth place as it was last year.

Pakistan enters the top 10 in seventh place, and Japan and France ranked fifth and seventh last year, drop to eighth and ninth this year

10 nations with the most powerful militaries in the world-

1. United States
2. Russia
3. China
4. India

5. United Kingdom
6. South Korea
7. Pakistan
8. Japan
9. France
10. Italy

10 nations with the least powerful militaries in the world-

1. Bhutan
2. Benin
3. Moldova
4. Somalia
5. Liberia
6. Suriname
7. Belize
8. Central African Republic
9. Iceland
10. Sierra Leone



140. According to the Goldman Sachs report, India will become the second-largest economy in the world by which year?
गोल्डमैन सैक्स रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भारत किस वर्ष तक दुनिया की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बन जाएगा?

- (a) 2060
- (b) 2070
- (c) 2075
- (d) 2090
- (e) 2100

Ans. c

Sol. India to surpass US to become world's 2nd largest economy by 2075: Goldman Sachs

Goldman Sachs said India, the fifth-largest economy, will become the second-largest economy in the world by 2075 surpassing not only Japan and Germany but also the United States.

According to the investment bank report innovation and technology, higher capital investment, and rising worker productivity to increase drastically due to the burgeoning population.

Currently, India is the world's fifth-largest economy, behind Germany, Japan, China and the US.

Over the next two decades, the dependency ratio of India will be one of the lowest among regional economies. The key to drawing out the potential of India's rapidly growing population is boosting participation within its labour force.

The Goldman Sachs report said India's government has placed a priority on infrastructure creation, especially in the setting up of roads and railways.

The country's recent budget aims to continue the 50-year interest-free loan programs to state governments in order to spur investments in infrastructure.

Goldman Sachs believes that this is an appropriate time for the private sector to scale up on creating capacity in manufacturing and services in order to generate more jobs and absorb the large labor force.

141. Which bank will be signing a ₹3,000 crore IT transformation deal to revamp and enhance its tech infrastructure?
कौन सा बैंक अपने तकनीकी बुनियादी ढांचे को सुधारने और बढ़ाने के लिए ₹3,000 करोड़ के आईटी परिवर्तन समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर करेगा?

- (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. e

Sol. Canara Bank to sign ₹3,000 crore IT transformation deal

Public sector bank Canara Bank will be signing a ₹3,000 crore IT transformation deal to revamp and enhance its tech infrastructure.

In a highly competitive bidding race, global tech giants IBM and its managed infrastructure services spin-off Kyndryl are the frontrunners, positioning themselves to secure the partnership

The partnership will aim to modernize and enhance Canara Bank's technological capabilities, enabling it to provide efficient banking solutions to its customers.

Over the last three years, Canara Bank has significantly on new technology initiatives. For the current year alone, the spending has been ₹1,200 crore. The bank aims for 90 percent of its RAM (Retail, Agriculture, and MSME) transactions to go digital from end to end by March 2024.

About Canara Bank

- Founded - 1906
- Headquarters- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- MD & CEO - K Satyanarayana Raju
- Tagline - Together with Can

142. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of SBI Cards & Payment Services (SBI Card)?

एसबीआई कार्ड्स एंड पेमेंट सर्विसेज (एसबीआई कार्ड) के नए एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Abhijit Chakravorty / अभिजीत चक्रवर्ती
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. d

Sol. SBI appoints Abhijit Chakravorty as SBI Card's CEO

The country's largest pure-play credit card issuer, SBI Cards & Payment Services (SBI Card) has appointed Abhijit Chakravorty as MD & CEO for two years.

Chakravorty, who is presently a Deputy Managing Director at SBI, will assume charge of his new role on August 12.

Incumbent MD & CEO Rama Mohan Rao Amara has tendered his resignation owing to his transfer to SBI. Amara will demit office on August 11.

Amara was appointed as MD & CEO of SBI Card in January 2021.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Chairperson of International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** - K. Rajaraman (replace Injeti Srinivas)
- **CEO of Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB)** - Krishna Mishra
- **MD & CEO of UK-based Lloyds Banking Group** - Sirisha Voruganti
- **Executive Director by RBI** - P Vasudevan
- **Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of SBI** - Kameshwar Kodavanti (replace Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra)

143. Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait has been elected as the new President of which of the following organization?

कुवैत के शेख तलाल फहद अल अहमद अल सबा को निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन का नया अध्यक्ष चुना गया है?

- (a) World Trade Organization / विश्व व्यापार संगठन
- (b) Olympic Council of Asia / एशिया ओलंपिक परिषद
- (c) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation / एशिया - प्रशांत महासागरीय आर्थिक सहयोग
- (d) Organization of the Black Sea Economic / काला सागर आर्थिक संगठन
- (e) Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries / पेट्रोलियम निर्यातक देशों का संगठन

Ans. b

Sol. Sheikh Talal Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah elected as OCA President

Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait has been elected as the new President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

Sheikh Talal was succeeded by his brother Sheikh Ahmad al-Fahd al-Sabah.

Sheikh Ahmed was forced to step down after being found guilty of forgery and sentenced to at least 13 months in prison.

Sheikh Talal defeated Kuwaiti Hussein Al-Musallam, OCA Director General and World Aquatics President, at the OCA General Assembly in Bangkok.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - Sheo Kumar Singh (replace Adarsh Kr Goel)
- **CEO of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd** - Vishal Salvi
- **DG of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** - QU Dongyu (China)
- **Chairman of Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee** - Ajit Agarkar
- **India's ambassador to World Trade Organization (WTO)** - Brajendra Navnit (reappointment)

About Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)

- Established- 16 November 1982, New Delhi
- Headquarters- Kuwait City, Kuwait
- Chairman- Talal Fahd Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah
- Membership- 45 National Olympic Committees

144. Who is the first transgender woman to win Miss Universe Netherlands?

मिस यूनिवर्स नीदरलैंड जीतने वाली पहली ट्रांसजेंडर महिला कौन है?

- (a) Madhu Sapre / मधु सप्रे
- (b) Rikkie Kollé / रिक्की कोले
- (c) Nandini Gupta / नंदिनी गुप्ता
- (d) Sini Shetty / सिनी शेटी
- (e) Harnaaz Sandhu / हरनाज़ संधू

Ans. b

Sol. Transgender woman crowned Miss Netherlands for the first time

Rikkie Kollé is the first transgender woman to win Miss Universe Netherlands.

Nathalie Mogbelzada was named first runner-up while Habiba Mostafa and Lou Dirchs were awarded Miss Congeniality and Miss Social Media.

She succeeded Ona Moody and will represent the Netherlands at Miss Universe 2023.

Kollé won this year's Miss Universe Netherlands competition against nine other finalists.

According to NOS, a broadcasting organization based in the Netherlands, Kollé is the second transgender person to compete in the Miss Universe competition after Angela Ponce. Ponce represented her home country of Spain in the international pageant in 2018.

Kollé previously appeared on Holland's Next Top Model in 2018, when she reached the final four.

Recent Awards

- **Philippe Chatrier Award by International Tennis Federation (ITF)**- Justine Henin (Belgian tennis player)
- **Siena Drone Photo Awards 2023** - Mathanraj S
- **PEN Pinter Prize 2023** - Michael Rosen
- **Points of Light Award 2023 by British PM** - Rajindar Singh Dhatt
- **1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award** - Pt P. D. Baul

145. Who will be awarded the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023?

प्रतिष्ठित लोकमान्य तिलक पुरस्कार 2023 से किसे सम्मानित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़
- (b) Rahul Gandhi / राहुल गांधी
- (c) DY Chandrachud / डीवाई चंद्रचूड़
- (d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
- (e) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi to be awarded Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be awarded the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award this year.

The Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust (Hind Swaraj Sangh) would confer the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023 to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Pune on August 1, 2023.

This award recognizes PM Modi's supreme leadership under which India has climbed the ladder of progress.

It is presented annually on the occasion of Lokmanya Tilak's death anniversary.

Other awardees: Indira Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Sharad Pawar, Cyrus Poonawalla, and Manmohan Singh

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

146. Who has become the first Indian male archer to win a gold medal in the recurve category of the Youth World Championships?

युवा विश्व चैंपियनशिप की रिकर्व श्रेणी में स्वर्ण पदक जीतने वाले पहले भारतीय पुरुष तीरंदाज कौन बन गए हैं?

- (a) Limba Ram / लिम्बा राम
- (b) Abhishek Verma / अभिषेक वर्मा
- (c) Tarundeep Rai / तरूणदीप राय
- (d) Parth Salunkhe / पार्थ सालुंखे
- (e) Atanu Das / अतानु दास

Ans. d

Sol. Parth Salunkhe becomes first Indian to win Youth World Championship

Parth Salunkhe has become the first Indian male archer to win a gold in the recurve category of the Youth World Championships. The 19-year-old from Satara in Maharashtra provided the perfect icing on the cake by defeating a Korean in the Under-21 men's recurve individual final, in Limerick, Ireland.

Salunkhe, who topped the rankings round, bounced back from behind to down seventh seed Song Injun 7-3 (26-26, 25-28, 28-26, 29-26, 28-26) in a hard-fought five-setter.

India also clinched a bronze medal in the Under-21 women's recurve individual section when Bhaja Kaur defeated Su Hsin-Yu of Chinese Taipei 7-1 (28-25, 27-27, 29-25, 30-26).

India finished with six gold, one silver and four bronze medals, which was the highest in the standings in terms of total number of medals.

But in overall rankings, they finished second behind Korea who ended with six gold and four silver medals.

147. Who has inaugurated LRMR Hangar & Dispersal at Naval Air Station, INS Utkrosh in Port Blair?

पोर्ट ब्लेयर में नेवल एयर स्टेशन, आईएनएस उत्क्रोश में एलआरएमआर हैंगर और डिस्पर्सल का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Anil Chauhan / अनिल चौहान
- (b) R. Hari Kumar / आर. हरि कुमार
- (c) VR Chaudhari / वीआर चौधरी
- (d) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (e) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह

Ans. a

Sol. CDS Anil Chauhan inaugurates LRMR Hangar & Dispersal at Naval Air Station

The Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan has inaugurated LRMR Hangar & Dispersal at Naval Air Station, INS Utkrosh in Port Blair.

The twin hangar spread over 6000 sq mt. can accommodate a combination of P8I aircraft with Dronier & Advanced Light Helicopters. The new hangar facility will provide support for vital air operations in strategically important A&N Islands. It will help in strengthening the security of the Indian Oceans Region.

General Anil Chauhan also inaugurated the Wet Basin & Refit Jetty at Naval Ship Repair Yard at Port Blair. The jetty has slung material compartments and accommodation for personnel.

It is made in consultation with IIT Chennai with a cost of more than 360 Cr.

148. International Malala Day is observed every year on 12 July to honor the birthday of Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani education activist and Nobel laureate. In which year Malala Yousafzai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?

पाकिस्तानी शिक्षा कार्यकर्ता और नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता मलाला यूसुफजई के जन्मदिन के सम्मान में हर साल 12 जुलाई को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मलाला दिवस मनाया जाता है। मलाला यूसुफजई को किस वर्ष नोबेल शांति पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया था?

- (a) 2012
- (b) 2009
- (c) 2011
- (d) 2014
- (e) 2016

Ans. d

Sol. 12 July - International Malala Day

International Malala Day is observed every year on 12 July to honor the birthday of Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani education activist and Nobel laureate.

Malala is known for her advocacy of girls' education and her courageous stand against the Taliban, who had banned girls from attending school in her hometown of Mingora in the Swat Valley of Pakistan.

On October 9, 2012, Malala was targeted and shot by a Taliban gunman but survived the attack. Her activism and resilience have made her a symbol of inspiration and empowerment for girls and women worldwide.

In December 2014, Malala was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and became the youngest-ever recipient of such a pristine honour.

She was designated as United Nations Messenger of Peace in 2017 to help raise awareness of the importance of girls' education.

The young activist has bagged over 40 awards and honours for her courage.

149. Paper Bag Day is celebrated every year on which day?

पेपर बैग दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 13 July / 13 जुलाई
- (b) 12 July / 12 जुलाई
- (c) 14 July / 14 जुलाई
- (d) 10 July / 10 जुलाई
- (e) 11 July / 11 जुलाई

Ans. b

Sol. 12 July - Paper Bag Day

Paper Bag Day is celebrated every year on July 12 as a reminder of the importance of eco-friendly alternatives to plastic bags.

Objective - To raise awareness about the harmful effects of plastic on the environment and promote the use of sustainable alternatives like paper bags.

Plastic bags not only take centuries to decompose, but they also endanger wildlife, pollute oceans and landscapes, and cause lasting damage to ecosystems.

Paper bags have a historical origin rooted in the 19th century when Francis Wolle invented the first paper bag machine in 1852. This groundbreaking invention revolutionized the production of paper bags, leading to their widespread adoption as a packaging solution.

However, the popularity of plastic bags surged in the 20th century due to their convenience and cost-effectiveness. Nevertheless, as people became increasingly aware of the detrimental environmental impact of plastic bags, the use of paper bags resurfaced.

A significant turning point occurred in 1999 when San Francisco took a stand against plastic bags by banning their usage in grocery stores and pharmacies, becoming the first city worldwide to enforce such a prohibition.

150. In which city the 3rd G20 Culture Group (CWG) meeting is held?

तीसरी G20 संस्कृति समूह (CWG) की बैठक किस शहर में आयोजित की गई है?

- (a) Hampi / हम्पी
- (b) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (c) Rampur / रामपुर
- (d) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (e) Amravati / अमरावती

Ans. a

Sol. 3rd G20 Culture Group Meeting conclude in Hampi

The 3rd G20 Culture Group (CWG) meeting has concluded in Hampi, Karnataka.

The meeting was attended by delegates from G20 members, guest nations, and several international organizations.

The first two CWG meetings were held at Khajuraho and Bhubaneswar. The 3rd CWG meeting tried achieve a consensus on the recommendations and best practices shared pertaining to the 4 priorities of the CWG. The 4 priority areas are:

- Protection and Restitution of Cultural Property
- Harnessing Living Heritage for a Sustainable Future
- Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy Leveragin
- Digital Technologies for the Protection and Promotion of Culture

The theme of 'Harnessing Living Heritage for a Sustainable Future' aims to improve the rights of indigenous people and safeguards against misappropriation of traditional practices.

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

- **3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** - Kevadia, Gujarat (11 - 13 July 2023)
- **Urban-20 Mayoral Summit** - Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar, Gujarat (7 July 2023)
- **4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (6 July 2023)
- **G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (4 – 5 July 2023)
- **Startup20 Shikhar Summit** - Gurugram, Haryana (3 July 2023)

151. Which state government has launched pilot project of the Antyodaya Shram Suraksha Accident Insurance Scheme?

किस राज्य सरकार ने अंत्योदय श्रम सुरक्षा दुर्घटना बीमा योजना का पायलट प्रोजेक्ट शुरू किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat CM launched pilot project of 'Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana'

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Union Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan have launched the Antyodaya Shram Suraksha Accident Insurance Scheme from Nadia of Kheda district in Gujarat.

The scheme, launched on a pilot basis, is being implemented through the Indian Postal Department, the Indian Post Payments Bank, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Gujarat became the first state in India to launch a scheme for the welfare of laborers.

The objective of Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana is to give priority to the welfare and safety of our Shram Yogis so that they can get financial security in case of an accident.

This scheme is an important step towards creating a secure society. Data of 28 crore workers of India will be collated so that they can be covered under the Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana.'

One lakh poor families in Kheda district will get the benefit of "Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana" within 60 days.

Under this scheme, insurance with a premium of '289 and '499 per year will provide to be crucial support to workers in the event of death or partial disability. In case of the laborer's accidental death, '10 lakh will be given to their family and the same amount will be given to the worker in case of permanent disability. Also, in the event of the death, the deceased's children will be eligible for education assistance of '1 lakh.

About Gujarat

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

152. Which of the following has launched Eklavya – a 'Research Affiliate' programme, under its new academic initiatives?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने अपनी नई शैक्षणिक पहल के तहत एकलव्य - एक 'अनुसंधान सहयोगी' कार्यक्रम लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Indian Space Research Organisation / भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन
- (b) Defence Research and Development Organisation / रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन
- (c) Central Reserve Police Force / केंद्रीय रिजर्व पुलिस बल
- (d) NTPC Limited / एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड
- (e) National Law University, Delhi / नेशनल लॉ यूनिवर्सिटी, दिल्ली

Ans. e

Sol. NLU Delhi launches research affiliate program 'Eklavya'

The National Law University (NLU), Delhi has launched Eklavya – a 'Research Affiliate' programme, under its new academic initiatives. This scheme is open to those who do not have a traditional law degree. Through this, the university aims to emphasise its commitment to actively seek partnerships outside the varsity and draw from their experiences and perspectives to develop quality legal scholarship.

The programme is open for any individual with at least three years of demonstrable experience working on issues that have significant interface with the law.

At least three years should have passed after the completion of the undergraduate degree for the candidate to be eligible for this programme.

153. India and which country have jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to stop the illegal shipment of drugs through the International Mail System?

भारत और किस देश ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मेल सिस्टम के माध्यम से दवाओं के अवैध शिपमेंट को रोकने के लिए संयुक्त रूप से 'ऑपरेशन ब्रॉडर स्वॉर्ड' चलाया है?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. d

Sol. India-US conducted 'Operation Broader Sword'

India and the USA have jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to stop the illegal shipment of drugs through the International Mail System.

It targeted shipments of illicit, potentially dangerous, unapproved prescription drugs, combination medical devices, and synthetic drug precursors shipped through International Mail Facilities.

The operation was carried out by India's Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and US Postal Inspection Service (USPIS).

In Operation Broader Sword, investigators examined more than 1,500 shipments originating in India and took action on approximately 500 products, including illegal medications intended to treat and or mitigate serious diseases.

The operation resulted in the interception of over 500 shipments of illicit and unapproved prescription drugs bound for US.

154. Which company will acquire online marketplace OLX India's auto sales business for Rs 537 crore?

कौन सी कंपनी 537 करोड़ रुपये में ऑनलाइन मार्केटप्लेस OLX इंडिया के ऑटो बिक्री व्यवसाय का अधिग्रहण करेगी?

- (a) Mahindra & Mahindra / महिंद्रा एंड महिंद्रा
- (b) CarTrade Tech Ltd / कारट्रेड टेक लिमिटेड
- (c) Tata Motors / टाटा मोटर्स
- (d) AutoTrader / ऑटोट्रेडर
- (e) Hyundai Motor Company / हुंडई मोटर कंपनी

Ans. b

Sol. CarTrade Tech to acquire OLX India's auto business for Rs 537 cr

Mumbai-headquartered used car platform CarTrade Tech is lining up Rs 537 crore towards acquiring Olx India's auto sales business.

It will acquire 100 percent stake of Sobek Auto India (Sobek), which operates Olx India's auto business.

Sobek entered into an Intellectual Property License Agreement and a Transitional Support Agreement for the use of certain brands and technology.

The Mumbai-headquartered company is backed by investors including Warburg Pincus, Temasek, JPMorgan, and March Capital, and operates as a multi-channel auto platform.

The platform deals in buying and selling of both used and new cars, as well as other value-added services.

In terms of financial turnover, Sobek's revenue has grown from Rs 556.42 crore in FY2020 to Rs 1,110.40 crore in FY2022.

155. India and which country has recently launched a much-anticipated trade transaction in rupees to reduce the dependence on the US dollar and strengthen regional currency and trade?

भारत और किस देश ने हाल ही में अमेरिकी डॉलर पर निर्भरता कम करने और क्षेत्रीय मुद्रा और व्यापार को मजबूत करने के लिए रुपये में बहुप्रतीक्षित व्यापार लेनदेन शुरू किया है?

- (a) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. e

Sol. Bangladesh & India launch trade transactions in Rupees

Bangladesh and India launched a much-anticipated trade transaction in rupees to reduce the dependence on the US dollar and strengthen regional currency and trade.

This is the first time Bangladesh has done bilateral trade with a foreign country in addition to the US dollar.

The transaction costs during trade with India would reduce with the introduction of the Taka-Rupee dual currency card which would be launched in September 2023.

Bangladesh and India, however, stage frontier trading in certain areas called "border hut" in a semi-formal manner where both currencies are exchanged on a limited scale.

Under the formal arrangement from now on initially, the trade would be transacted in rupee and then gradually in Bangladeshi currency Taka upon the trade gap between the two countries decreasing.

Banks in Bangladesh and India have been given permission to open nostro accounts, an account in a bank of another country for the purpose of foreign currency transactions.

According to the latest official data from Dhaka, exports from Bangladesh to India amount to USD 2 billion, while Bangladesh's imports from India are worth USD 13.69 billion.

About Bangladesh

- **Capital**- Dhaka
- **Currency** – Taka
- **President** – Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu
- **Prime Minister** - Sheikh Hasina

156. Which state government has approved a proposal to recommend the inclusion of the "Kui" language in the eighth schedule of the Constitution of India?

किस राज्य सरकार ने भारत के संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में "कुई" भाषा को शामिल करने के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha government approved Kui language inclusion in 8th schedule

Odisha state cabinet approved a proposal to recommend the inclusion of the Kui language in the eighth schedule of the Constitution of India.

Kui is a South-Eastern Dravidian language spoken by the Kandha community. Kui is traditionally written using the Odia script, which is also used for writing the Odia language.

Inclusion of Kui in the eighth schedule will help in the preservation, promotion and propagation of the language and culture.

Besides, publication, creation of content and recognition will get momentum.

It will create an eco-system to facilitate research and studies anchored around the preservation, promotion and propagation of the Kui language.

In another important decision, the cabinet approved the proposal to exempt stamp duty and registration fees for fresh leases between IDCO and lessee for surrendered land.

About Odisha

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

157. Which of the following has signed an MoU with Climate Policy Initiative - India (CPI) for mutual assistance and cooperation to increase mobilization of global sustainable capital flows into India?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने भारत में वैश्विक स्थायी पूंजी प्रवाह को बढ़ाने के लिए आपसी सहायता और सहयोग के लिए जलवायु नीति पहल - भारत (सीपीआई) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Finance Ministry / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (b) Reserve bank of India / भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक
- (c) Share India Securities (IFSC) Private Limited / शेयर इंडिया सिक्योरिटीज (आईएफएससी) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड
- (d) International Financial Services Centres Authority / अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय सेवा केंद्र प्राधिकरण
- (e) NITI Aayog / नीति आयोग

Ans. d

Sol. IFSCA and Climate Policy Initiative sign MoU on Sustainable Finance

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has signed an MoU with Climate Policy Initiative - India (CPI) for mutual assistance and cooperation to increase mobilization of global sustainable capital flows into India.

IFSCA has taken significant steps in accelerating global sustainable capital flows by creating a conducive regulatory environment, based on international best practices, focused especially on the needs of India and developing countries.

CPI is an analysis and advisory organization that works to improve the most important energy and land use practices around the world.

IFSCA was established in April 2020 under the IFSC Authority Act, 2019.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Kotak Insurance partners with actyv.ai to provide insurance to MSMEs
- 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

158. Which bank has won the Best Performance in CASA at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2022?

किस बैंक ने ICC इमर्जिंग एशिया बैंकिंग कॉन्क्लेव एंड अवार्ड्स 2022 में CASA में सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन का पुरस्कार जीता है?

- (a) Punjab & Sind Bank / पंजाब एंड सिंध बैंक
- (b) Indian Overseas Bank / इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक
- (c) Jammu & Kashmir Bank / जम्मू और कश्मीर बैंक
- (d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
- (e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. J&K Bank wins award for Best Performance in CASA

Jammu & Kashmir Bank has been felicitated for the Best Performance in CASA-India (1st Runner up in Small Bank Category) at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2022.

The function was organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Goa.

It is a Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group headquartered in Calcutta.

The event was participated by banks from India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & Myanmar.

Recent Awards

- **Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023** - Narendra Modi
- **Miss Universe Netherlands** - Rikkie Kollé (First transgender woman)
- **Philippe Chatrier Award by International Tennis Federation (ITF)**- Justine Henin (Belgian tennis player)
- **Siena Drone Photo Awards 2023** - Mathanraj S
- **PEN Pinter Prize 2023** - Michael Rosen

159. Which insurance company has won the Insurer Innovation Award 2023 for the APAC region at the World's Digital Insurance Awards?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने विश्व डिजिटल बीमा पुरस्कारों में APAC क्षेत्र के लिए बीमाकर्ता नवाचार पुरस्कार 2023 जीता है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance wins Insurer Innovation Awards 2023

One of the leading private life insurer in India, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has won the Insurer Innovation Award 2023 for the APAC region at the World's Digital Insurance Awards.

Digital Insurer, acknowledges Bajaj Allianz Life's groundbreaking WhatsApp Conversational Platform empowering customers to digitally services their policies seamlessly.

Bajaj Allianz Life emerged as the regional finalist winner for Asia Pacific region, amongst a sterling list of Insurance majors like HSBC Life, AIA China, Cathay Life Insurance, MSIG, and Singlife.

The award entries were shortlisted by industry experts and the winner was selected by the community through pre-voting and live event voting.

Recent Awards

- **Points of Light Award 2023 by British PM** - Rajindar Singh Dhatt
- **1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award** - Pt P. D. Baul
- **Indian Medical Association (IMA) Award** - Dr K Venugopal
- **Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023** - Priya A S (for Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal)

160. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has taken the decision to impose how much percent tax on the turnover of online gaming companies, horse racing, and casinos?

वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (जीएसटी) परिषद ने ऑनलाइन गेमिंग कंपनियों, घुड़दौड़ और कैसीनो के कारोबार पर कितने प्रतिशत कर लगाने का निर्णय लिया है?

- (a) 12%
- (b) 5%
- (c) 20%
- (d) 28%
- (e) 15%

Ans. d

Sol. The 50th GST Council meeting concluded in New Delhi

The 50th GST Council meeting, headed by the Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman has been concluded in New Delhi.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has finally took the decision to impose a 28% tax on the turnover of online gaming companies, horse racing and casinos.

GST cess has been raised from current 20 percent to 22 percent in MUVs that meet the length, engine criteria.

As per the announcement by the GST council there is an exemption on GST for satellite launch services supplied by ISRO, Antrix Corporation Limited and New Space India Limited (NSIL).

161. Who has been re-appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of ITC Ltd for a period of five years?
पांच साल की अवधि के लिए आईटीसी लिमिटेड के अध्यक्ष और प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे फिर से नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
- (b) Harish Salve / हरीश साल्वे
- (c) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (d) Tushar Mehta / तुषार मेहता
- (e) Sanjiv Puri / संजीव पुरी

Ans. e

Sol. ITC board reappoints Sanjiv Puri as CMD

Sanjiv Puri has been re-appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd) for a period of five years.

The decision was made on the recommendation of the committee and will take effect from July 22, 2024.

Puri was appointed as chief executive officer in February 2017 and re-designated as the managing director in May 2018.

He was appointed as the chairman of the tobacco-to-hotels conglomerate effective May 13, 2019.

ITC Limited is an Indian conglomerate that operates in various business sectors, including tobacco manufacturing, food processing, retailing, and financial services.

Recent Appointment

- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)
- **Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - Sheo Kumar Singh (replace Adarsh Kr Goel)
- **CEO of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd** - Vishal Salvi
- **DG of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** - QU Dongyu (China)
- **Chairman of Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee** - Ajit Agarkar

162. India topped the International Biology Olympiad medal tally for the first time with an all-gold performance at the 34th edition of the competition in which country?

भारत किस देश में आयोजित प्रतियोगिता के 34वें संस्करण में पूर्ण स्वर्ण प्रदर्शन के साथ पहली बार अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जीवविज्ञान ओलंपियाड पदक तालिका में शीर्ष पर रहा है?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. e

Sol. India tops the medal tally at the 34th International Biology Olympiad

India topped the International Biology Olympiad medal tally for the first time with an all-gold performance at the 34th edition of the competition held in Al Ain, UAE.

The Indian team comprised four students — Dhruv Advani from Bengaluru; Ishan Pednekar from Kota, Rajasthan; Megh Chhabda from Jalna, Maharashtra; and Rohit Panda from Risali, Chattisgarh.

This is the first time that India won all gold medals at IBO and also the first time that India has topped the medals tally at the Olympiad. Prof Madan M Chaturvedi (former senior professor, Delhi University) and Dr Anupama Ronad (Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai) guided the Indian team.

Dr V V Binoy (National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru) and Dr Rambhadur Subedi (National Institute For Research In Reproductive Health, Mumbai) were part of the contingent as scientific observers.

India had earlier topped the medal tally in other disciplines of International Science Olympiads — Astronomy & Astrophysics (in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2015, and 2021), Physics (in 2018), and Junior Science (in 2014, 2019, 2021, and 2022).

International Science Olympiads are annual competitions in various areas of the formal sciences, natural sciences, and social sciences.

163. Which company has signed a teaming agreement with Spanish-based Navantia for the submission of a techno-commercial bid for the Indian Navy's prestigious P75 (India) submarine program?

भारतीय नौसेना के प्रतिष्ठित P75 (भारत) पनडुब्बी कार्यक्रम के लिए तकनीकी-वाणिज्यिक बोली प्रस्तुत करने के लिए किस कंपनी ने स्पेनिश-आधारित नवंतिया के साथ एक टीमिंग समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए 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. b

Sol. L&T and Spain's Navantia sign agreement for submarine project

Larsen and Toubro (L&T) has signed a teaming agreement with Spanish-based Navantia for the submission of a techno-commercial bid for the Indian Navy's prestigious P75 (India) submarine program.

For its dwindling submarine fleet, the Navy is looking to procure six advanced diesel-electric submarines under Project 75 (I). P75 (India) Submarine Project is expected to be valued at Euro 4.8 billion. This would also be followed by a 30-year life-cycle sustenance contract of similar value.

Navantia would carry out the design of P75(1) submarines based on its S80 class of submarines.

The first S80 class submarine was launched in 2021 and is undergoing sea trials prior to its delivery to Spanish Navy.

Last month, public sector shipyard Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and Germany's Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) signed an agreement to be able to bid for producing the advanced submarines under Project 75 (I).

164. Who among the following player has become the first player to win the Player of the Month award three times?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा खिलाड़ी तीन बार प्लेयर ऑफ द मंथ पुरस्कार जीतने वाला पहला खिलाड़ी बन गया है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Alyssa Healy / एलिसा हीली
- (c) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
- (d) Ashley Gardner / एशले गार्डनर
- (e) Ellyse Perry / एलिसे पेरी

Ans. d

Sol. Wanindu Hasaranga and Ashley Gardner awarded ICC 'Player of the Month' for June

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has named Wanindu Hasaranga (Sri Lankan spinner) and Ashleigh Gardner (Australian women's team all-rounder) as the recipients of the 'Player of the Month' award for June 2023.

Hasaranga recently featured in the ICC World Cup Qualifiers for Sri Lanka, contributing heavily in his team's qualification for the 2023 ODI World Cup in India starting September 5. Ashley Gardner became the first player to win the Player of the Month award three times. She was recognized for her outstanding contribution during the Women's Ashes series.

ICC Men's Player of the Month

- 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

- January 2023 - Grace Scriver (England)
- February 2023 - Ashleigh Gardner (Australia)
- March 2023 - Henriette Ishimwe (Rawanda)
- April 2023 - Naruemoi Chaiwai (Thailand)
- May 2023 - Thipatcha Putthawong (Thiland)

165. India's 36th and which's state first Flight Training Organization (FTO) has been approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (GDCA)?

भारत के 36वें और किस राज्य के पहले उड़ान प्रशिक्षण संगठन (एफटीओ) को नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (जीडीसीए) द्वारा मंजूरी दे दी गई है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. India gets its 36th and Tamil Nadu's 1st flying training organization

India's 36th and Tamil Nadu's first Flight Training Organization (FTO) has been approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (GDCA).

EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt. Ltd. based in Salem Airport, Tamil Nadu, has received approval to establish FTO.

As the sole approved flying training school in the region, this will provide aspiring pilots of Tamil Nadu training opportunities as per DGCA standards and contribute to the growth of the aviation industry in the country.

It will offer various courses related to aviation.

About Tamil Nadu

- **Capital** – Chennai
- **Chief Minister** – M K Stalin
- **Governor** – R N Ravi

166. Which state has topped the northeastern states in the grievance redressal index?

शिकायत निवारण सूचकांक में किस राज्य ने पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Sikkim tops, UP among bigger states in grievance redressal index

Sikkim has topped the northeastern states in addressing public complaints, followed by Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

The ranking was made in the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) monthly report, released by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) under the Personnel Ministry for states for June 2023.

Government of Sikkim tops the ranking among the northeastern states with a score of 66.70 percent, followed by the government of Assam with a score of 57.45 percent and the government of Arunachal Pradesh with a score of 52.30 percent.

Sikkim has disposed of 173 grievances with an average closing time of 43 days from January to June 2023.

Lakshadweep has topped the ranking among the Union Territories with a score of 70.41 percent, followed by the Andaman & Nicobar Islands with a score of 64.55 percent, and Ladakh with a score of 55.25 percent.

Lakshadweep has disposed of 181 grievances with an average closing time of 14 days to emerge as the topper of this group.

Uttar Pradesh topped the ranking among states with more than 17,500 grievances with a score of 63.90 percent, followed by Jharkhand with 48.95 percent and Madhya Pradesh with 43.53 percent.

Uttar Pradesh disposed of 1,23,633 grievances with an average closing time of 24 days to emerge as the topper of this group.

A total of 62,929 grievances were redressed by state/UTs in June 2023.

The DARPG initiated the process of rankings states/UTs from May 2023 onwards on the basis of their performance on the CPGRAMS portal.

167. Mukhra (K), a model village in Adilabad district has become the first habitation in the State to have insured by 100 percent. It is a village of which state?

आदिलाबाद जिले का एक आदर्श गांव मुखरा (के) 100 प्रतिशत बीमा कराने वाली राज्य की पहली बस्ती बन गई है। यह किस राज्य का गांव है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Mukhra (K) becomes first insured village in Telangana

Telangana, Mukhra (K), a model village in Adilabad district has become the first habitation in the State to have insured by 100 percent. Mukhra (K) village bagged many national awards which include the National-level Gram Urja Swaraj Vishesh award this year and an incentive of 50 lakh rupees.

It also won Swacch Sujal Shakti Samman this year, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Shashaktikaran Purashkar last year for effectively implementing various schemes and the Biodiversity award and Swacch Sarvekshan Award for 2020.

The model village also installed two rooftop solar grids to produce 6KV electricity, earning revenue by selling of vermicompost fertilizer produced by the rural civic body.

It achieved an open defecation-free tag by constructing toilets in all households besides planting 1 lakh saplings in open spaces and on the premises of every house.

About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – K. Chandrashekar Rao
- **Governor** – Tamilisai Soundararajan

168. Which state government is introducing Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in all government buildings, malls, etc starting August 1?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार 1 अगस्त से सभी सरकारी भवनों, मॉल आदि में स्वचालित बाह्य डिफिब्रिलेटर (एईडी) शुरू कर रही है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. UP Govt to install defibrillators in offices, malls for heart patients

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath-led government is going to install Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) or shock machines at all government buildings, malls, etc., including the Uttar Pradesh Secretariat in order to provide necessary first aid to the patient in case of cardiac arrest at all these places.

The state government's new initiative, to be launched on August 1, is in line with its ongoing efforts to improve the health infrastructure and facilities in Uttar Pradesh.

The Automated External Defibrillator (AED), or shock machine, is placed near the patient's heart to give an immediate shock to it, which causes the heart to start functioning at its pace, and provides time for the patient to be sent to a nearby hospital for medical treatment.

The machine delivers primary medical aid to the patient through electric shocks administered at two places near the patient's heart.

This medical intervention is more effective than CPR, which is performed manually on the chest during a cardiac arrest.

Sudden cardiac arrest refers to the sudden cessation of heartbeats. In India, approximately 7 lakh deaths occur annually due to cardiac arrest.

In emergency situations, people are unable to provide immediate assistance to the patient, and by the time medical help reaches the patient, precious time is lost.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

169. Which IIT has developed a Deep Learning (DL) based framework, namely OsteoHRNet, that automatically assesses the Knee Osteoarthritis (OA) severity from X-rays images?

किस आईआईटी ने एक डीप लर्निंग (डीएल) आधारित ढांचा विकसित किया है, जिसका नाम ओस्टियोएचआरनेट है, जो एक्स-रे छवियों से स्वचालित रूप से घुटने के ऑस्टियोआर्थराइटिस (ओए) की गंभीरता का आकलन करता है?

- (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. a

Sol. IIT Guwahati researchers develop AI-based model for knee X-ray

Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati have developed a Deep Learning (DL) based framework, namely OsteoHRNet, that automatically assesses the Knee Osteoarthritis (OA) severity from X-rays images.

This AI-based model can be used to detect the severity level of the disease and assist medical practitioners remotely for a more accurate diagnosis.

Knee Osteoarthritis is the most common musculoskeletal disorder in the world and has a prevalence of 28 percent in India.

There is no possible cure for Knee OA except total joint replacement at an advanced stage. Hence, an early diagnosis is essential for pain management and behavioral correction.

MRI and CT scans provide a 3-D image of the knee joints for effective diagnosis of Knee OA but their availability is limited and expensive. For routine diagnosis, X-Ray imaging is very effective and more economically feasible.

IITs in News

- University of Jaffna & IIT Madras sign MoU for promote research initiatives
- IIT Kanpur successfully conducts test flight for cloud seeding
- YES Bank collaborates with IIT Kanpur to offer support to Incubated Startups
- BITS Pilani develops face mask with sensor to check for Illness
- IIT Madras partnered with DRDO to develop sensor technology for underwater communications

170. Which state government has decided to deploy air ambulances on the stretch to provide speedy medical assistance to injured on Samruddhi Expressway?

किस राज्य सरकार ने समृद्धि एक्सप्रेसवे पर घायलों को शीघ्र चिकित्सा सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए हवाई एम्बुलेंस तैनात करने का निर्णय लिया है?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
- (e) Telangana / तेलंगाना

Ans. a

Sol. Air ambulance to be deployed on Samruddhi Expressway

In view of the frequent accidents on the Mumbai-Nagpur Samruddhi Expressway, the state government has decided to deploy air ambulances on the stretch to provide speedy medical assistance to injured.

The government is also planning to build 16 helipads on the expressway to facilitate the landing and take-off of these air ambulances.

The 701-km-long greenfield expressway is turning into a death trap with a life being lost every third day.

A total of 846 accidents have been reported since December 2022 this year, resulting in 105 casualties over the eight-month period.

The air ambulance will be deployed to evacuate the injured to hospitals which will prevent deaths due to delay in treatment. With this, the lives of those seriously injured can be saved.

The most recent incident involved a private AC sleeper bus travelling from Nagpur to Pune, which caught fire after colliding with a steel pole and road divider, resulting in the tragic death of 25 people.

171. According to the Maharashtra State Economy Development Council, Maharashtra is to be trillion-dollar economy by which year?

महाराष्ट्र राज्य अर्थव्यवस्था विकास परिषद के अनुसार, महाराष्ट्र किस वर्ष तक ट्रिलियन डॉलर की अर्थव्यवस्था बन जाएगा?

- (a) 2025
- (b) 2026
- (c) 2027
- (d) 2028
- (e) 2029

Ans. d

Sol. Maharashtra to be trillion dollar economy by 2028

Maharashtra's Economy will become a trillion dollar by 2028, said N Chandrashekhar, president of the State Economy Development Council.

The council submitted its recommendation report to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. In the report, A total of 8 sectors including 5 related to the industry sector and 3 connecting all these sectors in parallel have been mainly considered.

Its recommendations and discussions have been held with farmers, entrepreneurs, local self-government bodies, and experts in various industries.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe & Ajit Pawar
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

172. An Odia-based news station, Odisha TV has unveiled India's first regional AI news anchor. What is the name of this AI news anchor?

ओडिया स्थित समाचार स्टेशन, ओडिशा टीवी ने भारत के पहले क्षेत्रीय AI समाचार एंकर का अनावरण किया है। इस AI न्यूज़ एंकर का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Sophia / सोफिया
- (b) Lisa / लिसा
- (c) Sana / सना
- (d) Lira / लीरा
- (e) Roso / रोसो

Ans. b

Sol. India welcomes its first regional AI news anchor, 'Lisa'

In a significant milestone for the AI industry, Odisha TV, an Odia-based news station, has unveiled "Lisa," India's first regional AI news anchor.

Lisa's introduction marks a groundbreaking moment in TV broadcasting and journalism, with the potential to revolutionize the industry.

The news station revealed that she would soon be hosting news updates, showcasing her capabilities as an AI news anchor.

Lisa possesses the remarkable ability to speak multiple languages, including Odia, English, and others.

This unveiling follows a similar development earlier in March when the India Today Group introduced their own AI news anchor named Sana. Described as "bright, gorgeous, ageless, and tireless," Sana boasted multilingual proficiency and the ability to be controlled effortlessly.

173. Which country has recently declared a nationwide emergency as Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS), a rare neurological disorder, surged in the country?

हाल ही में किस देश ने देश में एक दुर्लभ न्यूरोलॉजिकल विकार गुइलेन-बैरे सिंड्रोम (जीबीएस) के बढ़ने के कारण देशव्यापी आपातकाल की घोषणा की है?

- (a) Peru / पेरू
- (b) Panama / पनामा
- (c) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (d) Paraguay / पैराग्वे
- (e) Philippines / फिलीपींस

Ans. a

Sol. Peru declares health emergency over Guillain-Barre Syndrome outbreak

Peru declared a nationwide emergency as Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS), a rare neurological disorder, surged in the country.

A 90-day health emergency has been imposed in the country to curb the outbreak.

So far a total of 182 cases have been reported, of which 147 have been discharged, four people died, and 31 remain hospitalized.

About Guillain-Barré Syndrome

- Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) is a rare autoimmune disease-causing neurological disorder, where the body's immune system mistakenly attacks the peripheral nerves.
- The attack is leading to the symptoms such as muscle weakness, numbness, and tingling, that start with the legs and spread upwards, and in extreme cases, it can also lead to paralysis of the whole body.

Symptoms of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)

- Sensation in fingers, toes, wrists, or sometimes even arms and face.
- Weakness in legs that spread to the upper body.
- Facing difficulties in facial movements, like speaking, chewing, swallowing, etc.
- Abnormal heartbeat or blood pressure.
- Severe body pain gets worse at night.
- Difficulty in breathing.
- Paralysis of the whole body

What is the available treatment for Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)?

- Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG) is the most common treatment available developed from donated blood-containing antibodies. This calms the immune system's attack on nerves.
- Plasma exchange could be another possible treatment that filters the blood and removes the harmful antibodies attacking the nerves.

About Peru

- Capital- Lima
- Currency- Sol
- Continent- South America
- President - Dina Boluarte

174. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the regional office of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in which country to facilitate close defence industrial collaboration between both countries?

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने दोनों देशों के बीच घनिष्ठ रक्षा औद्योगिक सहयोग की सुविधा के लिए किस देश में हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड (HAL) के क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. a

Sol. Rajnath Singh inaugurates HAL's regional office in Malaysia

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the regional office of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Kuala Lumpur to facilitate close defence industrial collaboration between India and Malaysia.

It will also serve as a hub for the HAL's engagement with the wider South-East Asian region and act as a window for other Indian defence PSUs.

Malaysia has shown interest in the acquisition of Tejas fighter jets manufactured by HAL.

Malaysia is home to the second-largest number of Persons of Indian Origin (PIO).

About Malaysia

- **Capital** - Kuala Lumpur
- **Currency** – Ringgit
- **Prime Minister** - Anwar Ibrahim

175. Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Manoj Ahuja has launched a new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund titled BHARAT. What is the full form of BHARAT?

कृषि मंत्रालय के सचिव, मनोज आहूजा ने एग्री इंफ्रा फंड के तहत बैंकों के लिए BHARAT नामक एक नया अभियान शुरू किया है। BHARAT का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transverse
- (b) Banks Heraldng Agriculture Rural & Agriculture Transformation
- (c) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Regional & Agriculture Transformation
- (d) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation
- (e) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Analyze Transformation

Ans. d

Sol. A new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund launched

Manoj Ahuja (Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture) has launched a month-long campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund.

A new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund titled BHARAT (Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation).

This one month-long Campaign (from 15th July 2023 to 15th August 2023) with a target of Rs 7200 crore has launched through Video Conference attended by more than 100 Banking Executives that included MDs/Chairman, EDs of commercial Banks in public and private sector, Regional Rural Banks, Small Finance Banks, NBFCs and select cooperative Banks.

He complimented the Banks for their active involvement and support to promote this Scheme which has resulted in creation of more than 31, 850 agri infra projects in the country with ₹24750 crore as loan amount under AIF with an outlay of ₹ 42,000 crores.

176. How much percent retail inflation of India has been recorded for the month of June 2023?

जून 2023 माह में भारत की खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति कितने प्रतिशत दर्ज की गई है?

- (a) 4.61%
- (b) 4.58%
- (c) 4.81%
- (d) 3.92%
- (e) 4.96%

Ans. c

Sol. CPI inflation rises higher-than-estimates to 4.81% in June 2023

India's retail inflation for the month of June 2023 increased to 4.81 percent for the first time in five months from an upwardly revised 4.31 percent in May, according to the Ministry of Statistics.

This is above the market forecasts of 4.58 percent

The consumer-price index (CPI) based inflation has remained within the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance band of 2-6 percent for the fourth consecutive month.

The consumer food price index (CFPI) rose to 4.49 percent in June from 2.91 percent in May. Rural inflation stood at 4.72 percent while urban inflation stood at 4.96 percent.

Sequentially, the inflation increased to 1.01 percent in June from 0.51 percent in the preceding month. The inflation rate for vegetables witnessed a contraction of 0.93 percent against a degrowth of 8.1 percent in May.

The inflation levels for food & beverage and fuel segments stood at 4.63 percent and 3.92 percent, respectively. For cereals, the inflation rate increased marginally to 12.71 percent from 12.65 per in May.

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%
- **June 2023** – 4.81%

177. Who has become the first woman director of IIT, to led the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Zanzibar campus in Tanzania?

तंजानिया में भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (IIT) ज़ांजीबार परिसर का नेतृत्व करने वाली IIT की पहली महिला निदेशक कौन बनी हैं?

- (a) Subby Subramaniam / सुब्बी सुब्रमण्यम
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Janani Ramachandran / जननी रामचंद्रन
- (e) Preeti Aghalayam / प्रीति अघलायम

Ans. e

Sol. Preeti Aghalayam to become first woman director of IIT, to led IIT Zanzibar

An Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras alumna and professor in the Department of chemical engineering, Preeti Aghalayam has been named director-in-charge of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Zanzibar campus in Tanzania.

Recently, India and Tanzania inked an MoU, which facilitated IIT Madras to launch its first international campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania'. The move is in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which states that "high-performing Indian universities will be encouraged to establish campuses in other countries.

Aghalayam, 49, did her B.Tech in Chemical Engineering from IIT Madras in 1995 and her PhD in 2000 from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her research focuses on Chemical Reaction Engineering, and she is an expert in Underground Coal Gasification, Automotive Aftertreatment, and CO2 utilization in hard-to-abate industries.

Recent Appointment

- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)
- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)
- **Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - Sheo Kumar Singh (replace Adarsh Kr Goel)
- **CEO of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd** - Vishal Salvi
- **Chairman of Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee** - Ajit Agarkar

178. Who has won a silver medal in the discus throw event at the World Para Athletics Championships?

विश्व पैरा एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप में डिस्कस थ्रो स्पर्धा में रजत पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Ankita Raina / अंकिता रैना
- (b) Yogesh Kathuniya / योगेश कथूनिया
- (c) Nishad Kumar / निशाद कुमार
- (d) Bhavina Patel / भावना पटेल
- (e) Krishna Nagar / कृष्णानगर

Ans. b

Sol. Yogesh Kathuniya wins silver in discus throw at Para Athletics World Championships

Yogesh Kathuniya won a silver medal in the discus throw at the World Para Athletics Championships.

This secured his qualification for the 2024 Paris Paralympics, making him the third Indian to achieve this honor. With a best effort of 43.17 meters, Yogesh displayed exceptional skill, determination, and resilience.

At 26 years old, Yogesh previously secured the second position in the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021. Now, his sights are set on capturing the elusive gold medal in Paris next year, aiming for a groundbreaking achievement in his career.

Brazil's Batista dos Santos Claudiney claimed gold with an impressive throw of 46.07 meters, while Slovakia's Laczko Dusan secured bronze with a distance of 42.70 meters.

 **ambitious baba**
INDIA'S NO.1 GOVERNMENT JOBS PORTAL

179. Which state/UTs has launched Mobile-Dost-App in sync with the vision of Apka-Mobile-Hamara-Daftar?

किस राज्य/केंद्र शासित प्रदेश ने आपका-मोबाइल-हमारा-दफ्तार के दृष्टिकोण के अनुरूप मोबाइल-दोस्त-ऐप लॉन्च किया 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. Jammu and Kashmir launches Mobile-Dost-App

In Jammu and Kashmir, a path-breaking Mobile-Dost-App has been launched in sync with the vision of Apka-Mobile-Hamara-Daftar.

It is a pioneering initiative for mobile-based delivery of citizen-centric services in the Union Territory.

The administration is committed to providing seamless services to its residents, fostering ease in accessibility, mobility, transparency, and efficiency in governance.

The administration aims to enhance accessibility and convenience ensuring that every individual of J&K will get benefited from government services at their fingertips.

The Mobile-Dost-App aims at empowering the people of Jammu & Kashmir by providing a comprehensive platform to access all the Government to Citizen Services (G2C) directly from their mobile devices.

With just a few taps, residents can now effortlessly avail a number of services, enhancing their daily lives and fostering an efficient, effective, and transparent governance system.

180. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has addressed the inaugural session of the G20 conference on crime and security to be held in which city?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने किस शहर में अपराध और सुरक्षा पर आयोजित होने वाले G20 सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन सत्र को संबोधित किया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Gurugram / गुरुग्राम

Ans. e

Sol. Amit Shah addresses inaugural session of the G-20 Conference on Crime

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has addressed the inaugural session of the G20 conference on crime and security to be held in Gurugram.

The conference is envisaged as an opportunity to forge a global partnership to build a safe cyberspace and to prioritize cybersecurity concerns.

The proceedings focus around cyber security and measures to counter cybercrime in the context of new and emerging technologies like Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Metaverse.

Cybersecurity has become an essential aspect of security-related affairs internationally, which requires adequate focus owing to its economic and geopolitical implications.

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

- **3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** - Kevadia, Gujarat (11 - 13 July 2023)
- **3rd G20 Culture Group Meeting** - Hampi, Karnataka (9 July 2023)
- **Urban-20 Mayoral Summit** - Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar, Gujarat (7 July 2023)
- **4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (6 July 2023)
- **G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (4 – 5 July 2023)

181. Which edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) will be held from October 27 -29 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi this year?

इंडिया मोबाइल कांग्रेस (IMC) का कौन सा संस्करण इस वर्ष 27 -29 अक्टूबर तक नई दिल्ली के प्रगति मैदान में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) 4th
- (b) 5th
- (c) 6th
- (d) 7th
- (e) 8th

Ans. d

Sol. India Mobile Congress 2023 to be held in Pragati Maidan

The seventh edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC), co-hosted by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) will be held from October 27 -29 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi this year.

The event will be themed around "Global Digital Innovation" and will showcase 6G, advancements in 5G networks, the increasing use of artificial intelligence (AI) in telecommunications, edge computing, and developments related to India Stack.

IMC 2023 would also highlight related technology domains such as broadcast technology, satellite communication, manufacture of semiconductors.

More than 100,000 plus participants, 5,000 plus CXO-level delegates, 350 plus speakers, and 400 exhibitors are expected to attend the event.

IMC 2023 will launch a start-up event called Aspire, which will seek to encourage the growth of entrepreneurship among "young innovators and industry delegates in the telecom and digital domains".

The India Mobile Congress 2023 will signify the vision of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to promote India's pivotal role in the digital revolution impacting every sector globally. This includes pioneering breakthroughs in 5G, 6G, broadcasting, satellite, semiconductor, drone, devices, and green technologies.

182. Who has inaugurated the indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) 'SAGAR SAMPARK' to strengthen the maritime sector in India?

भारत में समुद्री क्षेत्र को मजबूत करने के लिए स्वदेशी डिफरेंशियल ग्लोबल नेविगेशन सैटेलाइट सिस्टम (DGNSS) 'सागर संपर्क' का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
- (d) Dharmendra Pradhan / धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान
- (e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. c

Sol. Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates DGNSS "SAGAR SAMPARK"

Union Minister of Ports Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated the indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) 'SAGAR SAMPARK' to strengthen the maritime sector in India.

It helps mariners navigate safely and reduces the risk of collisions, groundings, and accidents in port and harbour areas.

It would provide more accurate information to the ships for safe navigation.

It will help mariners in safe navigation and will reduce the risk of collisions, and accidents.

Recent Inauguration by Sarbananda Sonowal

- Sarbananda Sonowal launches '**SAGAR SAMRIDDHI**'
- Sarbananda Sonowal flags off **India's 1st International Cruise Vessee** 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**

183. Which bank has inaugurated its IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) in the International Financial Services Centre in Gandhinagar?

गांधीनगर में GIFT SEZ क्षेत्र में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय सेवा केंद्र में किसने अपनी IFSC बैंकिंग इकाई (IBU) का उद्घाटन किया 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) Bank of India / बैंक ऑफ इंडिया

Ans. e

Sol. Bank of India inaugurates IFSC Banking Unit at GIFT City

Bank of India has inaugurated its IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) in the International Financial Services Centre at GIFT SEZ area in Gandhinagar.

The BOI IBU has the twin advantage of being situated in India, providing the benefit of the time zone window for its counterparts located globally with competitive pricing & quick processing from an experienced team.

The IBU will provide services, such as External Commercial Borrowing (ECBs), Trade Finance Facilities, Foreign Currency Loans, Syndication Loans (Origination, Underwriting and Distribution), Foreign Currency deposit account -Current and Term Deposits, besides offering digital banking facilities through transaction-based Internet Banking facility, to various clients allowed as per IFSCA guidelines.

Bank of India looks at achieving \$1 billion in business by March 2024.

The bank's overseas branches contribute around 15% mix business to its Global Deposits and 16% to its Global Advances.

About Bank of India (BOI)

- Founded- 7 September 1906
- Founder- Ramnarain Ruia
- Headquarters- Mumbai
- MD & CEO - Rajneesh Karnatak
- Tagline - Relationship beyond Banking

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- PNB launched the virtual branch, **PNB Metaverse**.
- Indian Bank rolls out digital services under '**Project WAVE**' initiative
- Bank of India launched **Centralised Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell**
- Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance launches '**Nishchit Pension Plan**'
- Axis Bank launches '**One-View**' feature on its mobile application

184. Which Insurance Company has partnered with DCB Bank to provide life insurance products to the bank's customers?
किस बीमा कंपनी ने बैंक के ग्राहकों को जीवन बीमा उत्पाद प्रदान करने के लिए DCB बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Max Life, DCB Bank join hands to offer insurance products

Max Life Insurance Company has partnered with DCB Bank to provide life insurance products to the bank's customers, including term, savings, and retirement plans, allowing them to protect their financial future and expand their investment portfolio.

The business tie-up will offer bank customers access to Max Life's protection and long-term savings solutions, offering financial stability for themselves and their families.

Max Life offers protection and long-term savings life insurance solutions, through its multi-channel distribution including agency and third-party distribution partners.

DCB Bank, on the other hand, is a new-generation private sector bank with 427 branches (as on March 31, 2023) across India. It is a scheduled commercial bank regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- IFSCA and Climate Policy Initiative sign MoU on Sustainable Finance
- Kotak Insurance partners with actyv.ai to provide insurance to MSMEs
- 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

185. Fintech firm Razorpay has recently launched its first international payment gateway in which country?

फिनटेक फर्म रेजरपे ने हाल ही में किस देश में अपना पहला अंतर्राष्ट्रीय भुगतान गेटवे लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. a

Sol. Razorpay launches first international payment gateway in Malaysia

Fintech firm Razorpay has launched its first international payment gateway for the Malaysian market with Curlec.

The new Curlec Payment Gateway will serve more than 5,000 businesses with a target of RM (Malaysian Ringgit) 10 billion in annualized Gross Transaction Value (GTV) by 2025.

The service simplifies payment collection, automates payouts, and helps businesses of all sizes to control cash flows.

In February 2022, Razorpay acquired a majority stake in the Malaysia-based startup which is now known as Curlec by Razorpay.

About Malaysia

- **Capital** - Kuala Lumpur
- **Currency** – Ringgit
- **Prime Minister** - Anwar Ibrahim

186. Who has been appointed as the president of the Delhi chapter of National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO)?

राष्ट्रीय रियल एस्टेट विकास परिषद् (NAREDCO) के दिल्ली चैप्टर 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) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. d

Sol. Harshvardhan Bansal appointed as President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter

Director of Unity Group Harshvardhan Bansal has been appointed as the president of Delhi chapter of the National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO).

The objective of the NAREDCO Delhi chapter is to establish a favorable atmosphere in the real estate sector that will foster sustainable growth and encourage investment by closely partnering with the government, industry professionals, and other key participants.

Presently, NAREDCO already has state branches in Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Rajasthan.

NAREDCO is a leading national organization that represents the real estate sector, it works under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

About NAREDCO

- NAREDCO was established in 1998 with the support of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- Its primary objective is to provide a valid platform to the government, real estate industry and general public to address concerns and find solutions to challenges in the real estate sector.
- It has a membership base of over 5000 members across India, including its State NAREDCO chapters.
- As per the report, digital trade in Malaysia contributes 22.6% to the country's GDP and is expected to rise to 25.5% by 2025.

Recent Appointment

- **First woman director of IIT, to led IIT Zanzibar** - Preeti Aghalayam
- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)
- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)
- **Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - Sheo Kumar Singh (replace Adarsh Kr Goel)
- **CEO of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd** - Vishal Salvi

187. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been recently awarded the highest civilian award 'Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour'. It is the award of which country?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी को हाल ही में सर्वोच्च नागरिक पुरस्कार 'ग्रैंड क्रॉस ऑफ द लीजन ऑफ ऑनर' से सम्मानित किया गया है। यह किस देश का पुरस्कार है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi awarded France's highest award Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the highest French award 'Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour' by the President of the Republic of France, Emmanuel Macron.

It is the highest French honour in military or civilian orders. With this, PM Modi becomes the first Indian PM to receive this honour.

PM Modi is the Chief Guest at the Bastille Day Parade on 14 July 2023, in which a contingent of the Indian Armed Forces from the three Services is also participating.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the India-France Strategic Partnership and the Prime Minister's visit will provide an opportunity to chart out a roadmap for the future of the partnership in various areas such as strategic, cultural, scientific, educational and economic cooperation.

About France

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

Top international awards and honours bestowed by various countries on PM Modi

- Order of the Nile by Egypt in June 2023
- Companion of the Order of Logohu by Papua New Guinea in May 2023
- Companion of the Order of Fiji in May 2023
- Ebakl Award by the Republic of Palau in May 2023
- Order of the Druk Gyalpo by Bhutan in 2021
- Legion of Merit by the US Government in 2020
- King Hamad Order of the Renaissance by Bahrain in 2019
- Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddin by Maldives in 2019
- Order of St. Andrew award by Russia in 2019
- Order of Zayed Award by UAE in 2019
- Grand Collar of the State of Palestine Award in 2018
- State Order of Ghazi Amir Amanullah Khan by Afghanistan in 2016
- Order of Abdulaziz Al Saud by Saudia Arabia in 2016.

188. Which UTs has bagged the SKOCH Award in the Gold category for its outstanding efforts in creating marketing avenues for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the state?

किस केंद्रशासित प्रदेश ने राज्य में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एसएचजी) के लिए विपणन अवसर बनाने में उत्कृष्ट प्रयासों के लिए गोल्ड श्रेणी में स्कॉच पुरस्कार जीता है?

- (a) Delhi / दिल्ली
- (b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर
- (d) Ladakh / लद्दाख
- (e) Puducherry / पुदुचेरी

Ans. c

Sol. Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission bags SKOCH Award

The Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) has bagged the SKOCH Award under the theme "State of Governance India 2047" in Gold category for its outstanding efforts in creating marketing avenues for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the Union Territory.

The SKOCH award marks a significant milestone for JKRLM, being the first award received since the inception of the scheme. This recognition represents a remarkable accomplishment for the organization.

The JKRLM has introduced several groundbreaking initiatives that have transformed the lives of countless women associated with Self Help Groups.

The AVSAR scheme, Umeed Women's Haat, and District Rural Haat, SHG products available on e-commerce platforms are prime examples of these initiatives, which have not only provided a platform for SHGs to showcase their products but have also opened up new marketing avenues for them.

Recent Awards

- **Insurer Innovation Awards 2023** - Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- **Best Performance in CASA at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave 2022** – J & K Bank
- **Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023** - Narendra Modi
- **Miss Universe Netherlands** - Rikkie Kollé (First transgender woman)
- **Philippe Chatrier Award by International Tennis Federation (ITF)**- Justine Henin (Belgian tennis player)

189. The Defense Acquisition Council has approved the proposal to buy how many Rafale-M fighter aircraft for the Indian Navy?

रक्षा अधिग्रहण परिषद ने भारतीय नौसेना के लिए कितने राफेल-एम लड़ाकू विमान खरीदने के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) 14
- (b) 16
- (c) 20
- (d) 26
- (e) 33

Ans. d

Sol. Defence Acquisition Council approves proposals for buying 26 Rafale

The Defense Acquisition Council has approved the proposal to buy 26 Rafale-M fighter aircraft for the Indian Navy.

These include 22 single-seated Rafale marine aircraft and four twin-seater trainer versions. Also, three additional Scopen class submarines will also be bought for the Indian Navy.

The deals are expected to be worth around Rs 90,000 crore.

These planes will be used by the Indian Navy on the INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya, which currently employ the MiG-29. This will be the second such fighter jet purchase from the French aerospace major Dassault Aviation in recent years.

190. India's top table tennis league Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) tournament is being organized in which city under the aegis of the Table Tennis Federation of India?

भारत की शीर्ष टेबल टेनिस लीग अल्टीमेट टेबल टेनिस (UTT) टूर्नामेंट का आयोजन टेबल टेनिस फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडिया के तत्वावधान में किस शहर में किया जा रहा है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Pune / पुणे
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. India's top table tennis league UTT tournament is being organized in Pune

India's top table tennis league Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) tournament is being organized at the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, Pune this year under the aegis of the Table Tennis Federation of India after a gap of four years.

The league round-robin will be held between the 13th and the 27th of July. The semifinals will be held on the 28 and the 29th of July and the final will be held on the 30th of July.

The Ultimate Table Tennis league consists of six teams. There are 36 players in total with six from each team - four Indian players and two international players. Each team will play five matches.

India's ace table tennis player Sharath Kamal is participating in the UTT league. He will be leading the Indian team to the 26th Asian Championships to be held from the 3rd to the 10th of September this year in South Korea.

191. Who has clinched a silver medal in the Men's High Jump event at Para Athletics World Championships in Paris?

पेरिस में पैरा एथलेटिक्स विश्व चैंपियनशिप में पुरुषों की ऊंची कूद स्पर्धा में किसने रजत पदक जीता है?

- (a) Nishad Kumar / निशाद कुमार
- (b) Tejaswin Shankar / तेजस्विन शंकर
- (c) Bobby Aloysius / बॉबी अलॉयसियस
- (d) Suresh Babu / सुरेश बाबू
- (e) Vijay Singh Chauhan / विजय सिंह चौहान

Ans. a

Sol. India's Nishad Kumar wins silver at Para Athletics World Championships 2023

India's Nishad Kumar clinches silver in the Men's High Jump event at Para Athletics World Championships in Paris.

Nishad bagged this medal in the High Jump T47 Event. With this win, Nishad has become the second athlete at this event to grab a medal.

The top-four ranked athletes at the 2023 World Para Athletics Championships in each of the individual medal events qualify for the 2024 Paralympic Games, also to be held in Paris.

192. Which of the country following has launched the world's first methane-liquid oxygen space rocket into orbit?
निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने दुनिया का पहला मीथेन-तरल ऑक्सीजन अंतरिक्ष रॉकेट कक्षा में लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. e

Sol. China launches world's first methane-fuelled space rocket

A private Chinese company has launched the world's first methane-liquid oxygen space rocket into orbit.

The Zhuque-2 carrier rocket was launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.

The move helps China beat rivals like the US, India, and Europe in developing the next-generation launch vehicle that could carry payloads into orbit around Earth.

The rocket successfully delivered a test payload into sun-synchronous orbit (SSO), the first in the world to make such an achievement.

A methane-powered rocket, also known as Methalox, uses methane as the fuel and liquid oxygen (LOX) as the oxidizer. It operates based on the same principles as traditional launch vehicles but differs in terms of propellant choice and certain design considerations.

About China

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

193. Who is the author of the book titled "Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow"?

"प्रिज्म: द एन्सेस्ट्रल एबोड ऑफ रेनबो" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Vinod Mankara / विनोद मनकारा
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) Aravind Adiga / अरविंद अडिगा
- (e) Priya A.S. / प्रिया ए.एस

Ans. a

Sol. A new book 'Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow' by Vinod Mankara released

National Award-winning filmmaker-writer Vinod Mankara's new book titled "Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow" was released from the rocket launchpad of Satish Dhawan Space Center (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

ISRO Chairman S Somnath released the book by handing it over to Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (VSSC) Director S Unnikrishnan Nair.

Published by Kozhikode-based Lipi Books, 'Prism' is a compilation of 50 interesting articles from various streams of science including space science, astronomy, biology, anthropology and mathematics.

Recent Book

- **The Yoga Sutra for Children** - Roopa Pai
- **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

194. Which state has been allotted an additional 1,44,220 houses under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna-Gramin' (PMAY-G) scheme for the financial year 2023-24 recently?

हाल ही में किस राज्य को वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 के लिए 'प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना-ग्रामीण' (PMAY-G) योजना के तहत अतिरिक्त 1,44,220 घर आवंटित किए गए हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Centre allots additional 1.44 lakh houses under PMAY-Gramin to UP

Uttar Pradesh has been allotted an additional 1,44,220 houses under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna-Gramin' (PMAY-G) scheme for the financial year 2023-24.

Following this, the state's total quota of houses completed will reach 21,68,574.

It is also mentioned in the letter that in line with the scheme's focus, the state is required to earmark at least 60% of the targets for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes subject to their availability in the housing database.

It is also requested to finalise the District, Block, GP-wise and Category-wise targets in the State as per the User Manual on Housing issued by the Ministry.

The letter also states that the Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the scheme till March 2024 to complete the remaining houses within the cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

195. The 4th Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting under India's G20 Presidency will be held in which state?

भारत की G20 अध्यक्षता के तहत चौथी ऊर्जा परिवर्तन कार्य समूह की बैठक 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. Goa to host Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting from July 19

The 4th Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting under India's G20 Presidency will be held in Goa during July 19 – 20, 2023.

This will be followed by the G20 Energy Ministerial meeting on July 22, 2023, which would be held under the chairpersonship of Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy, Shri R. K. Singh.

On the margins of the G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial and Working Group Meetings, the 14th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) and 8th Mission Innovation (MI) meeting (CEM14/MI-8) will also be held in Goa during 19th to 21st of July, 2023.

Energy Ministers from G20 member countries, 9 invited countries, and high-ranking officials from 14 international organizations will be part of the Ministerial meeting.

More than 1,000 participants including policymakers, delegates, invitees, business leaders, and researchers are expected to attend various meetings and events across these four days.

The Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy will also hold bilateral meetings with the European Union and seven countries namely Japan, Singapore, South Korea, USA, Germany, France and Australia.

The thrust of these bilateral meetings would be on establishing common certification, regulation and standards for Green Hydrogen besides promoting its export from India.

India, under its G20 Presidency, had identified six priority areas for the Energy Transitions Working Group. These are: (i) Energy Transitions through addressing technology gaps (ii) Low-cost financing for energy transitions (iii) Energy security and diversified supply chains (iv) Energy efficiency, industrial low-carbon transitions, and responsible consumption (v) Fuels for Future and (vi) Universal access to clean energy and just, affordable, and inclusive energy transition pathways.

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

- **G20 Conference on Crime and Security** - Gurugram, Haryana (13 - 14 July 2023)
- **3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** - Kevadia, Gujarat (11 - 13 July 2023)
- **3rd G20 Culture Group Meeting** - Hampi, Karnataka (9 July 2023)
- **Urban-20 Mayoral Summit** - Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar, Gujarat (7 July 2023)
- **4th edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (6 July 2023)

196. The Ministry of Ayush has established Ayush services for healthcare and Ayush research facilities in which state?
आयुष मंत्रालय ने किस राज्य में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल और आयुष अनुसंधान सुविधाओं के लिए आयुष सेवाएं स्थापित की हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Goa CM inaugurates Ayush Health Services and Research facility

The Ministry of Ayush has established Ayush services for healthcare and Ayush research facilities at Ribandar in Goa. The facility was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Goa Dr. Pramod Sawant.

The facility aims to provide high-quality and affordable Ayush healthcare services to the local community and promote research in traditional medicine by developing a museum, library and a laboratory dedicated to conducting research on medicines of mineral and marine origin.

The institutes will work to provide high-quality and affordable healthcare to every region of the state through Ayush systems of medicine.

The vision is expansion of infrastructure and human resources, promotion of research in the traditional medical systems through effective collaborations with reputed like-minded organizations.

It will also work towards mainstreaming and integration of Ayush services with modern medicines and encourage innovations.

About Goa

- **Formation** – 30 May 1987
- **Capital** – Panaji
- **Chief Minister** – Pramod Sawant
- **Governor** – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

197. Which state has launched the "Gajah Kotha" campaign to address the growing problem of Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC)?

मानव-हाथी संघर्ष (HEC) की बढ़ती समस्या के समाधान के लिए किस राज्य ने "गजह कोठा" अभियान शुरू किया है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Assam government launched "Gajah Kotha" campaign

Assam has launched the "Gajah Kotha" campaign to address the growing problem of Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC).

The "Gajah Kotha" campaign involves over 1,200 participants and aims to promote coexistence between humans and elephants.

The main objective is to educate the residents about elephant behaviour, ecology and the cultural importance of elephants in the region.

About Assam

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

198. The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by which year?

कोयला मंत्रालय ने किस वर्ष तक 100 मिलियन टन कोयले को गैसीकृत करने का लक्ष्य रखा है?

- (a) 2028
- (b) 2028
- (c) 2030
- (d) 2035
- (e) 2040

Ans. c

Sol. Govt aims 100 million tonnes coal gasification by 2030

The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by FY 2030.

The ministry is considering a comprehensive scheme, with an outlay of ₹6,000 crore, to promote coal and lignite gasification projects for both public sector undertakings (PSUs) and the private sector.

The adoption of gasification technology in India will revolutionize the coal sector, reducing reliance on imports of natural gas, methanol, ammonia, and other essential product.

Currently, India imports around half of its natural gas, most of its methanol, and 13-15% of its total ammonia requirement.

This initiative holds the potential to alleviate the environmental burden by reducing carbon emissions and fostering sustainable practices, contributing to India's global commitments towards greener future, the statement added.

In October 2022, strategic bilateral agreements were executed, including a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between BHEL & CIL, as well as an MoU between IOCL, GAIL & CIL. These collaborations aim to foster cooperation and expertise in driving the implementation of SCG projects.

199. Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has inaugurated dual elevated Eastern Cross Taxiways and the fourth runway at which airport?

नागरिक उड्डयन मंत्री ज्योतिरादित्य सिंधिया ने किस हवाई अड्डे पर दोहरे एलिवेटेड ईस्टर्न क्रॉस टैक्सीवे और चौथे रनवे का उद्घाटन 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. a

Sol. Jyotiraditya Scindia unveils 4th Runway & Elevated Taxiway in Delhi

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has inaugurated dual elevated Eastern Cross Taxiways and the fourth runway at the Delhi airport.

The Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), the country's largest airport, handles more than 1,500 aircraft movements daily.

The Eastern Cross Taxiways (ECT), which is 2.1 kilometers long, will reduce passengers' time on the tarmac after landing and before take-off of flights.

With the ECT, the airport will also be the only one in the country to have an elevated taxiway with roads passing below it.

The ECT will connect the northern and southern airfields on the eastern side of the airport and will reduce the taxiing distance for an aircraft by seven kilometres. It can handle wide-body aircraft, including A-380 and B-777 and B-747.

The airport now has 4 runways & is the 1st airport in India to have an elevated taxiway. Now, the airport will have four runways -- RW 09/27, RW 11R/29L, RW 10/28 and RW 11L/29R.

IGIA is operated by the Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), a consortium led by GMR Airports Infrastructure Ltd.

The Eastern Cross Taxiway (ECT) will reduce CO2 emissions by 55000 tonnes annually.

The dual-way elevated taxiway is 2.1 km long and 44m wide.

200. In which country, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) lessons have been made compulsory for 15- to 18-year-olds in schools?

किस देश में, स्कूलों में 15 से 18 वर्ष के बच्चों के लिए संबंध और यौन शिक्षा (आरएसई) पाठ अनिवार्य कर दिया गया है?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. e

Sol. Sex education to be compulsory in Irish schools

Lessons in relationships and sex education (RSE) are to be compulsory for 15 to 18-year-olds at schools in the Republic of Ireland.

The move is planned as part of changes to the social, personal and health education (SPHE) for senior pupils.

Lessons will be "taught in a way that LGBTQ+ identities, relationships and families are fully integrated", according to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). A major review of RSE in schools in the Republic of Ireland was ordered by the government in 2018. That has already led to changes to the RSE curriculum in primary and post-primary schools.

Under the planned changes in the Republic of Ireland, post-primaries will be expected to provide one hour a week of SPHE lessons to senior pupils. There will be lessons on health and well-being, relationships and sexuality, and into adulthood. The relationships and sexuality lessons will teach pupils about "nurturing respectful, caring and healthy relationships.

Pupils will also be taught about safe sex, responses to unplanned pregnancy, and accessing sexual health services.

About Ireland

- Capital - Dublin
- Currency - Euro
- Continent - Europe
- President - Michael D. Higgins

201. Which of the following company has been awarded the 'Golden Peacock Environment Management Award'?

निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी को 'गोल्डन पीकोक पर्यावरण प्रबंधन पुरस्कार' से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Adani Transmission Limited / अदानी ट्रांसमिशन लिमिटेड
- (b) Tata Group / टाटा ग्रुप
- (c) Reliance Industries Limited / रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड
- (d) Infosys Technologies / इंफोसिस टेक्नोलॉजीज
- (e) Dream 11 / ड्रीम 11

Ans. a

Sol. Golden Peacock' Environment Management Award 2023 to Adani Transmission Limited

Indian company Adani Transmission Limited (ATL) has been awarded the 'Golden Peacock Environment Management Award' by the 'Institute of Directors' in the 'Power Transmission Sector'.

In 2023, an assessment group comprising Environment, Health and safety, Energy and Climate Change experts assesses over 520 applications. These applications were approved by Justice M.N. The review was done by an eminent jury committee headed by Venkatachaliah.

About Golden Peacock Environment Management Award

- The award is given for reducing its ecological footprint through programs such as zero waste in landfills, single-use plastic free, water-positive operations, promoting renewable energy integration and implementation of best-in-class environmental management strategies.
- Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has been awarded with the Golden Peacock Environment Management Award in 2021 in the steel sector by the Institute of Directors. SAIL has been the winner of this award for three consecutive years.

Recent Awards

- **SKOCH Award** - Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission
- **Insurer Innovation Awards 2023** - Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- **Best Performance in CASA at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave 2022** – J & K Bank
- **Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023** - Narendra Modi
- **Miss Universe Netherlands** - Rikkie Kollé (First transgender woman)

202. Indian team has won how many medals at the 64th International Mathematical Olympiad which was held in Japan's Chiba city?

जापान के चिबा शहर में आयोजित 64वें अंतर्राष्ट्रीय गणितीय ओलंपियाड में भारतीय टीम ने कितने पदक जीते हैं?

- (a) 2
- (b) 4
- (c) 6
- (d) 8
- (e) 10

Ans. c

Sol. Indian team secures 2 Gold medals at 64th International Mathematical Olympiad

A six-member Indian team won six medals – two gold, two silver, and two bronze at the 64th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2023, which was held in Japan's Chiba city.

The team finished ninth out of the 112 countries that competed. This is the fourth time the Indian team has finished in the top 10. The gold medal was won by Atul Shatavart Nadig and Arjun Gupta, who both scored 37 points. Ananda Bhaduri and Siddharth Choppara grabbed silver with 29 points apiece, while Adhitya Mangudy and Archit Manas won bronze with 22 and 20 points, respectively.

India has finished seventh in 1998, seventh again in 2001, and ninth in 2002. India has also won three gold medals for the fourth time since 1998. Furthermore, our country also received.

203. India has signed an MoU with which country for the construction of three additional submarines under the P75 program?

भारत ने P75 कार्यक्रम के तहत तीन अतिरिक्त पनडुब्बियों के निर्माण के लिए किस देश के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. India & France sign MoU for construction of three Scorpene submarine

India and France have signed an MoU for the construction of three additional submarines under the P75 program.

The MoU has been signed between Mazgon Dockyard Ltd and Naval Group for the construction of submarines under the P75 programme.

The Scorpene Submarines have advanced stealth features and are equipped with long-range guided torpedoes and anti-ship missiles.

These submarines have a state-of-the-art SONAR suite and sensor suite permitting outstanding operational capabilities.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron adopted 'Horizon 2047: 25th Anniversary of the India-France Strategic Partnership, Towards A Century of India-France Relations'.

Recent MoU in Defence Sector

- Defense ministry signs with HAL to upgrade Dornier Aircraft for ICG
- GE Aerospace signs MoU with HAL to produce fighter jet engines
- The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of 500 crore rupees with ICOMM Tele Limited an to strengthen the Indian Army's communication system.
- Mazagon Dock signs deal with Germany to build diesel submarines
- Ministry of Defence signed Rs 1,700 crore contract with BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd. for procurement of next-generation maritime mobile coastal batteries and BrahMos missile

204. Who has won the gold medal in the women's 3000m steeplechase at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand?

बैंकॉक, थाईलैंड में एशियाई एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2023 में महिलाओं की 3000 मीटर स्टीपलचेज़ में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Manjeet Kaur / मनदीप कौर
- (b) Mandeep Kaur / मनजीत कौर
- (c) Parul Chaudhary / पारुल चौधरी
- (d) Hima Das / हिमा दास
- (e) Ankita Singh / अंकिता सिंह

Ans. c

Sol. Tajinderpal Singh Toor keeps gold, Parul Chaudhary wins maiden Asians title

Indian shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor and runner Parul Chaudhary won gold medals at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Tajinderpal Singh Toor heaved his best throw of the day on his second attempt to retain his continental title. He started with 19.80m and followed it up with 20.23m.

Tajinderpal Singh Toor also won the gold medal at the last edition of the Asian championships held in Doha four years ago. He claimed a silver at the 2017 edition held in Bhubaneswar.

Tajinderpal Singh Toor, who is also the reigning Asian Games champion and Asian indoor championships gold medallist, holds the Asian and national record of 21.77m set in Bhubaneswar last month.

Parul Chaudhary won her first gold medal at the Asian championships, claiming the top podium in the women's 3000m steeplechase. The 28-year-old had won bronze in the 5000m race in 2019 but had missed the podium twice in the 3000m steeplechase. She finished fourth in 2017 and fifth in 2019.

Parul Chaudhary clocked 9:38.76 to win her race in Bangkok ahead of the Republic of China's Xu Shuangshuang (9:44.54) and Japan's Reimi Yoshimura (9:48.48). India's Priti claimed the fourth spot in 9:48.50.

The 19-year-old Shaili Singh claimed silver in the women's long jump event with a 6.54m effort. Shaili Singh, who won silver at the 2021 world U20 championships, produced her best effort with her first attempt and was leading the leaderboards at the halfway stage. Japan's Sumire Hata, the reigning Asian indoor champion, came up with a personal best of 6.97m on her final attempt and went on to win the gold medal.

205. Who will lead a five-member Indian contingent at the World Weightlifting Championships in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from September 4 to 17?

4 से 17 सितंबर तक रियाद, सऊदी अरब में विश्व भारोत्तोलन चैंपियनशिप में पांच सदस्यीय भारतीय दल का नेतृत्व कौन करेगा?

- (a) Nikhat Zareen / निकहत ज़रीन
- (b) Antim Pangal / अंतिम पंगाल
- (c) Nisha Dahiya / निशा दहिया
- (d) Mirabai Chanu / मीराबाई चानू
- (e) Lovlina Borgohain / लवलीना बोगोहेन

Ans. d

Sol. Mirabai to lead India's contingent at World Weightlifting Championship

The Tokyo 2020 Olympics silver medalist Mirabai Chanu will lead a five-member Indian contingent at the World Weightlifting Championships in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The Riyadh event will be a qualifying event for the 2024 Paris Olympics and will be held from September 4 to 17.

Chanu will be competing in women's 49 kg category. The two-time world championships medalist will be aiming for a gold. She won gold in 2017 meet at Anaheim while had to settle for silver last year in Bogota.

BindyarDevi, the 2021 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships gold medal winner, will be taking part in women's 55 kg event.

The men's team consists of 2022 Commonwealth Games champion Achinta Sheuli, who will be taking part in 73 kg category.

The current national-level champion Narayana Ajith, Shubham Todkar, (who secured the gold medal in the 61kg category at the ongoing Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships) will also be competing.

206. Who has surpassed Harbhajan Singh to become the second-highest wicket-taker for India in international cricket?

अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट में भारत के लिए दूसरे सबसे ज्यादा विकेट लेने वाले गेंदबाज हरभजन सिंह को पीछे छोड़कर कौन बन गए हैं?

- (a) Yuzvendra Chahal / युजवेंद्र चहल
- (b) Bhuvneshwar Kumar / भुवनेश्वर कुमार
- (c) Ravichandran Ashwin / रविचंद्रन अश्विन
- (d) Jasprit Bumrah / जसप्रीत बुमराह
- (e) Hardik Pandya / हार्दिक पांड्या

Ans. c

Sol. Ravichandran Ashwin becomes second highest wicket-taker for India

Spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has surpassed Harbhajan Singh to become the second-highest wicket-taker for India in international cricket.

With this performance, Ashwin has 709 wickets in 271 international matches. These wickets have come at an average of 25.67 and his best bowling figures are 7/59.

He has 27 four-wicket hauls, 34 five-wicket hauls, and 8 ten-wicket hauls in international cricket.

India's best bowler in international cricket is Anil Kumble, who has taken 953 in 401 matches at an average of 30.06 with best figures of 10/74.

Harbhajan has now slipped to third position, with 707 wickets in 365 matches at an average of 32.59 and best figures of 8/84.

207. World Emoji Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व इमोजी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 15 July / 15 जुलाई
- (b) 16 July / 16 जुलाई
- (c) 17 July / 17 जुलाई
- (d) 18 July / 18 जुलाई
- (e) 19 July / 19 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 17 July - World Emoji Day

World Emoji Day is observed every year on July 17.

Emojis have significantly transformed the way internet users across the world communicate and express themselves in the digital world.

The tiny pictures have become an integral part of text messages and regular communication through digital modes.

Due to their ability to express thousands of words with just a tiny pictorial icon, emojis are being increasingly used in text messages and social media posts.

Emojis were first created by an artist to make communication in a virtual world easier. In the late 1990s, a Japanese artist Shigetaka Kurita created a set of 176 emojis.

Later in 2014, the founder of Emojipedia Jeremy Burge proposed to initiate a day of celebration for highlighting the increased use of emojis.

Hence, World Emoji Day is observed on July 17 every year. The date was finalized as the 'Calendar' emoji shows the same date by default. Eventually, the use of emojis has become an essential part of all communications in the virtual world.

208. International Justice Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्याय दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 15 July / 15 जुलाई
- (b) 16 July / 16 जुलाई
- (c) 17 July / 17 जुलाई
- (d) 18 July / 18 जुलाई
- (e) 19 July / 19 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 17 July - International Justice Day

International Justice Day is celebrated every year on 17 July.

The day is observed to commemorate the significant role played by the International Criminal Court (ICC) and other organizations in providing justice to victims of injustice, including people affected by war crimes, genocide, terrorism, and more.

World Day for International Justice is recognised to highlight the severe cases of human rights abuses and the role of ICC in eradicating them.

It is an opportunity to promote the rule of law, observance of human rights, and opposition to impunity.

It marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute on 17 July 1998, the founding treaty of the ICC, which seeks to protect people from genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.

209. Which state's transport department has introduced a UPI payments system at inter-state check posts to curb corruption?

किस राज्य के परिवहन विभाग ने भ्रष्टाचार पर अंकुश लगाने के लिए अंतर-राज्य चेक पोस्ट पर UPI भुगतान प्रणाली शुरू की है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Andhra Pradesh introduces cashless payment at inter-state check posts

Andhra Pradesh transport department has introduced a UPI payments system at inter-state check posts to curb corruption.

The policy will support the Chief Minister's directives toward corruption-free administration without any intermediaries.

The new policy has been implemented at 15 check posts of the transport department across the state.

Further, people can pay border tax, temporary permit tax, voluntary tax, compounding fee, etc by scanning the QR code.

The State has interstate checkpoints with Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Telangana.

About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
- **Governor** – S. Abdul Nazeer

210. Which company has recently commissioned India's first transnational power project?

हाल ही में किस कंपनी ने भारत की पहली अंतरराष्ट्रीय बिजली परियोजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Adani Group / अदानी ग्रुप
- (b) Tata Group / टाटा ग्रुप
- (c) Reliance Industries Limited / रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड
- (d) NTPC Limited / एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड
- (e) Torrent Power / टोरेंट पावर

Ans. a

Sol. Adani Group commissions India's first transnational power project

Gautam Adani met Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina for full load commencement and handover of the 1,600 MW ultra-supercritical Godda power plant.

Adani Power set up the 1,600 MW thermal power in Jharkhand's Godda to supply power generated to Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) through a dedicated transmission line.

The Godda Plant became fully operational in June. The plant was commissioned in a record time of three-and-a-half years.

The first unit of the power plant, with 800 MW capacity, achieved its COD in April this year.

211. Which state has celebrated the Harela festival recently?

हाल ही में किस राज्य में हरेला त्यौहार मनाया गया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Harela Festival 2023 begins in Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami participated in a program on water conservation, organized on the occasion of the Harela festival 2023.

The festival symbolizes happiness, prosperity, peace, environment, and nature conservation.

Harela is an annual Hindu festival celebrated in the hill states of Uttarakhand and some regions of Himachal Pradesh.

Harela and Bhitauli Festivals are the prominent folk festivals of Uttarakhand, celebrated in the Kumaon Region.

About Uttarakhand

- **Capital** - Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- **Chief Minister** - Pushkar Singh Dhami
- **Governor** - Gurmit Singh

212. Who co-chaired the 12th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) meeting in Bangkok with his Laos counterpart Selumkse Komasith?

बैंकॉक में अपने लाओस समकक्ष सेलुमक्से कोमासिथ के साथ 12वीं मेकांग-गंगा सहयोग (एमजीसी) बैठक की सह-अध्यक्षता किसने की है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Ajit Doval / अजीत डोभाल
- (e) S Jaishankar / एस जयशंकर

Ans. e

Sol. S. Jaishankar co-chairs 12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation meeting

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar co-chaired the 12th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) meeting in Bangkok with his Laos counterpart Saleumxay Kommasith.

The implementation of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway was prioritized, and a Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Business Council was established.

The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) is an initiative by six countries - India and five ASEAN countries - Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam - for cooperation in tourism, culture, education, as well as transport and communications.

Peace and prosperity in the region also play a pivotal role in realizing Prime Minister (Narendra) Modi's vision of security and growth for all in the region under India's Act East policy.

213. Which state has launched the Aapda Rahat Kosh-2023 website initiating a digital platform aimed at aiding disaster-affected people?

किस राज्य ने आपदा प्रभावित लोगों की सहायता के उद्देश्य से एक डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म की शुरुआत करते हुए आपदा राहत कोष-2023 वेबसाइट लॉन्च की है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Himachal CM launches website of Aapda Rahat Kosh-2023

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has launched the Aapda Rahat Kosh-2023 website initiating a digital platform aimed at aiding the disaster-affected people of Himachal Pradesh. Individuals can donate money in Aapda Rahat Kosh-2023 from anywhere using various payment methods such as debit card, credit card, net banking, QR code and UPI. The system has been integrated with multiple payment gateways to ensure seamless transactions. Preparations were underway to enable online donations from overseas donors within the next few days. Sukhu expressed gratitude towards employee organizations and individuals nationwide who have already contributed to the Aapda Rahat Kosh-2023. Himachal Pradesh had faced immense losses due to the unprecedented rainfall, marking the worst calamity the state has experienced in 50 years. He exhorted everyone to extend maximum financial support to help the state recover from the devastation.

About Himachal Pradesh

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

214. The Reserve Bank of India and which country's Central Bank have signed two MoUs related to the promotion of local currencies for cross-border transactions and interlinking their payment systems UPI with the Instant Payment Platform (IPP)?

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक और किस देश के सेंट्रल बैंक ने सीमा पार लेनदेन के लिए स्थानीय मुद्राओं को बढ़ावा देने और अपनी भुगतान प्रणाली UPI को तत्काल भुगतान प्लेटफॉर्म (IPP) के साथ जोड़ने से संबंधित दो समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. e

Sol. India, UAE sign MoUs for promoting use of local currencies

The Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of UAE (CBUAE) have signed two MoUs related to the promotion of local currencies for cross-border transactions and interlinking their payment systems UPI with the Instant Payment Platform (IPP) of UAE.

Both of them would now help each other in establishing a common framework for the promotion of the use of local currencies, i.e, the Indian rupee (INR) and the UAE Dirham (AED) for cross-border transactions.

The MoU on establishing a framework for the use of local currencies for transactions between India and UAE aims to put in place a Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS) to promote the use of INR and AED bilaterally. The first MoU on establishing a framework for the use of local currencies for transactions aims to put in place a Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS) to promote the use of INR and AED bilaterally. It covers all current account transactions and permitted capital account transactions. LCSS would enable exporters and importers to invoice and pay in their respective domestic currencies, which in turn would enable the development of an INR-AED foreign exchange market. While under the second MoU, on 'Payments and Messaging Systems', the two central banks agreed to cooperate on linking their Fast Payment Systems (FPSs) – UPI of India with IPP of UAE.

Also, apart from this, linking of respective Card Switches (RuPay switch and UAESWITCH) and exploring the linking of payments messaging systems -- SFMS) of India with the messaging system in the UAE -- were also included.

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

215. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC)?

उत्तर प्रदेश विद्युत नियामक आयोग (यूपीईआरसी) 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) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Arvind Kumar / अरविन्द कुमार

Ans. e

Sol. Arvind Kumar appointed chairman of UP Electricity Regulatory Chief

Arvind Kumar has been appointed as the chairman of Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC).

Kumar succeeds Raj Pratap Singh whose tenure ended in June.

Kumar, a 1988 batch IAS officer, earlier headed the state energy department and was also the chairman of UP Power Corporation Ltd (UPPCL) and the state's Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC).

He was also instrumental in framing the state's industrial policy.

Kumar was appointed as an advisor on industries to the Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath in February 2023.

He was also the chairman of UP Power Corporation Ltd (UPPCL) and the state's Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner (IIDC).

Recent Appointment

- **President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter** - Harshvardhan Bansal
- **First woman director of IIT, to led IIT Zanzibar** - Preeti Aghalayam
- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)
- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)
- **Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - Sheo Kumar Singh (replace Adarsh Kr Goel)

216. Who has been appointed as the first woman to lead the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) in the 63-year history of the central bank?

केंद्रीय बैंक के 63 साल के इतिहास में रिज़र्व बैंक ऑफ़ ऑस्ट्रेलिया (आरबीए) का नेतृत्व करने वाली पहली महिला के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Subby Subramaniam / सुब्बी सुब्रमण्यम
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Michele Bullock / मिशेल बुलॉक
- (e) Sonia Guajajara / सोनिया गुज्जारा

Ans. d

Sol. Australia names first woman to Lead Central Bank

Australia has appointed the first woman to lead the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) in the 63-year history of the central bank.

Michele Bullock, a veteran economist at the central bank, will take over from outgoing governor Philip Lowe in September.

Bullock joined the RBA in 1985 after graduating from Australia's University of New England the previous year.

She served in a variety of roles related to areas including payment settlements and government banking before being appointed as the first woman deputy governor in April 2022.

Bullock's appointment comes after the government decided not to reappoint Lowe to a second seven-year term.

Lowe's replacement had been widely expected after the outgoing governor came under heavy criticism for overseeing a steep rise in interest rates that heaped pressure on mortgage owners, some of whom had taken on cheap debt during the pandemic.

About Australia

- **Capital** - Canberra
- **Currency** - Dollar
- **President** - Anthony Albanese

217. Which edition of the joint military exercise between India and Mongolia 'Nomadic Elephant 2023' begins at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia?

भारत और मंगोलिया के बीच संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास 'नोमैडिक एलीफेंट 2023' का कौन सा संस्करण मंगोलिया के उलानबातर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) 10th
- (b) 12th
- (c) 13th
- (d) 15th
- (e) 16th

Ans. d

Sol. Joint military exercise between Indian and Mongolian armies begins

The 15th edition of the joint military exercise between India and Mongolia, 'Nomadic Elephant 2023', begins at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 17 to 31 July 2023.

An Indian Army contingent, comprising 43 personnel, left for Mongolia yesterday to take part in a joint military exercise 'Nomadic Elephant 2023'.

Indian Army soldiers from the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry Regiment and Soldiers of the Mongolian Armed Forces Unit 084 from will be participating in the exercise.

The primary theme of the exercise will focus on counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain under United Nations mandate. The scope of this exercise involves Platoon level Field Training Exercise (FTX).

Recent Exercise

- **7th edition of SALVEX** exercise between India & USA - Kochi
- **7th edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23)** - Visakhapatnam
- Indian Army participates in multinational exercise '**Khaan Quest 2023**' - Mongolia.
- **12th edition of "Ex Ekuverin" between Indian & Maldives** - Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- **AL MOHED AL HINDI 2023 Naval Exercise** between India & Saudi Arabia - Saudi Arabia

218. How many gold medals have won by India in Asian Athletics Championships 2023 held in Bangkok, Thailand?

बैंकॉक, थाईलैंड में आयोजित एशियाई एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2023 में भारत ने कितने स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं?

- (a) 5
- (b) 6
- (c) 9
- (d) 12
- (e) 27

Ans. b

Sol. India third with 27 medals in Asian Athletics Championships 2023

India won a total of 27 medals and secured the third position in the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 held in Bangkok, Thailand. India finished third with a total of 27 medals, including six gold, twelve silver and nine bronze medals, in the second-best-ever performance.

Athlete Jyoti Yaraji won India's first gold medal in women's 100m race and silver medal in women's 200m race in this championship. Indian athletes won a total of 13 medals including 8 silver and 5 bronze medals on the last day of competition in Bangkok Athletics Championships 2023.

Top five countries in the medal tally

Japan- 16 Gold, 11 Silver, 10 Bronze

China- 8 Gold, 8 Silver, 6 Bronze

India- 6 Gold, 12 Silver, 9 Bronze

Sri Lanka- 3 Gold, 2 Silver, 3 Bronze

Qatar- 2 Gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze

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219. Who has won the gold medal in the 10m air pistol for women at the ISSF Junior World Championships 2023?

ISSF जूनियर विश्व चैंपियनशिप 2023 में महिलाओं की 10 मीटर एयर पिस्टल में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Apurvi Chandela / अपूर्वी चंदेला
- (b) Anjali Bhagwat / अंजलि भागवत
- (c) Elavenil Valarivan / एलावेनिल वलारिवान
- (d) Sainyam / सैन्यम्
- (e) Manu Bhaker / मनु भाकर

Ans. d

Sol. Shubham Bisla, Sainyam win gold at ISSF world championship 2023

Indian shooters Shubham Bisla and Sainyam won gold medals in the 10m air pistol for men and women respectively at the ISSF Junior World Championships 2023.

Sainyam beat Oh Ye Jin of Korea by 2.6 points for the junior women's gold.

The junior shooting world championships are being held at Changwon Shooting Range, Republic of Korea.

India's contingent of 90 shooters for the 2023 junior world championships is the largest.

220. Who has won the Wimbledon Open Women's Singles 2023 Title?

विंबलडन ओपन महिला एकल 2023 का खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Marketa Vondrousova / मार्केटा वॉद्रोसोवा
- (b) Elena Rybakina / ऐलेना रयबकिना
- (c) Aryna Sabalenka / आर्यन सबलेंका
- (d) Iga Świątek / इगा स्वेटेक
- (e) Anna Kalinskaya / अन्ना कालिंस्काया

Ans. a

Sol. Vondrousova becomes first unseeded woman to win Wimbledon

Czech Republic's Marketa Vondrousova has become the first unseeded woman to win the Wimbledon title in the Open era.

The Czech swept to a shock 6-4, 6-4 victory over Tunisia's Ons Jabeur in the final match.

This is Vondrousova's first Grand Slam title. She lost in the final of the 2019 French Open as a teenager.

Notably, Vondrousova beat Jabeur to become the first Czech woman to win the title since Petra Kvitova in 2014.

Vondrousova's win marks her maiden Grand Slam title and makes her the fifth left-handed player to win the women's singles title at Wimbledon in the Open Era.

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

221. Who has won the men's singles final at Wimbledon title 2023?

विंबलडन 2023 का पुरुष एकल फाइनल किसने जीता है?

- (a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
- (b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
- (c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
- (d) Alexander Zverev / अलेक्जेंडर ज्वेरेव
- (e) Carlos Alcaraz / कार्लोस अल्कराज

Ans. e

Sol. Carlos Alcaraz wins first Wimbledon title

In the men's singles, Spain's Carlos Alcaraz defeated four-time defending champion Novak Djokovic to win the Wimbledon title 2023.

Alcaraz won the match with a score of 1–6, 7–6(6), 6–1, 3–6, 6–4 to secure his first Wimbledon title.

The 20-year-old Spaniard became the third-youngest male champion at Wimbledon in the Open era.

The age gap between him and Djokovic is the widest in any men's Slam final since 1974.

The match lasted more than 4 1/2 hours and Alcaraz won a 32-points.

Wimbledon Open title 2023

Men's Singles

- Winner - Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
- Runner-up- Novak Djokovic

Women's Singles

- Winner - Marketa Vondrousova (Czech Republic)
- Runner- up- Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - Barbora Strýcová & Hsieh Su-wei

- Runner- up - Elise Mertens & Storm Sanders

Men's Doubles

- Winner - Wesley Koolhof & Neal Skupski
- Runner- up- Horacio Zeballos & Marcel Granollers

Mixed Doubles

- Winner - Mate Pavić & Lyudmyla Kichenok
- Runner- up- Xu Yifan & Joran Vliegen

Australian Open title 2023

Women's Singles

- Winner - Arina Sabalenka (Belarus)
- Runner Up - Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)

Men's Singles

- Winner – Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
- Runner Up - Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)

Men's Doubles

- Winner - J. Kubler & R. Hijikata (Australia)
- Runner Up - H. Nys (Monaco) & J. Zieliński (Poland)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - B. Krejčíková & K. Siniaková (Czech Republic)
- Runner Up - S. Aoyama & E. Shibahara (Japan)

Mixed Doubles title 2023

- Winner - Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos (Brazilian)
- Runner Up - Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza (India)

222. Nelson Mandela International Day is observed every year on which day?

नेल्सन मंडेला अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 15 July / 15 जुलाई
- (b) 16 July / 16 जुलाई
- (c) 17 July / 17 जुलाई
- (d) 18 July / 18 जुलाई
- (e) 19 July / 19 जुलाई

Ans. d

Sol. 18 July - Nelson Mandela International Day

Nelson Mandela International Day is observed every year on July 18 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the great South African leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Nelson Madela.

Born on July 18, 1918, in South Africa, Nelson Mandela grew to become a symbol of hope and unity in the face of adversity. Despite facing immense challenges, he emerged as a beacon of peace, reconciliation, and equality.

The United Nations officially recognised Nelson Mandela International Day in 2009, on Mandela's 91st birthday. It was a tribute to his remarkable efforts to promote peace, freedom, and equality for all.

The day aims to inspire individuals to take action and make a difference in their communities, just as Mandela did throughout his life.

Theme 2023 - The Legacy Lives on Through You: Climate, Food, and Solidarity.

223. Dr Mangala Narlikar passed away recently at the age of 80. Who was she?

डॉ. मंगला नार्लीकर का हाल ही में 80 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थीं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Eminent mathematician Dr Mangala Narlikar passes away

Eminent mathematician and scientist Dr Mangala Narlikar passed away at the age of 80.

She is the wife of Dr Jayant Narlikar, who is the founder and director of the Pune-based Inter-z Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA).

She initially worked at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) in Mumbai before joining as a lecturer at Bombay and Pune universities.

Her core fields of interest were real and complex analysis, analytic geometry, and topology.

Dr Narlikar has authored several books in English and Marathi.

Some of the books she wrote include A Cosmic Adventure, An easy Access to Basic Mathematics (book for school students), Ganit Gappa (Part 1, 2), Easy access to mathematics (book for school students), Nabhat Hasre Taare (Co-Authors - Dr. Ajit Kembhavi and Dr. Jayant Narlikar), Astronomy Related Book - Pahalale Desh, Bhetleli Manasam.

224. Who has inaugurated the 3rd edition of the most prestigious 'Global India Maritime Summit'?

सबसे प्रतिष्ठित 'ग्लोबल इंडिया मैरीटाइम समिट' के तीसरे संस्करण का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
- (e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. Sarbananda Sonowal launches Global India Maritime Summit

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated the 3rd edition of its most prestigious 'Global India Maritime Summit'.

Objective - To create an international forum for key decision makers and industry leaders; to Provide opportunity platform for start-ups, researchers and incubators; to Showcase the latest technology and emerging trends in the maritime sector

The Curtain Raiser for the 'Global Maritime India Summit 2023' will provide a glimpse into the grandeur and significance of the main summit, highlighting India's strength in the maritime sector and setting the stage for fruitful collaborations and new investment opportunities.

The event will focus on new investment opportunities along with collaborations for knowledge and technology, enhancing trade between nations and promoting Ease-of-Doing-Business.

Recent Inauguration by Sarbananda Sonowal

- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates **DGNSS "SAGAR SAMPARK**
- Sarbananda Sonowal launches '**SAGAR SAMRIDDHI**'
- Sarbananda Sonowal flags off India's 1st International Cruise Vessee 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

225. Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde has inaugurated the PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA Park) in which city?

महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री एकनाथ शिंदे ने किस शहर में पीएम मेगा इंटीग्रेटेड टेक्सटाइल रीजन एंड अपैरल पार्क (पीएम मित्रा पार्क) का उद्घाटन किया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Maharashtra CM inaugurates PM MITRA Park in Amravati

Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde has virtually inaugurated the PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA Park) at Amravati, Maharashtra. A Memorandum of Understanding of the PM-MITRA Park was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra at the event. MoUs were also signed with investors for PM-MITRA Park. In March this year, the Government of India announced the sites for setting up of 7 PM MITRA Parks for the Textile industry. The Parks are aimed at creating world-class industrial infrastructure that would attract large-scale investment including foreign direct investment (FDI) and encourage innovation and job creation within the sector. Inspired by the 5F vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi (i.e. Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign). The PM MITRA Parks are a major step forward in realizing the Government's vision of making India a global hub for textile manufacturing and exports.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe & Ajit Pawar
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

226. The annual Bonalu Festival has celebrated in which city?

वार्षिक बोनालु महोत्सव किस शहर में मनाया गया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Annual Bonalu Festival celebrated in Hyderabad

Bonalu is celebrated in Hyderabad especially in parts of the Old city, usually during Ashada Masam which falls in July/August.

Bonam literally means Meal in Telugu, which is an offering to the Mother Goddess.

Dressed in traditional best, women were seen carrying 'Bonam', on their heads and making an offering to the deity at the temples.

Bonam means, sweetened meal in a pot.

Bonalu involves worship of Kali in her various forms such as Mysamma, Pochamma, Dokkamma, Pedamma, Poleramma, Ankamma, Maremma etc.

During the first and last day of this festival, special poojas are performed for goddess Yellamma.

Long queues were witnessed at Akkana Madanna temple, Hari Bowli, Sri Simhavahini Mahankali temple at Lal Darwaza, and other nearby temples in Old City.

227. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has chaired Regional Conference on Drugs Smuggling and National Security in which city?

केंद्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने किस शहर में ड्रग्स तस्करी और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा पर क्षेत्रीय सम्मेलन की अध्यक्षता की है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah chairs Conference on Drugs Smuggling and National Security

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has chaired Regional Conference on Drugs Smuggling and National Security in New Delhi.

Over 1,44,000 kilograms of drugs worth 2,416 rupees crore, were destroyed in various parts of the country by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in coordination with Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTFs) of all states.

The Government has adopted a 'Zero Tolerance' policy against narcotics to create a drug-free India.

From 1st June 2022 to 15th July this year, all regional units of NCB and ANTFs of States have collectively destroyed around 8,76,554 kilogram seized drugs worth around 9,580 crore rupees, which is more than 11 times of the target.

228. The Indian government has established a new internal oversight mechanism for official data, replacing the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCoS) with a broader mandate. Who will chair this panel?

भारत सरकार ने व्यापक अधिदेश के साथ आर्थिक सांख्यिकी पर स्थायी समिति (एससीओएस) के स्थान पर आधिकारिक डेटा के लिए एक नया आंतरिक निरीक्षण तंत्र स्थापित किया है। इस पैनल की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Nidhi Khatri / निधि खत्री
- (b) Sunil Bajpai / सुनील बाजपेयी
- (c) Sanjay Agrawal / संजय अग्रवाल
- (d) M S Sahoo / एम एस साहू
- (e) Pronab Sen / प्रोनाब सेन

Ans. e

Sol. Government forms new panel to review all official data

The Indian government has established a new internal oversight mechanism for official data, replacing the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCoS) with a broader mandate.

The SCoS — with “enhanced terms of reference” vis-à-vis the SCES, “to ensure more coverage” — has 10 official members and four non-official members who are eminent academics.

Pronab Sen, India's first chief statistician and former chairman of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), has been named the chair of the new committee.

Recent Committees

- Chairman of the research advisory committee of ICAR - B Neeraj Prabhakar
- Government sets up panel to recommend reforms in arbitration law; Headed by - T K Vishwanathan (Former law secretary)
- 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

229. The BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat has begun in which city?

बिम्स्टेक विदेश मंत्रियों का रिट्रीट किस शहर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) Delhi / दिल्ली
- (b) Bangkok / बैंकाक
- (c) Jakarta / जकार्ता
- (d) Vientiane / वियनतियाने
- (e) Phnom Penh / नोम पेन्ह

Ans. b

Sol. BIMSTEC meeting begins in Bangkok, Thailand

The BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat began in Thailand's capital city Bangkok.

BIMSTEC is an economic and technical initiative which brings together the countries of the Bay of Bengal for multifaceted cooperation.

The retreat would discuss ways to further deepen the BIMSTEC agenda and strengthen the organization.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional multilateral organization.

Its members lie in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal constituting a contiguous regional unity.

BIMSTEC not only connects South and Southeast Asia but also the ecologies of the Great Himalayas and the Bay of Bengal.

It mainly aims to create an enabling environment for rapid economic development; accelerate social progress; and promote collaboration on matters of common interest in the region.

About Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

- **Founded** - 6 June 1997
- **Headquarters** - Dhaka, Bangladesh
- **Membership** - 7 (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka & Thailand)
- **Secretary General** - Tenzin Lekhpel (Bhutan)

230. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the integrated terminal building of the Veer Savarkar International Airport. Veer Savarkar International Airport is located in _____.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने वीर सावरकर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे के एकीकृत टर्मिनल भवन का उद्घाटन किया है। वीर सावरकर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा _____ में स्थित है।

- (a) Daman and Diu / दमन और दीव
- (b) Lakshadweep / लक्षद्वीप
- (c) Port Blair / पोर्ट ब्लेयर
- (d) Shillong / शिलांग
- (e) Puducherry / पुदुचेरी

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates New Integrated Terminal Building at Port Blair

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the integrated terminal building of the Veer Savarkar International Airport in Port Blair video conferencing.

The new facility built at a cost of around Rs 710 crore, will play a key role in enhancing connectivity to the island, a union territory.

With a total built-up area of around 40,800 sqm, the building will be capable of handling about 5 million passengers annually.

An apron suitable for two Boeing-767-400 and two Airbus-321 type aircraft has also been constructed at the airport at a cost of Rs 80 crore, making it suitable for parking 10 aircraft at a time.

The new airport terminal building has a number of sustainability features like a double-insulated roofing system to reduce heat gain, skylights to provide maximum inlet of sunlight during the day to reduce artificial light usage inside the building, LED lighting and low heat gain glazing.

Rainwater catchment in an underground water tank, an on-site sewage treatment plant with 100 per cent of treated wastewater reused for landscaping and a 500 KW capacity solar power plant are some other features of the terminal building to ensure a minimal negative impact on the islands' environment.

As a gateway to the pristine Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Port Blair is a popular destination for tourists.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi launches **development projects worth over 12,110 crore** in Varanasi
- PM inaugurates **Sai Hira Global Convention Centre** in Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh.
- PM Modi inaugurates **National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047** in Lalpur village of Madhya Pradesh
- PM Modi inaugurated **17th Indian Cooperative Congress** in New Delhi
- PM Modi chairs **42nd PRAGATI interaction**

231. India and the United Arab Emirates have signed an MoU to plan the establishment of which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Abu Dhabi?

भारत और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात ने अबू धाबी में किस भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) की स्थापना की योजना के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. b

Sol. India & UAE sign MoU for planning to establish IIT-Delhi campus

India and UAE have signed an MoU for planning to establish the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi in Abu Dhabi, which could be the second IIT abroad after Tanzania.

The MoU was signed following talks between UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and PM Narendra Modi in Abu Dhabi.

IIT Delhi – Abu Dhabi will become operational by January 2024 by offering a Master's program in Energy Transition and Sustainability.

Other Bachelor, Master's, and Ph.D. Level programs are expected to be offered from September 2024, in addition to establishing research centers in the fields of sustainable energy, climate studies, computing, and data sciences, according to a joint statement issued after the dialogue.

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

232. Who has been appointed as President's Export Council by US President Joe Biden which serves as the principal national advisory committee on international trade?

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जो बिडेन द्वारा राष्ट्रपति निर्यात परिषद के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है जो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार पर प्रमुख राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार समिति के रूप में कार्य करती है?

- (a) Shamina Singh / शमीना सिंह
- (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. Biden appoints Indian-American business leader Shamina Singh

US President Joe Biden has appointed Shamina Singh, a prominent Indian-American business leader, to the President's Export Council. The President's Export Council serves as the principal national advisory committee on international trade.

She is the Founder and President of the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth.

The Council advises the president of government policies and programmes that affect US trade performance, promotes export expansion and provides a forum for discussing and resolving trade-related problems among the business, industrial, agricultural, labour and government sectors.

Recent Appointments

- **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
- **Domestic policy advisor in Biden administration** - Indian-origin Neera Tandon

233. Who has been appointed as the new MD of Michelin India?

मिशेलिन इंडिया के नए एमडी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
- (d) Shantanu Deshpande / शांतनु देशपांडे
- (e) Sanjay Kumar Verma / संजय कुमार वर्मा

Ans. d

Sol. Shantanu Deshpande appointed as new MD of Michelin India

French-based company Michelin has appointed Shantanu Deshpande as MD of Michelin India. He will be based out of Pune, India. Across his 23-year tenure with Michelin, Deshpande held various leadership roles in sales and marketing, both in India and in other geographies such as North America, Africa, Middle East and Asia, the company said in a statement.

He joined Michelin India in 1999 as an Area Sales Manager.

He was appointed India Marketing Director in 2007 and also served as VP of Marketing with a Michelin subsidiary in North America. Headquartered in Clermont-Ferrand, France, Michelin is present in 175 countries and operates 67 tyre production facilities which together produced around 167 million tyres in 2022.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of UP Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC)** - Arvind Kumar (replace Raj Pratap Singh)
- **President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter** - Harshvardhan Bansal
- **First woman director of IIT, to led IIT Zanzibar** - Preeti Aghalayam
- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)
- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)

234. Which company has been awarded the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023 for "Best use of AI/AR/VR in Learning and Upskilling"?

किस कंपनी को "लर्निंग और अपस्किलिंग में AI/AR/VR के सर्वोत्तम उपयोग" के लिए प्रतिष्ठित इकोनॉमिक टाइम्स (ET) HR वर्ल्ड फ्यूचर स्किल्स अवार्ड्स 2023 से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) ReNew Power / रिन्यू पावर
- (b) Adani Enterprises / अडानी एंटरप्राइजेज
- (c) JSW Energy / जेएसडब्ल्यू एनर्जी
- (d) NTPC Limited / एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड
- (e) Torrent Power / टॉरेंट पावर

Ans. d

Sol. NTPC wins ET HR World Future Skills Awards 2023

NTPC has received the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023 for "Best use of AI/AR/VR in Learning and Upskilling" and "Best Advance in Creating an Extended Enterprise Learning Programme".

Director (HR) of NTPC Dillip Kumar Patel received the awards on behalf of NTPC at a programme held in Gurugram.

These awards bear testimony to NTPC's focus on the adoption of cutting-edge technologies such as virtual reality (VR) in Learning and Development (L&D).

NTPC has been adopting and institutionalizing progressive and best HR practices, which have been recognized by various prestigious fora at national and international levels.

Recent Awards

- **Golden Peacock Environment Management Award 2023** - Adani Transmission Limited
- **SKOCH Award** - Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission
- **Insurer Innovation Awards 2023** - Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- **Best Performance in CASA at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave 2022** – J & K Bank
- **Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023** - Narendra Modi

235. Who will lead the Indian men's cricket team for the 19th Asian Games to be held from 23rd September to 8th October?

23 सितंबर से 8 अक्टूबर तक होने वाले 19वें एशियाई खेलों के लिए भारतीय पुरुष क्रिकेट टीम का नेतृत्व कौन करेगा?

- (a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
- (b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
- (c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
- (d) Ruturaj Gaikwad / ऋतुराज गायकवाड़
- (e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. d

Sol. Ruturaj Gaikwad to lead India men's squads for 19th Asian Games

The BCCI has announced both the men's and the women's team which will take part in the upcoming Hangzhou Asian Games, scheduled to start from September 23 and end on October 8.

The women's cricket competition will take place from September 19-28 while the men's competition will start from 23 September 28 to October 8. Both competitions will be played in T20 formats.

The men's team will be captained by Ruturaj Gaikwad and boasts the talents of Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rahul Tripathi, Tilak Varma and Rinku Singh among others. The likes of Yash Thakur, Sai Kishore, Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Hooda and Sai Sudharsan are standbys.

Meanwhile, the women's team will be led by captain Harmanpreet Kaur with Smriti Mandhana as her deputy. Harleen Deol, Kashvee Gautam, Sneh Rana, Saika Ishaque and Pooja Vastrakar are in the standby list.

Cricket was part of two editions of the Asiad, in 2010 and 2014, but India did not field a team. After being left out of the 2018 Asiad in Jakarta, cricket has returned to the programme for the Hangzhou Games, which were supposed to be held last year but were postponed due to China's zero-Covid policy.

India men's team: Ruturaj Gaikwad (Captain), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rahul Tripathi, Tilak Varma, Rinku Singh, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Washington Sundar, Shahbaz Ahmed, Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Mukesh Kumar, Shivam Mavi, Shivam Dube, Prabhsimran Singh (wk)

Standby list of players: Yash Thakur, Sai Kishore, Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Hooda, Sai Sudarsan

India women's team: Harmanpreet Kaur (C), Smriti Mandhana (VC), Shafali Verma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh (wk),

Amanjot Kaur, Devika Vaidya, Anjali Sarvani, Titas Sadhu, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Minnu Mani, Kanika Ahuja, Uma Chetry (wk), Anusha Baredy

Standby list of players: Harleen Deol, Kashvee Gautam, Sneh Rana, Saika Ishaque, Pooja Vastrakar.

236. Who has won the gold medal in the final of men's javelin throw F46 at the Para Athletics Championships in Paris?

पेरिस में पैरा एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप में पुरुषों की भाला फेंक F46 के फाइनल में किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

- (a) Ajit Singh / अजीत सिंह
- (b) Chunliang Guo / चुनलियांग गुओ
- (c) Rinku / रिकू
- (d) Dinesh Priyanta Herath / दिनेश प्रियंता हेराथ
- (e) Sundar Singh Gujjar / सुन्दर सिंह गुज्जर

Ans. a

Sol. Ajit Singh won gold medal in Para Athletics Championship in Paris

Indian athlete Ajit Singh won the gold medal in the final of men's javelin throw F46 at the Para Athletics Championships in Paris.

Ajit Singh topped the event with a throw of 65.41m. He broke the previous championship record of 61.89 held by Chunliang Guo of China.

Rinku, another Indian athlete, won the silver medal with a best throw of 65.38m.

Sri Lanka's Dinesh Priyanta Herath and Rinku finished joint second in the event.

Sundar Singh Gujjar, representing India, finished fourth with a throw of 61.81m.

237. Senior Congress leader Oommen Chandy passed away recently at the age of 79. He was the former chief minister of which state?

वरिष्ठ कांग्रेस नेता ओमन चांडी का हाल ही में 79 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस राज्य के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री थे?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Former Kerala CM Oommen Chandy passes away

Senior Congress leader and Former Kerala of CM Oommen Chandy passed away at the age of 79.

He was the chief minister twice for a total of seven years (2004–2006 and again from 2011–2016).

Chandy had also served as Minister of Labour, Home, and Finance in various governments headed by K Karunakaran and AK Antony.

He also served as the Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Assembly.

He was the longest-serving legislator, representing the Puthuppally Assembly constituency from 1970 until his death.

238. The Chachin grazing festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm by local graziers in which state?

चाचिन चराई उत्सव किस राज्य में स्थानीय चरवाहों द्वारा बड़े उत्साह के साथ मनाया गया?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Chachin Grazing Festival celebrated in Arunachal Pradesh

The Chachin grazing festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm by local graziers in the Tawang region near Bumla Pass, Arunachal Pradesh.

The festival featured a medical camp for aiding local graziers and a veterinary camp for their yaks.

The two-day event held at Chachin saw enthusiastic participation from Graziers from all over Tawang region.

Chachin and other traditional grazing areas, near Bumla Pass have historically served as the backbone of the local Monpa lifestyle that is largely dependent on nomadic herding – a primitive form of subsistence farming - as means of livelihood.

The event showcased the rich pageantry of Monpa culture.

Nearly 100 graziers and their herds of yaks attended the event from nearby villages.

About Arunachal Pradesh

- **Capital** – Itanagar
- **Chief Minister** – Pema Khandu
- **Governor** – LG (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik

239. Which of the following city has organized the Global Food Regulators Summit 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर ने वैश्विक खाद्य नियामक शिखर सम्मेलन 2023 का आयोजन किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. India will host global food regulators summit

The Global Food Regulators Summit 2023 has been organized in New Delhi. This is for the first time that a meeting like this is organized as a G20 event.

In this high-profile meeting, food regulators from over 40 countries participated along with representatives from 30 International Organisations and 25 International Research Institutes and universities.

The summit was organized by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The Summit will provide a valuable platform to the participants to deliberate on a cohesive network on Food Safety and Regulatory aspects, effective understanding of compliance requirements and mutual exchange of best practices, experiences and success stories on food safety norms and regulations.

This is the first time the summit is being held outside Rome, Italy. The Global Food Regulators Summit will bring focus on the crucial aspect of food safety, which needs as much attention as food security.

240. Which of the following city will host the first edition of Comic Con India from 17 to 18 February 2024?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर 17 से 18 फरवरी 2024 तक कॉमिक कॉन इंडिया के पहले संस्करण की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. c

Sol. Comic Con India announces first edition in Chennai

Comic Con India has announced its first-ever edition in Chennai.

Chennai Comic Con will take place on February 17 and 18, 2024 at the Chennai Trade Centre in Nandambakkam.

The event will showcase a range of international and Indian comic creators, artists and industry figures while immersing fans in a 'world of comics, manga, anime and all things pop culture.

Previous editions of Comic Con India have happened in cities like Mumbai, New Delhi, Hyderabad, and Bangalore.

Chennai has a passionate community of pop culture enthusiasts, and we are excited to provide them with an unforgettable experience filled with comics, creativity, and connection.

 **ambitious baba**
INDIA'S NO.1 GOVERNMENT JOBS PORTAL

241. Which of the following university has unveiled a "heritage point" at its zoology department, featuring bricks from the 19th century and a 100-year-old wooden log?

निम्नलिखित में से किस विश्वविद्यालय ने अपने प्राणीशास्त्र विभाग में एक "विरासत बिंदु" का अनावरण किया है, जिसमें 19वीं शताब्दी की ईंटें और 100 साल पुराना लकड़ी का लट्टा शामिल है?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru University / जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय
- (b) Lucknow University / लखनऊ विश्वविद्यालय
- (c) Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University / बाबा साहेब भीमराव अम्बेडकर विश्वविद्यालय
- (d) University of Allahabad / इलाहबाद विश्वविद्यालय
- (e) University of Delhi / दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय

Ans. b

Sol. Lucknow University unveils 'heritage point'

Lucknow University has unveiled a "heritage point" at its zoology department, featuring bricks from the 19th century and a 100-year-old wooden log.

The items mark the university's centenary year. The log, extracted from a mango tree on the campus, is also over a century old, according to scientists.

A stone plaque next to the heritage point documents the university's historical progression. The university's vice chancellor inaugurated the heritage point, which aims to display the rich heritage of the institution to students

Featuring some bricks that were exclusively moulded in the early 19th century, and a 100-year-old wooden log that clearly exhibits the annual rings formed around it.

242. Which statement is/are correct about Henley Passport Index 2023?

हेनले पासपोर्ट इंडेक्स 2023 के बारे में कौन सा कथन सही है/हैं?

- (i) Japan become the most powerful passport in 2023.**
 - (ii) India ranked 80th in Henley Passport Index 2023.**
 - (iii) Singapore ranked 3rd in Henley Passport Index 2023.**
 - (iv) Afghanistan stands at the bottom of the ranking.**
- (a) Only i
(b) Only ii
(c) Only iii
(d) Both i & iii
(e) Both ii & iv

Ans. e

Sol. Henley Passport Index 2023- India ranked 80th; topped by Singapore

Singapore has overtaken Japan to become the most powerful passport in the world in 2023, according to the latest Henley Passport Index. Those who possess a Singaporean passport can visit 192 countries visa-free.

Japan that dominated the top spot for five years, now ranks third on the list along with Austria, Finland, France, Luxembourg, South Korea and Sweden. Citizens of these countries can visit 189 countries visa free.

Indian passport holders can now enter 57 countries visa free or get a visa on arrival as India has gone up five positions to be in the 80th spot.

The US, which once topped the ranking nearly a decade ago, slid two places to eighth place with 184 destinations listed as visa free, the same as Lithuania.

The UK jumped two places to fourth position with 188 visa-free countries accessible, a position it last held in 2017.

Afghanistan stands at the bottom of the ranking, its passport holders can visit just 27 destinations without a visa. Just above sit Iraq with a score of 29 and Syria with 30, rounding out the three weakest passports in the world.

- Rank 1 - Singapore; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 192
- Rank 2 - Germany, Italy and Spain; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 190
- Rank 3 - Austria, Finland, France, Luxembourg, South Korea, Sweden and Japan; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 189
- Rank 4 - Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands, United Kingdom; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 188 (Image: Shutterstock)
- Rank 5 - Czech Republic, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Switzerland; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 187
- Rank 6 - Australia, Hungary, Poland; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 186
- Rank 7 - Greece, Canada; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 185.
- Rank 8 - Lithuania, United States; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 184
- Rank 9 - Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 183
- Rank 10 - Iceland, Estonia; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 182
- Rank 80 - India; Number of countries citizens can visit visa-free: 57

Recent index

- **World's most powerful military** - Strongest (1. USA, 2 Russia, 3. China, 4. India, 5. UK); Weakest (1. Bhutan, 2. Benin, 3. Moldova, 4. Somalia, 5. Liberia)
- **Global Peace Index 2022** - India at 126, topped by Iceland; last Afghanistan
- **Global Competitiveness Index 2023:** India ranked 40; topped by Denmark
- **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
- **World Press Freedom Index 2023:** India ranked 161; topped by Norway

243. Which country's reptile sanctuary will import 6 alligators and 6 crocodiles from India?

किस देश का सरीसृप अभयारण्य भारत से 6 घड़ियाल और 6 मगरमच्छ आयात करेगा?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. US's largest reptile sanctuary wants to import gharials from India

The United States' largest reptile bank based in Arizona has applied to the federal government to import six gharials and another equal number of mugger crocodiles from Tamil Nadu, which it argued would help preserve these endangered species.

The Phoenix Herpetological Society has applied for permission in this regard to the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Phoenix Herpetological Society has requested a permit to import three male and three female captive-bred gharials (*Gavialis gangeticus*) and three male and three female captive-bred mugger crocodiles (*Crocodylus palustris kimbula* and *Crocodylus palustris*) from Madras Crocodile Bank Trust in Tamil Nadu.

244. What is the growth forecast predicted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for India for FY 2024-25?

वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए एशियाई विकास बैंक (एडीबी) ने भारत के लिए क्या विकास पूर्वानुमान लगाया है?

- (a) 6.4%
- (b) 6.7%
- (c) 6.6%
- (d) 6.2%
- (e) 5.6%

Ans. b

Sol. ADB retains India's growth forecast at 6.4% for the current fiscal

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has retained India's economic growth forecast at 6.4 percent for the current financial year (2023-24).

ADB has set growth forecast at 6.7 percent for India for the next financial year (2024-25).

The ADB noted that inflation is expected to continue to fall, and is expected to approach its pre-pandemic levels as fuel and food prices decline

The bank forecasted 3.6 percent inflation this year for developing economies in Asia, and 3.4 percent in 2024.

India's economy grew by 7.2 percent in the 2022-23 fiscal ended in March 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), 6.3% (FY25)
- ADB – 6.4% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)
- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING – 6.3% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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

245. Which of the following has launched world-first generative AI tool for insurance?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने बीमा के लिए विश्व का पहला जेनरेटिव AI टूल लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Simplifai / सिंपलीफाई
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) LinkedIn / लिंकडइन
- (d) Google / गूगल
- (e) Meta / मेटा

Ans. a

Sol. Simplifai launches world-first generative AI tool for insurance

An AI automation solutions provider, Simplifai has launched Simplifai Insurance GPT a world-first custom-built GPT tool, fuelled by the company's revolutionary no-code AI-powered platform.

With Insurance GPT, Simplifai has strengthened its end-to-end business process automation capabilities, providing enriched communication between insurers and their customers through the power of generative AI - delivering fast, concise, and accurate responses in a secure way.

While several insurance product providers have merely begun to integrate ChatGPT or Google Bard into their services, Simplifai's InsuranceGPT large language model (LLM) is the first to be trained specifically on information directly relevant to the insurance sector.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Bank of India inaugurates **IFSC Banking Unit** at GIFT City
- PNB launched the virtual branch, **PNB Metaverse**.
- Indian Bank rolls out digital services under '**Project WAVE**' initiative
- Bank of India launched **Centralised Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell**
- Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance launches '**Nishchit Pension Plan**'

246. Who has been elected as the new President of the Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)?

सीमेंट मैनुफैक्चरर्स एसोसिएशन (सीएमए) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. b

Sol. Cement Manufacturers Association elects Neeraj Akhoury as its president
Managing Director of Shree Cement, Neeraj Akhoury has been elected as the new President of the Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA).

While JSW Cement Managing Director Parth Jindal has been appointed as Vice President of CMA.

Both were unanimously elected at the Extraordinary General Meeting of CMA.

Akhoury, who has 30 years of experience in the steel and cement industries, takes over from UltraTech Cement's Managing Director K C Jhanwar.

CMA represents almost 80 percent of the total installed cement capacity in India.

Recent Appointment

- **MD of Michelin India** - Shantanu Deshpande
- **Chairman of UP Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC)** - Arvind Kumar (replace Raj Pratap Singh)
- **President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter** - Harshvardhan Bansal
- **First woman director of IIT, to led IIT Zanzibar** - Preeti Aghalayam
- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)

247. Who has received the Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award for his contributions to making high-quality care affordable and accessible in the US?

अमेरिका में उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली देखभाल को किफायती और सुलभ बनाने में उनके योगदान के लिए चैंपियन ऑफ हेल्थकेयर इनोवेशन अवार्ड किसे मिला है?

- (a) Dr. RG Patel / डॉ. आरजी पटेल
- (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. Ami Bera / डॉ. अमी बेरा

Ans. e

Sol. Ami Bera receives Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award

An Indian-American physician-turned-politician, Dr. Ami Bera has received the Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award for his contributions to making high-quality care affordable and accessible in the US.

Bera the longest-serving Indian-American serving in the US Congress, was among those facilitated during the council's Innovation Expo held here last week.

Bera served as Chief Medical Officer for Sacramento County in California before being sworn in as a Congressman in 2013 and has represented Sacramento County in the US House of Representatives since then.

He is currently a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where he serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation.

He is also a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Recent Awards

- **Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023** - NTPC Ltd
- **Golden Peacock' Environment Management Award 2023** - Adani Transmission Limited
- **SKOCH Award** - Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission
- **Insurer Innovation Awards 2023** - Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- **Best Performance in CASA at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave 2022** – J & K Bank

248. Who has won the IBSF World under-21 women's snooker championship in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia?

रियाद, सऊदी अरब में IBSF विश्व अंडर-21 महिला स्नूकर चैंपियनशिप किसने जीती है?

- (a) Anupama /अनुपमा
- (b) Keerthana /कीर्तन
- (c) Anshika Singh /अंशिका सिंह
- (d) Natasha Chethan /नताशा चेतन
- (e) Parul Choudhary / पारुल चौधरी

Ans. b

Sol. Keerthana upstages Anupama for World U-21 snooker title

Keerthana Pandian defeated fellow Indian Anupama Ramachandran in the final to emerge as the IBSF World under-21 women's snooker champion in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Bengaluru's Natasha Chethan made it a memorable outing for the Indians by claiming the bronze medal.

Natasha lost 1-3 to the eventual winner in the last-four stage, while Anupama had outclassed Hong Kong China's Chan Wai Lam 3-0 in the other semis.

249. Who won the bronze medal in the men's trap event at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup Lonato 2023 in Italy?

इटली में ISSF शॉटगन विश्व कप लोनाटो 2023 में पुरुषों की ट्रैप स्पर्धा में कांस्य पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Abhinav Bindra / अभिनव बिंद्रा
- (b) Gagan Narang / गगन नारंग
- (c) Saurabh Chaudhary / सौरभ चौधरी
- (d) Prithviraj Tondaiman / पृथ्वीराज टोंडिमन
- (e) Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore / राज्यवर्धन सिंह राठौड़

Ans. d

Sol. Prithviraj Tondaiman bags bronze medal at ISSF Shotgun World Cup

In shooting, India shooter Prithviraj Tondaiman bagged the bronze medal in the men's trap event at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup Lonato 2023 in Italy.

Prithviraj Tondaiman's bronze was India's only medal at the Lonato shooting meet. This was his second individual ISSF World Cup medal, having won a bronze in Doha in March.

Prithviraj Tondaiman finished third in the final with 34 points. Britain's Nathan Hales won the gold medal with 49 points while Qi Ying of the Republic of China bagged the silver medal with 48 points.

In the women's trap event, none of the Indians managed to progress beyond the qualification round. Overall, India finished ninth in the medals tally at Lonato, which was topped by the USA with two golds and one silver. The ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Italy was a qualifying event for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

250. Which company has bagged orders worth Rs 800 crore from the Indian Army for defence vehicles?

किस कंपनी को रक्षा वाहनों के लिए भारतीय सेना से 800 करोड़ रुपये का ऑर्डर मिला है?

- (a) Hyundai Motor India Limited / हुंडई मोटर इंडिया लिमिटेड
- (b) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd / महिंद्रा एंड महिंद्रा लिमिटेड
- (c) Ashok Leyland / अशोक लीलैंड
- (d) Mercedes-Benz / मर्सिडीज बेंज
- (e) Tata Motors Ltd / टाटा मोटर्स लिमिटेड

Ans. c

Sol. Ashok Leyland bags orders worth Rs 800 crore from Indian Army

Ashok Leyland, the Indian flagship of the Hinduja Group and the largest supplier of logistics vehicles to the Indian military, has bagged orders worth Rs 800 crore from the Indian Army.

The contracts awarded to Ashok Leyland include for the production of "field artillery tractors" (FAT 4x4) and "gun towing vehicles" (GTV 6x6).

The FAT 4x4 and GTV 6x6 are specialized vehicles employed by the artillery for towing light and medium guns, respectively.

Both these platforms featured prominently in the first "positive indigenization list" that the government promulgated in August 2020. This was followed in May 2021 by a second positive indigenization list, comprising of 108 items; and then a third indigenization List of 101 items in April 2022.

Ashok Leyland vehicles, especially the 7.5 tonne Stallion, have formed the backbone of the army's logistics supply chain since the Kargil conflict in 1999. They are manufactured for the military in a dedicated production line in Ordnance Factory Jabalpur.

The budget component for military transportation this year allocates Rs 6,717 crore for revenue expenditure. In addition the budget caters for Rs 4,038 crore in capital expenditure.

CEO of Ashok Leyland - Shenu Agarwal.

251. National Moon Day is observed every year on July 20 to commemorate the anniversary of the United States' first crewed mission to the moon. What is the theme of National Moon Day 2023?

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के चंद्रमा पर पहले मानवयुक्त मिशन की वर्षगांठ मनाने के लिए हर साल 20 जुलाई को राष्ट्रीय चंद्रमा दिवस मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय चंद्र दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Chandrayaan-3
- (b) Lunar Exploration, Coordination and Sustainability
- (c) Lunar Exploration by Chandrayaan-3
- (d) Progress made by mankind
- (e) Space Exploration

Ans. b

Sol. 20 July - National Moon Day

National Moon Day, also known as the Space Exploration Day, is observed on July 20 every year to commemorate the anniversary of the United States' first crewed mission to the moon, and the landing of astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on moon on July 20, 1969. Theme 2023 - Lunar Exploration, Coordination and Sustainability

On this day, the spaceflight Apollo 11 that carried Neil Armstrong and the pilots Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins landed on the moon for the first time.

The grand Apollo 11 was a mission that became a reality eight years after the national goal was announced by then US President John F Kennedy. Armstrong was the commander of the mission while Buzz and Collins were the lunar module pilots.

The celebration behind the day is not only about the landing on the moon but also about the progress made by mankind towards lunar exploration so far.

In 1971, President Richard Nixon proclaimed National Moon Landing Day on July 20, two years after the man's first moon landing. However, it was not followed by a resolution.

In 2019, President Donald Trump proclaimed July 20 as the 50th Anniversary Observance of the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing, but no National Moon Day was declared.

251. World Chess Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व शतरंज दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 July / 25 जुलाई
- (b) 22 July / 22 जुलाई
- (c) 23 July / 23 जुलाई
- (d) 20 July / 20 जुलाई
- (e) 21 July / 21 जुलाई

Ans. d

Sol. 20 July - World Chess Day

World Chess Day is observed every year on 20 July.

The game of chess offers important opportunities to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, including strengthening education, gender equality, and social inclusion International Chess Day was announced in 1996 by UNESCO to commemorate the establishment of the International Chess Federation, commonly known as FIDE by its French acronym.

FIDE was founded in Paris, France, and currently has its headquarters in Switzerland.

FIDE is an international body responsible for connecting various international chess federations and acts as the governing body for international chess competitions.

FIDE was recognised by the International Olympic Committee in 1999.

252. Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the sale of subsidized chana dal at Rs 60 per kg under which brand name to provide pulses at an affordable rate to consumers?

केंद्रीय खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामलों के मंत्री पीयूष गoyal ने उपभोक्ताओं को सस्ती दर पर दालें उपलब्ध कराने के लिए किस ब्रांड नाम के तहत 60 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम पर सब्सिडी वाली चना दाल की बिक्री शुरू की है?

- (a) Antyodaya Ann Yojana / अंत्योदय अन्न योजना
- (b) Kendriya Bhandar / केन्द्रीय भंडार
- (c) Bharat Dal / भारत दल
- (d) Free Dal Scheme /मुफ्त दाल योजना
- (e) Antyodaya Chana /अंत्योदय चना

Ans. c

Sol. Piyush Goyal launches sale of subsidized chana dal under 'Bharat Dal'

Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the sale of subsidized chana dal at Rs 60 per kg under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' to provide pulses at an affordable rate to consumers.

Chana dal is being sold in Delhi-NCR through the retail outlets of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED).

It will also be available at retail stores of NCCF, Kendriya Bhandar and Mother Dairy's Safal.

Goyal launched the "sale of subsidised chana dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' at the rate of Rs 60 per kg for one kg pack and Rs 55 per kg for 30 kg pack.

The introduction of 'Bharat Dal' is a major step taken by the Central Government towards making pulses available to consumers at affordable prices by converting chana stock of the government into chana dal, it added

Chana is the most abundantly produced pulse in India and consumed in several forms all over India. Chana whole is soaked and boiled to make salad and roasted chana is served as snacks. Fried chana dal can also be used as alternative to tur dal, curries and soups. Chana besan is a major raw material for namkeens and sweets.

Chana has multiple nutritional health benefits as it is rich in fibre, iron, potassium, vitamin B, selenium beta carotene and choline which are required by human body for controlling anaemia, blood sugar, bone health etc. and even for mental health.

253. Tata Sons planned to build about Rs 42,300 crore electric vehicle battery factory in which country?

टाटा संस ने किस देश में लगभग 42,300 करोड़ रुपये की इलेक्ट्रिक वाहन बैटरी फैक्ट्री बनाने की योजना बनाई है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Tata to set up EV battery factory in UK for £4 billion

Tata Sons plans to build a four-billion-pound (about Rs 42,300 crore) electric vehicle battery factory in the UK, which will be its first gigafactory outside India.

Last month, it announced plans to establish a Rs 13,000-crore battery manufacturing facility in Gujarat.

In Britain, the Tata group is working on plans to make batteries for Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) as well as other vehicle companies.

The factory will be located in Bridgwater, Somerset, England.

The UK plant, which will cater to the requirements of Tata Group company Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), will create up to 4,000 jobs and have an annual output of 40-gigawatt hours. Production at the gigafactory will start in 2026.

About United Kingdom (UK)

- **Capital** - London
- **Currency** - Pound sterling
- **Prime Minister** – Rishi Sunak

254. Who has been appointed the Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF)?

रेलवे सुरक्षा बल (आरपीएफ) का महानिदेशक किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
- (d) Parul Yadav / पारुल यादव
- (e) Manoj Yadava / मनोज यादव

Ans. e

Sol. IPS officer Manoj Yadava as DG of Railway Protection Force

Senior IPS officer Manoj Yadava has been appointed the Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).

Yadava, a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Haryana cadre, will succeed Sanjay Chander who retires on July 31.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Yadava to the post of DG, RPF, up to his superannuation on July 31, 2025.

Shafi Ahsan Rizvi, Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB), has been appointed as Advisor of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), according to ACC.

The ACC has also approved the appointment of Rajesh Pradhan as Joint Director in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on a deputation basis from the date of assumption of charge of the post up to his approved deputation tenure of January 30, 2027.

Pradhan, a 2003 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Maharashtra cadre, is currently Deputy Inspector General in the CBI.

Recent Appointment

- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)
- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)
- **Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - Sheo Kumar Singh (replace Adarsh Kr Goel)
- **CEO of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd** - Vishal Salvi

255. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Invest India?

इन्वेस्ट इंडिया के प्रबंध निदेशक और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Nivriti Rai / निवृत्ति राय

Ans. e

Sol. Nivriti Rai appointed as Managing Director and CEO of Invest India

Global business and technology expert Nivriti Rai has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Invest India.

She has taken over the charge from Ms. Manmeet K Nanda, Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) who had assumed this additional charge of MD & CEO ad-interim in March 2023.

Rai joins Invest India after an illustrious 29 years of service as a global business and technology veteran at Intel.

She was leading Intel India as Country Head for the last 7 years and spearheaded Intel's growth and investments in the country.

Rai was also conferred with the prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskar for her outstanding contribution in the field of technology.

Recent Appointment

- **MD and CEO of Invest India** - Nivriti Rai (replace Manmeet K Nanda)
- **President of Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)** - Neeraj Akhoury (replace K C Jhanwar)
- **Vice President of Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)** - Parth Jindal
- **MD of Michelin India** - Shantanu Deshpande
- **Chairman of UP Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC)** - Arvind Kumar (replace Raj Pratap Singh)

256. Which insurance company has launched health insurance plans that will for the first time in India offer monthly subscriptions?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजनाएं लॉन्च की हैं जो भारत में पहली बार मासिक सदस्यता प्रदान करेगी?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance / बजाज आलियांज जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance / भारती एक्सा जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (c) Cholamandalam MS Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस इंश्योरेंस
- (d) PhonePe Insurance Broking Services / PhonePe बीमा ब्रोकिंग सेवाएँ
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance / यूनिवर्सल सोम्पो जनरल इंश्योरेंस

Ans. d

Sol. PhonePe launches India's first Health Insurance platform

PhonePe Insurance Broking Services has launched health insurance plans that will for the first time in India offer monthly subscriptions.

The health insurance plans, in partnership with leading insurers, are introducing UPI monthly mode of payment.

The health insurance plans, which come with coverage up to one crore rupees, allow users to choose any hospital room without any cap.

Health insurance in India is relatively very under-penetrated for various reasons ranging from lack of awareness to affordability issues.

Big corporates including Star Health and leading banks such as HDFC Bank, and ICICI all offer health insurance packages, while the central and some state governments too have health insurance scheme for citizens of the world's most populous country.

The only platform in the country where customers can pay for Insurance in easy installments through UPI on the PhonePe app.

PhonePe has sold more than 5.6 million policies to date. PhonePe Insurance platform has also sold policies across 98% of India's PIN codes and has served more than 200 Mn vehicle insurance quotes.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Simplifai launches **world-first generative AI tool for insurance**
- Bank of India inaugurates **IFSC Banking Unit** at GIFT City
- PNB launched the virtual branch, **PNB Metaverse.**
- Indian Bank rolls out digital services under '**Project WAVE**' initiative
- Bank of India launched **Centralised Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell**

257. Which bank will set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF)?

कौन सा बैंक कॉर्पोरेट ऋण बाजार विकास निधि (सीडीएमडीएफ) के प्रबंधन के लिए अपनी पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी के रूप में एक नई ट्रस्टी कंपनी स्थापित करेगा?

- (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 to set up Trustee Company to manage CDMDF

State Bank of India will set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF). CDMDF will act as a backstop facility for the purchase of investment-grade corporate debt securities to instill confidence amongst the participants in the corporate bond market during times of stress and to generally enhance secondary market liquidity by creating a permanent institutional framework for activation in times of market stress

The setting up of the Fund, which will be classified as an Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) under the SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012, is subject to receipt of all regulatory approvals.

Close-ended scheme

- CDMDF will be launched as a close-ended scheme with an initial tenure of 15 years from the date of its initial closing (date on which contribution from all AMCs and specified schemes is received by CDMDF).
- Based on the requirements of the corporate bond market, the tenure can be extended with prior approval of the government in consultation with SEBI subsequent.
- To begin with, units of CDMDF shall be subscribed by Asset Management Companies (AMCs) of Mutual Funds and “specified debt-oriented MF Schemes” (that is Open-ended Debt oriented Mutual Fund schemes excluding Overnight funds and Gilt funds and including Conservative Hybrid funds).
- It will also improve the trading of these debts by setting up a system that can step in and help during tough market situations.

258. Rakesh Pal has been appointed as the 25th Director General of which of the following?

राकेश पाल को निम्नलिखित में से किसके 25वें महानिदेशक के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Indian Army / भारतीय सेना
- (b) Indian Navy / भारतीय नौसेना
- (c) Indian Coast Guard / भारतीय तटरक्षक
- (d) Indian Airforce/ भारतीय वायुसेना
- (e) Assam Rifles / असम राइफल्स

Ans. c

Sol. Rakesh Pal became the 25th Director General of the ICG

Rakesh Pal has been appointed as the 25th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).

He has the distinction of being the first gunner of ICG.

The officer, who hails from Uttar Pradesh, is an alumnus of the Indian Naval Academy and joined Indian Coast Guard (ICG) in January 1989.

He was elevated to the rank of Additional Director General in February 2022 and was appointed as the Additional Director General Coast Guard at the Coast Guard Headquarters in New Delhi. He was also given the Additional Charge of Director General Coast Guard in February 2023. Rakesh Pal has also been conferred with the Tatrakshak Medal (TM) in the year 2013 and President Tatrakshak Medal (PTM) for his distinguished service in 2018.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **Special Director of CBI** - Ajay Bhatnagar
- **Additional Director of CBI** - Anurag
- **Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** - Ravi Sinha (replace Samant Kumar Goel)
- **Director general of the Border Security Force (BSF)** - Nitin Agarwal
- **1st woman to command Communication Zone** - Colonel Shuchita Shekhar

259. Who has won the prestigious International Eni Award 2023 for his work on sustainable and affordable nanoscale materials for removing toxic contaminants from water, under the award category Advanced Environmental Solutions?

पुरस्कार श्रेणी उन्नत पर्यावरण समाधान के तहत पानी से विषाक्त प्रदूषकों को हटाने के लिए टिकाऊ और सस्ती नैनोस्केल सामग्री पर अपने काम के लिए प्रतिष्ठित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एनी पुरस्कार 2023 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Dr. RG Patel / डॉ. आरजी पटेल
- (b) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy / डॉ. एस ईश्वरा रेड्डी
- (c) Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi / डॉ अश्विनी कुमार द्विवेदी
- (d) Vasudha Gupta / वसुधा गुप्ता
- (e) Thalappil Pradeep / थलप्पिल प्रदीप

Ans. e

Sol. Prof. Thalappil Pradeep of IIT Madras won the international Eni Award 2023

Professor of IIT Madras, Thalappil Pradeep won the prestigious international Eni Award 2023 for his work on sustainable and affordable nanoscale materials for removing toxic contaminants from water, under the award category Advanced Environmental Solutions.

This award is considered a top global honour for scientific research in energy and environment. The president of Italy is expected to present the award soon.

Previous awardees include Nobel laureates, Sir Harold W Kroto, Alan Heeger, and Theodor Wolfgang Hänsch as well as professor C N R Rao, who is also a Bharat Ratna awardee.

Prof Pradeep has been recognized earlier with the Padma Shri, Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water and Nikkei Asia Prize, among many others.

Recent Awards

- **Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award in US** - Indian-American Dr. Ami Bera
- **Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023** - NTPC Ltd
- **Golden Peacock' Environment Management Award 2023** - Adani Transmission Limited
- **SKOCH Award** - Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission
- **Insurer Innovation Awards 2023** - Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance

260. Who has presented the Bhoomi Samman awards to nine state secretaries and 68 district collectors for their achievements in the implementation of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme?

डिजिटल इंडिया लैंड रिकॉर्ड्स आधुनिकीकरण कार्यक्रम के कार्यान्वयन में उनकी उपलब्धियों के लिए नौ राज्य सचिवों और 68 जिला कलेक्टरों को भूमि सम्मान पुरस्कार किसने प्रदान किए हैं?

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

Ans. d

Sol. President of India presents Bhoomi Samman 2023

President Droupadi Murmu presented the Bhoomi Samman awards to nine state secretaries and 68 district collectors for their achievements in the implementation of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme.

The Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) attempts to build upon the commonalities that exist in the arena of land records in various states to develop an integrated land information management system across the country.

Congratulating those who have achieved targets under the DILRMP, President Murmu said digitization of land records will play an important role in the development of rural areas

For the development of rural areas, modernization of land records is a basic requirement as the livelihood of most of the rural population is dependent on land resources.

The unique land parcel identification number being provided could be useful like Aadhaar card and it would help people in making proper use of the lands as well in implementing new welfare schemes.

Many people in rural areas have land records in the name of their forefathers and are not able to get registrations done due to lack of information, resources, or due to disputes.

261. Who has set the Guinness world record for the fastest hit by a male player in badminton, recording a mindboggling 565 km/h with his smash?

बैडमिंटन में किसी पुरुष खिलाड़ी द्वारा सबसे तेज़ हिट का गिनीज वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड किसने बनाया है, जिसने अपने स्मैश से 565 किमी/घंटा की आश्चर्यजनक गति दर्ज की है?

- (a) Chirag Shetty / चिराग शेटी
- (b) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy / सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी
- (c) Akira Koga / अकीरा कोगा
- (d) Lakshya Sen / लक्ष्य सेन
- (e) Srikanth Kidambi / श्रीकांत किदांबी

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Shuttler sets Guinness world record for fastest badminton shot

Star India shuttler Satwiksairaj Rankireddy has set the Guinness world record for the fastest hit by a male player in badminton, recording a mindboggling 565 km/h with his smash.

Satwik broke a decade-long record set in May 2013 by Malaysian Tan Boon Heong, who had produced a speed of 493 km/h (306.34 mph) with his smash.

Satwik's smash was faster than the top speed of 372.6 km/h achieved by a Formula 1 car.

Malaysia's Tan Pearly set the Guinness world record for the fastest female badminton hits with a remarkable speed of 438 km/h (about 272 mph).

262. Pi Approximation Day is observed every year on 22 July. The Pi symbol was designed by which scientist?
पाई सन्निकटन दिवस हर साल 22 जुलाई को मनाया जाता है। पाई का प्रतीक चिन्ह किस वैज्ञानिक द्वारा डिजाइन किया गया था?

- (a) Stephen Hawking /स्टीफन हॉकिंग
- (b) Albert Einstein /अल्बर्ट आइंस्टीन
- (c) Leonhard Euler /लियोनहार्ड यूलर
- (d) Max Planck /मैक्स प्लैंक
- (e) Srinivasa Ramanujan /श्रीनिवास रामानुजन

Ans. c

Sol. 22 July - Pi Approximation Day

Pi Approximation Day is celebrated on July 22 every year.

There is an interesting fact why Pi Approximation Day is celebrated on this date. When placed in the date/month format, July 22 looks like 22/7 - this is an approximate value of Pi.

The date is significant for more reasons as well – Physicist Albert Einstein was also born on July 22.

The symbol of Pi was designed back in 1706 by mathematician Leonhard Euler.

Pi Approximation Day, besides being celebrated on July 22, is also celebrated on November 10, as it is the 314th day of the year. Pi Day is also observed on March 14, as it looks like 3/14 when placed in the month/date format.

What is Pi?

- The ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter is called Pi.
- The value of Pi is approximately 3.14.
- The value of Pi has been calculated to trillions of digits. Google calculated Pi's value to 31.4 trillion decimal places.
- Pi plays an integral part in determining the area and volume of a lot of geometric shapes – many trigonometric and geometric calculations are impossible without the use of Pi.

263. National Mango Day is observed every year on 22 July. What is the scientific name of Mango?

राष्ट्रीय आम दिवस हर साल 22 जुलाई को मनाया जाता है। आम का वैज्ञानिक नाम क्या है?

- (a) Rubus / रूबस
- (b) Mangifera indica / मैंगीफेरा इंडिका
- (c) Malus / मालुस
- (d) Solanum lycopersicum / सोलेनम लाइकोपर्सिकम
- (e) Phoenix dactylifera / फीनिक्स डेक्टाइलिफेरा

Ans. b

Sol. 22 July - National Mango Day

National Mango Day is observed every year on 22 July.

The yellow fruit is world-famous for its sweet and juicy flavors. Mango is primarily a summer fruit, and it comes in all shapes and sizes, and with each variety, there's a different way to enjoy the taste.

South Asia also happens to produce half the world's mango supply. China is the second-largest mango producer.

According to several sources, the mango was first cultivated more than 4,000 years ago in India. Mango is a stone fruit that grows on a tropical tree called the Mangifera indica.

There are more than 500 varieties in the world, and many of these were influenced and developed by political, religious, and social incidents.

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INDIA'S NET GOVERNMENT JOBS PORTAL

264. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has recently inaugurated a new Goods and Service Tax (GST) Bhavan in which state?

वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने हाल ही में किस राज्य में एक नए वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (जीएसटी) भवन का उद्घाटन किया है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Finance Minister inaugurates GST Bhawan at Agartala

Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated the state's lone Goods and Service Tax (GST) Bhavan at Agartala, Tripura.

The GST Bhawan is a project of the CGST, CX and Customs Office, Agartala, Guwahati Zone, under the Central Board for Indirect Taxes (CBIC) in Agartala. It is located near Netaji Chowmuhani on Mantri Bari Road in Agartala.

The project sits at Mantri Bari Road, Agartala, and has quick and easy access to all taxpayers.

The inauguration of the project in Amrit Kaal during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav showcases the strength of New India.

Built at Rs 28 crore, the GST Bhawan has eight floors, including the ground floor, and is equipped with facilities and space for support and training in GST-related issues.

Before GST was introduced, Tripura, annually received only Rs 4.21 crore as central sales tax collection.

However, since then, the state has come a long way in growth of businesses and subsequent revenue generation and in 2022-23, Tripura collected Rs 982.5 crore as interstate GST, within a matter of five-six years.

265. Which state has signed an MoU with OneWeb India Communications Pvt Ltd for setting up a country's 1st 'Satellite Network Portal Site'?
किस राज्य ने देश की पहली 'सैटेलाइट नेटवर्क पोर्टल साइट' स्थापित करने के लिए वनवेब इंडिया कम्युनिकेशंस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड 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 to get country's 1st 'Satellite Network Portal Site'

The Gujarat government through its Department of Science and Technology (DST) has signed an MoU with OneWeb India Communications Pvt Ltd for setting up a 'satellite network portal site' — a first for India — at Mehsana in Gujarat.

The satellite network portal will be set up at two places in Jotana taluka of Mehsana district with an estimated cost of over Rs 100 crores for Phase 1.

Satellite broadband technology or satellite telephony is not a new concept and with satellite constellations in the low Earth orbit (LEO) gaining traction with StarLink, Kuiper and OneWeb among many others, the world is increasingly moving towards relying on LEO satellite communications.

LEO satellites operate at an altitude of 500 to 1,200 km, making it ripe for high-speed and low latency — a lower time lag between a user seeking data, and the server sending that data, compared to geostationary Earth orbit positioned satellites.

OneWeb has 648 satellites orbiting at 1,000-1,200 km making 13 orbits per day, covering the entire globe.

As per the financial year 2021-2022 annual report of OneWeb, it had nine operational SNP sites serving the live coverage area and at the time, had agreements to build 38 SNPs in 27 different countries.

OneWeb India Communications plans to invest up to Rs 100 crore in this project, which would, according to the Gujarat government, create 500 direct and indirect jobs, including jobs requiring telecom, electronics and instrumentation engineers.

About Gujarat

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

266. Who will inaugurate the unique 'Festival of Libraries 2023', a two-day event to be held on 5th - 6th August 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi?

5-6 अगस्त 2023 को प्रगति मैदान, नई दिल्ली में आयोजित होने वाले दो दिवसीय कार्यक्रम, अद्वितीय 'फ़ेस्टिवल ऑफ़ लाइब्रेरीज़ 2023' का उद्घाटन कौन करेगा?

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

Ans. d

Sol. President to inaugurate two-day Festival of Libraries in New Delhi

President of India Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the unique 'Festival of Libraries 2023', a two-day event to be held on 5th - 6th August 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The festival is being organized by the Union Ministry of Culture.

The festival will focus on the promotion of both physical and digital libraries.

The Minister for Law and Justice (Independent Charge) and Minister of State for Culture, and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, unveiled the schedule of, the "Festival of Libraries" in New Delhi.

The festival will also highlight iconic libraries from across the world in order to initiate a conversation on the modernization and digitization of libraries in India.

Libraries in physical mode have occupied a place of pride in our country and we want to revive the reading culture among the people.

267. According to the report of which organization, about 1.5 million people die in road accidents every year in India, which contributes to 11 percent of the total number of such deaths globally?

किस संगठन की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में हर साल लगभग 15 लाख लोग सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में मरते हैं, जो वैश्विक स्तर पर ऐसी मौतों की कुल संख्या में 11 प्रतिशत का योगदान देता है?

- (a) NITI Aayog / नीति आयोग
- (b) FICCI-EY / फिक्की-ईवाई
- (c) Transport Ministry / परिवहन मंत्रालय
- (d) NHAI / एनएचएआई
- (e) WHO / डब्ल्यूएचओ

Ans. b

Sol. India loses 1.5 million lives every year: FICCI-EY report

Road accidents claim around 1.5 million lives in India every year, contributing 11 percent to the total number of such fatalities globally, according to a FICCI-EY report.

Globally, at least one life is lost every 24 seconds due to road traffic injury, according to report.

As per the World Health Organization (WHO), road crash is the 8th leading cause of death with more than 1.3 billion deaths and 50 million serious injuries. It is the leading cause of death amongst youth and kids aged 5 to 29 years.

1st rank in road fatalities is held by India (11 percent share in the world). Every year India loses 1.5 million lives in road crashes.

India is a signatory to the Brasilia Declaration which aims to half the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes by 2030.

The report was released by Tukuni Sahu, Minister for Transport, Water Resources & Commerce, Government of Odisha, in the national capital.

268. Which of the following state will host the 69th edition of the Filmfare Awards in 2024?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा राज्य 2024 में फिल्मफेयर पुरस्कारों के 69वें संस्करण की मेजबानी करेगा?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Gujarat to host 69th edition of Filmfare Awards in 2024

Gujarat will host the 69th edition of the Filmfare Awards in 2024.

The state government's Tourism Corporation signed an MoU with Worldwide Media to host the event and promote Gujarat as a film destination.

Gujarat will host the Filmfare Awards – annual awards that honour artistic and technical excellence in the Hindi-language film industry of India – for the first time and through that the state will be promoted as a film destination.

The Gujarat government aims to promote the state as a film destination, and this event will provide the right environment for that effort. This event will boost tourism and the local economy of the state.

About Gujarat

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

269. Who has inaugurated the first Global Food Regulators Summit 2023?

प्रथम वैश्विक खाद्य नियामक शिखर सम्मेलन 2023 का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
- (e) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya / डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया

Ans. e

Sol. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates Global Food Regulators Summit 2023

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the first Global Food Regulators Summit 2023.

The two-day Summit organized by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India aims to create a global platform for regulators on enhancing food safety systems.

The summit envisages developing a cohesive approach to food safety policy frameworks.

This conference perfectly aligns with and complements the theme of this year's India's G20 Presidency: "Vasudev Kutumbhakam: One Earth, One Nation".

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270. India and which country have signed an MoU on cooperation in renewable energy and another one for economic development projects?

भारत और किस देश ने नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा में सहयोग और आर्थिक विकास परियोजनाओं के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. e

Sol. India & Sri Lanka sign MoU on cooperation in field of renewable energy

India and Sri Lanka have signed an MoU on cooperation in renewable energy and another one for economic development projects in the Trincomalee district of Sri Lanka.

Both countries also issued a Joint Declaration of Intent in the field of Animal Husbandry & Dairying & Network to Network Agreement between NPCI

International Payments Limited and Lanka Pay for UPI application acceptance in Sri Lanka.

This year both countries are celebrating the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations. Apart from this, the Tamil community of Indian origin is completing 200 years of its arrival in Sri Lanka.

About Sri Lanka

- **Legislative capital** - Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- **Executive and Judicial capital** - Colombo
- **Currency** - Sri Lankan rupee
- **President** - Ranil Wickremesinghe
- **Prime Minister** - Dinesh Gunawardena

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- India & Singapore sign MoU to co-operate on public administration
- Union govt signs an MoU with Tanzania to set up IIT Madras campus
- Israel ties up with IIT-M to set up water technology centre
- India signed an MoU with Israel on Industrial R&D Cooperation
- India signed air service agreement with Guyana to facilitate easier travel between the two nations.

271. Which country has recently applied to join the BRICS Bank with an amount of \$1.5 billion?
हाल ही में किस देश ने 1.5 बिलियन डॉलर की राशि के साथ ब्रिक्स बैंक में शामिल होने के लिए आवेदन किया है?

- (a) Argentina /अर्जेटीना
- (b) Cuba /क्यूबा
- (c) Comoros /कोमोरोस
- (d) Gabon /गैबॉन
- (e) Algeria / अल्जीरिया

Ans. e

Sol. Algeria applies to Join BRICS Bank

Algeria has applied to join the BRICS group and submitted a request to become a shareholder member of the BRICS Bank with an amount of \$1.5 billion.

Algeria had sought to join the BRICS to open new economic opportunities.

The North African country is rich in oil and gas resources and seeking to diversify its economy and strengthen its partnership with countries such as China. More than 40 countries have expressed interest in joining the BRICS group of nations.

Argentina, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Comoros, Gabon, and Kazakhstan are among countries that expressed interest.

China will also invest \$36 billion in Algeria across sectors including manufacturing, new technology, the knowledge economy, transport, and agriculture.

The BRICS group of nations comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. It accounts for more than 40% of the world's population and about 26% of the global economy.

About Algeria

- Capital- Algiers
- Official languages- Arabic, Tamazight
- Currency- Algerian Dinar
- Continent- Africa
- President- Abdelmadjid Tebboune

272. According to the Speed test Global Index published by Ookla, which country has ranked first globally in mobile internet speed for the month of June?

Ookla द्वारा प्रकाशित स्पीडटेस्ट ग्लोबल इंडेक्स के अनुसार, जून महीने में मोबाइल इंटरनेट स्पीड में कौन सा देश विश्व स्तर पर पहले स्थान पर है?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Japan / जापान
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. e

Sol. UAE leads the world in mobile internet speed in June

According to the Speedtest Global Index published by Ookla, UAE has ranked first globally in mobile internet speed for the month of June with a download speed of 204.24 Mbps and an upload speed of 22.72 Mbps.

Ookla is a web service that provides analysis of Internet access performance metrics.

According to the index, the UAE topped the global rankings during the first half of 2023 (January, February, March, May, and June), while it ranked second in April.

As for fixed broadband speed, the UAE ranked second globally and first regionally and among Arab countries in June, with a download speed of 239.2 Mbps. Singapore topped the list with a speed of 247.29 Mbps.

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

273. Who has been appointed as CEO of the Noida Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA)?

नोएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण (NOIDA) के सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

Ans. e

Sol. Lokesh M appoints as CEO of NOIDA

After serving for a long-time as Noida Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA) Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ritu Maheshwari has been removed from the position and transferred to Agra where she has been appointed as the commissioner.

Kanpur's divisional commissioner Lokesh M will replace Maheshwari.

A 2003-batch IAS officer of the UP cadre, Maheshwari had been serving as Noida CEO since July 2019 after holding the post of the Ghaziabad district magistrate. She is also the Managing Director of Noida Metro Rail Corporation.

Lokesh M is a 2005-batch IAS officer, who was appointed as Kanpur Commissioner on May 31. Earlier, he was Saharanpur's Divisional Commissioner for around 22 months.

Before that, he served as District Magistrate and collector of Mainpuri, Kushinagar, Etah, Ghazipur, Amroha and Kaushambi districts from 2009 to 2016.

Recent Appointment

- **DG of Railway Protection Force** - Manoj Yadava (replace Sanjay Chander)
- **MD and CEO of Invest India** - Nivriti Rai (replace Manmeet K Nanda)
- **President of Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)** - Neeraj Akhoury (replace K C Jhanwar)
- **Vice President of Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)** - Parth Jindal
- **MD of Michelin India** - Shantanu Deshpande

274. Who has been appointed as CEO of Jaguar Land Rover?

जगुआर लैंड रोवर के सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Richard Molyneux /रिचर्ड मोलिनेक्स
- (b) Thierry Bollore /थिएरी बोलोर
- (c) Adrian Mardell /एड्रियन मार्डेल
- (d) Carlos Ghosn /कार्लोस घोसन
- (e) Nicolas Maure / निकोलस मौरे

Ans. c

Sol. Adrian Mardell appointed as CEO of Jaguar Land Rover

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), a unit of Indian automaker Tata Motors has appointed interim boss Adrian Mardell as chief executive officer for a three-year term.

The carmaker also made acting Chief Financial Officer Richard Molyneux's role permanent.

Mardell, a JLR veteran, was appointed to the interim role in November when Thierry Bollore resigned due to personal reasons.

Adrian Mardell's journey with Jaguar Land Rover began in 1990, and he held various financial positions within the company until 2008.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of UP Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC)** - Arvind Kumar (replace Raj Pratap Singh)
- **President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter** - Harshvardhan Bansal
- **First woman director of IIT, to led IIT Zanzibar** - Preeti Aghalayam
- **CMD of India Tobacco Company Limited (ITC Ltd)** - Sanjiv Puri (reappointment)
- **President of the Olympic Council of Asia** - Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Kuwait)

275. Who has been roped in as the brand ambassador for the ICC World Cup 2023?

ICC विश्व कप 2023 के लिए ब्रांड एंबेसडर किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Shah Rukh Khan / शाहरुख खान
- (b) Aamir Khan / आमिर खान
- (c) Rajkummar Rao / राजकुमार राव
- (d) Vicky Kaushal / विककी कौशल
- (e) Ayushmann Khurrana / आयुष्मान खुराना

Ans. a

Sol. Shah Rukh Khan appointed brand ambassador of ICC World Cup 2023

Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan was appointed as the brand ambassador of ICC World Cup 2023.

He launched the World Cup 2023 campaign 'It takes one day' in his iconic voiceover.

The ICC World Cup 2023 is scheduled to be held in India from 5 October to 19 November 2023.

A total of 10 teams will participate in the tournament, with India, Afghanistan, Australia, England, Bangladesh, New Zealand, Pakistan and South Africa qualifying directly based on their performance in the 2020–2023 ICC Cricket World Cup Super League.

The remaining two teams will be determined through the ongoing World Cup qualifiers in Zimbabwe.

The 2023 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup will be the 13th edition of the tournament.

276. Which cricketer has surpassed South Africa's Jacques Kallis to become the fifth-highest run-scorer in international cricket?

कौन सा क्रिकेटर दक्षिण अफ्रीका के जैक्स कैलिस को पछाड़कर अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट में पांचवां सबसे ज्यादा रन बनाने वाला खिलाड़ी बन गया है?

- (a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
- (b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
- (c) Babar Azam / बाबर आजम
- (d) Steve Smith / स्टीव स्मिथ
- (e) Joe Root / जो रूट

Ans. a

Sol. Virat Kohli becomes 5th highest run-scorer in international cricket

Virat Kohli has surpassed South Africa's Jacques Kallis to become the fifth-highest run-scorer in international cricket.

Kohli achieved this upward movement in the batting charts during India's second Test against West Indies at Port of Spain.

On the first day of the match, which is also his 500th international game.

As of now, Virat has 25,548 runs to his name in 559 innings of 500 matches.

He has a batting average of 53.67 and has scored 76 centuries and 132 fifties.

277. World Brain Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व मस्तिष्क दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 22 July / 22 जुलाई
- (b) 23 July / 23 जुलाई
- (c) 25 July / 25 जुलाई
- (d) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. a

Sol. 22 July - World Brain Day

World Brain Day is observed every year on 22 July.

Objective - This day aims to increase public awareness of brain health and disorders to widen access and reduce equity disparities.

Theme 2023 - Brain Health and Disability: Leave No One Behind

The World Federation of Neurology (WFN) was founded on July 22, 1957. The Public Awareness and Advocacy Committee put up a suggestion that led to the creation of "World Brain Day" on July 22.

This suggestion was presented during the World Congress of Neurology (WCN) Council of participants meeting on September 22, 2013, and the participants heartily welcomed it.

Following this enthusiastic response, the Board of Trustees gave the idea its blessing at their meeting in February 2014, making it an annual celebration that would take place on the same day every year.

278. Parents' Day is celebrated every year on which day?

माता-पिता दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) Fourth Saturday of July / जुलाई का चौथा शनिवार
- (b) Fourth Sunday of July / जुलाई का चौथा रविवार
- (c) Fourth Monday of July / जुलाई का चौथा सोमवार
- (d) Fourth Tuesday of July / जुलाई का चौथा मंगलवार
- (e) Fourth Friday of July / जुलाई का चौथा शुक्रवार

Ans. b

Sol. 23 July - Parents' Day

Parents' Day is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July every year in the United States and other parts of the world. This year the day will be celebrated on July 23.

It is a unique occasion that celebrates the role of parents in the development of a child and their life.

The day is celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm to celebrate the foundation of a family and the ones who are there for their kid regardless of the situation.

National Parents' Day was established in the US in 1994 under the presidency of Bill Clinton.

The day was established for the upliftment and support of the role of parents in the rearing of children.

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279. Under India's G-20 presidency, Labour & Employment Ministers of G20 Countries Meeting held in which state?
भारत की G-20 अध्यक्षता के तहत, G20 देशों के श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रियों की बैठक किस राज्य में आयोजित की गई?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Labour & Employment Ministers of G20 Countries to meet in Madhya Pradesh

Under India's G-20 presidency, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the meeting of Labour and Employment Ministers through video message.

The meeting is being held in Indore where the draft from the Employment Working Group will also be presented.

Ministers of many member countries also present their views after the Prime Minister's video address at the meeting of Labour and Employment Ministers of G-20 countries.

A total of 165 representatives including 24 ministers from G-20 and invited countries attend the minister-level meeting.

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

- **4th Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting** - Goa (19 – 20 July 2023)
- **G20 Conference on Crime and Security** - Gurugram, Haryana (13 - 14 July 2023)
- **3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** - Kevadia, Gujarat (11 - 13 July 2023)
- **3rd G20 Culture Group Meeting** - Hampi, Karnataka (9 July 2023)
- **Urban-20 Mayoral Summit** - Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar, Gujarat (7 July 2023)

280. India has recently signed an MoU with which country to develop a resilient semiconductor supply chain?

भारत ने हाल ही में एक लचीली अर्धचालक आपूर्ति श्रृंखला विकसित करने के लिए किस देश के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (b) USA / यूएसए
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (e) Germany / जर्मनी

Ans. c

Sol. India & Japan sign MoU to develop resilient semiconductor supply chain

India has signed an MoU with Japan to develop a resilient semiconductor supply chain.

The MoU is on five fronts, viz. semiconductor design, manufacturing, equipment research, talent development, and bringing resilience to the semiconductor supply chain.

Japan is an important semiconductor producer and technology developer. There will be cooperation on Manufacturing, Equipment Research, and Design.

The semiconductor industry is witnessing rapid growth, surpassing \$650 million and is expected to reach \$1 billion within the next five to six years.

Japan sees India as a reliable partner with complementary strengths, making it an ideal collaboration prospect.

He laid focus on advanced packing, predicting that the next level of semiconductor development will involve sophisticated packaging at multiple levels.

India's strength lies in its design capabilities, with over 50 plus designs, making it an attractive destination for semiconductor manufacturing.

About Japan

- **Capital** – Tokyo
- **Currency** – Yen
- **Prime Minister** - Fumio Kishida

281. Which state's assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state?

किस राज्य की विधानसभा ने राज्य के कल्याण पैकेज के हिस्से के रूप में सभी वयस्क नागरिकों को न्यूनतम गारंटीकृत आय प्रदान करने के लिए एक विधेयक पारित किया?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Rajasthan Assembly passes Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill

The Rajasthan Assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state.

As per the Bill, some beneficiaries will receive guaranteed employment at minimum wage for at least 125 days per financial year. Other beneficiaries such as senior citizens, specially-abled persons, widows and single women shall be entitled to a pension under the Bill.

The pension payable shall be increased at the rate of 15 percent per annum from FY 2024-25.

All families of the state, whether urban or rural, will be able to get an employment guarantee of 125 days every year and also get a minimum pension of Rs 1,000 per month in case of aged/disabled/single women, etc.

About Rajasthan

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

282. Which IIT has signed an MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy?

किस आईआईटी ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय मामलों और विदेश नीति में क्षमता/कौशल निर्माण के लिए भारतीय विश्व मामलों की परिषद (आईसीडब्ल्यूए) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. a

Sol. IIT Guwahati signs MoU with Indian Council of World Affairs

The Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati has signed MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy.

The collaboration aims to expand awareness and knowledge of international affairs and Indian foreign policy.

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar announced this collaboration during his address at the 25th Convocation of IIT Guwahati.

The agreement will be valid for a period of 3 years.

IITs in News

- IIT Guwahati researchers develop AI-based model for knee X-ray
- University of Jaffna & IIT Madras sign MoU for promote research initiatives
- IIT Kanpur successfully conducts test flight for cloud seeding
- YES Bank collaborates with IIT Kanpur to offer support to Incubated Startups
- BITS Pilani develops face mask with sensor to check for Illness

283. Which country has recently initiated a project to drill a 10,000-metre (32,808 feet) hole into the ground to seek ultra-deep reserves of natural gas?

हाल ही में किस देश ने प्राकृतिक गैस के अत्यधिक गहरे भंडार की तलाश के लिए जमीन में 10,000 मीटर (32,808 फीट) छेद करने की परियोजना शुरू की है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. e

Sol. China begins drilling 10000-metre-deep hole into Earth's crust

Chinese scientists have initiated a project to drill a 10,000-metre (32,808 feet) hole into the Earth's crust, signaling China's interest in exploring new frontiers both above and below the planet's surface.

The endeavor involves creating the country's deepest borehole, with drilling commencing in Xinjiang, a region known for its oil reserves.

The borehole will penetrate more than 10 continental strata and reach the cretaceous system in the Earth's crust.

This is located in the oil-rich Xinjiang region. Deep Earth exploration can help identify mineral and energy resources.

The initiative is led by China National Petroleum Corp., with the primary objectives being to gather data on the Earth's internal structure and test deep underground drilling technologies. The project is estimated to last for 457 days.

About China

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

284. The Ministry of Culture has signed an MoU with which bank to provide financial assistance to selected beneficiaries under the Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists?

संस्कृति मंत्रालय ने अनुभवी कलाकारों के लिए वित्तीय सहायता योजना के तहत चयनित लाभार्थियों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. e

Sol. Ministry of Culture signs MoU with Canara Bank to provide financial assistance

Ministry of Culture has signed an MoU with Canara Bank to provide financial assistance to selected beneficiaries under the Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists. As per the MoU, master data of selected beneficiaries both for fresh as well as legacy data is to be uploaded by the Ministry in the online portal to be developed by the Canara Bank for this purpose.

Based on the scheme guidelines Canara Bank is required to work out the quarterly requirement of funds and raise the demand for the same to the Ministry.

Upon receipt of demand of funds from Canara Bank, the same will be released in advance on quarterly basis by the Ministry to the Bank for releasing the same on monthly basis to the eligible beneficiaries.

An artist aged 60 years and above who have contributed in the field of art and culture in their active age and whose annual income is not more than Rs 48,000/- can apply under the scheme either through Art & Culture Department of concerned State Government/UT or Zonal Cultural Center.

About Canara Bank

- Founded - 1906
- Headquarters- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- MD & CEO - K Satyanarayana Raju
- Tagline - Together with Can

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Max Life, DCB Bank join hands to offer insurance products
- IFSCA and Climate Policy Initiative sign MoU on Sustainable Finance
- Kotak Insurance partners with actyv.ai to provide insurance to MSMEs
- Manipal Technologies, Indian Bank joined hands to offer banking products
- Paytm signs MoU with Arunachal Pradesh for creating startup ecosystem

285. Who has been appointed as chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF)?

इंटरनेशनल मायलोमा फाउंडेशन (आईएमएफ) के निदेशक मंडल के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) S. Vincent Rajkumar / एस विंसेंट राजकुमार
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

Ans. d

Sol. Vincent Rajkumar appoints as chief of International Myeloma Foundation

Renowned scientist, clinician and researcher, S. Vincent Rajkumar has been appointed as chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF).

Dr. Rajkumar takes over from the current chairman Brian G.M. Durie.

Dr. Durie, the co-founder and chairman of the Board of Directors for 33 years, has said that he will not seek re-election as chairman when his current term ends in the spring 2024.

He will, however, remain a member of the Board, hold the position of Chairman Emeritus and continue to perform his current activities. Dr. Rajkumar's accolades include the Jan Waldenstrom Lifetime Achievement Award (2021), the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator Award (2018) and the Robert A. Kyle Lifetime Achievement Award (2016).

Multiple myeloma is a cancer of the bone marrow plasma cells that make antibodies.

Recent Appointment

- **CEO of Jaguar Land Rover** - Adrian Mardell
- **CEO of Noida Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA)** - Lokesh M (replace Ritu Maheshwari)
- **DG of Railway Protection Force** - Manoj Yadava (replace Sanjay Chander)
- **MD and CEO of Invest India** - Nivriti Rai (replace Manmeet K Nanda)
- **President of Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)** - Neeraj Akhoury (replace K C Jhanwar)9

286. Who has become the first woman to be top Navy officer in US history?

अमेरिकी इतिहास में शीर्ष नौसेना अधिकारी बनने वाली पहली महिला कौन बन गई है?

- (a) Laura J. Richardson / लौरा जे रिचर्डसन
- (b) Linda L. Fagan / लिंगा एल फगन
- (c) Shoshana Chatfield / शोशना चैटफ़ील्ड
- (d) Lisa Franchetti / लिसा फ्रैंचेटी
- (e) Samuel Paparo / सैमुअल पापारो

Ans. d

Sol. Lisa Franchetti becomes 1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history

President Joe Biden has chosen Admiral Lisa Franchetti to be the Navy's top officer, making her the first woman to hold this position in the US Navy's history and the first woman in the joint chiefs of Staff.

Admiral Franchetti, currently serving as the vice chief of naval operations, has an impressive career history.

She was commissioned in 1985 and has held various significant roles, including commander of US Naval Forces Korea, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Development, and director for Strategy, Plans, and Policy of the Joint Staff.

287. India has gifted its in-service missile corvette "INS Kirpan" to which country to robust the strategic partnership between the two nations, especially in the maritime domain?

भारत ने दोनों देशों के बीच रणनीतिक साझेदारी को मजबूत करने के लिए, विशेषकर समुद्री क्षेत्र में, किस देश को अपना इन-सर्विस मिसाइल कार्वेट "आईएनएस किरपान" उपहार में दिया है?

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Vietnam / वियतनाम
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. c

Sol. India hands over missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam

India has gifted its in-service missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam to robust the strategic partnership between the two nations, especially in the maritime domain.

Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar presided over the ceremony at Cam Ranh where the frontline warship was handed over to Vietnam People's Navy.

It is for the first time that India gifted a fully operational corvette to any friendly foreign country.

INS Kirpan, since its commissioning in 1991, has been an integral part of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet and has participated in many operations over the last 32 years.

Manned by about 12 officers and 100 sailors, the ship is 90 metres long and 10.45 metres in width with maximum displacement of 1,450 tons. The transfer of INS Kirpan from the Indian Navy to Vietnam People's Navy symbolizes the status of Indian Navy of being the 'preferred security partner in the Indian Ocean Region.

About Vietnam

- Capital- Hanoi
- Currency- Vietnamese dong
- Prime Minister - Pham Minh Chinh
- President - Vo Van Thuong

288. Who has become the second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket?

टेस्ट क्रिकेट में 600 विकेट लेने वाले दूसरे तेज गेंदबाज कौन बन गए हैं?

- (a) Stuart Broad / स्टुअर्ट ब्रॉड
- (b) Bhuvneshwar Kumar / भुवनेश्वर कुमार
- (c) Ravichandran Ashwin / रविचंद्रन अश्विन
- (d) Jasprit Bumrah / जसप्रीत बुमराह
- (e) James Anderson / जेम्स एंडरसन

Ans. a

Sol. Stuart Broad becomes 2nd pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket

England cricketer, Stuart Broad has become the second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket.

He reached the mark by removing Australia's Travis Head on day one of the fourth Ashes Test at Old Trafford.

England team-mate James Anderson is the only other quick bowler to achieve the feat.

Broad is fifth on the all-time list and Anderson third, with spinners Muttiah Muralitharan, Shane Warne and Anil Kumble completing the top five.

Broad made his debut against Sri Lanka in Colombo in 2007, going on to make 166 Test appearances till date and be part of four Ashes-winning sides.

MOST TEST WICKETS

- Muttiah Muralitharan - 800 in 133 Tests
- Shane Warne - 708 in 145 Tests
- James Anderson - 688 in 182 Tests*
- Anil Kumble - 619 in 132 Tests
- Stuart Broad - 600* in 166 Tests

289. Who has been appointed as the coach of the Indian national women's volleyball team for the 19th Asian Women's Championship?

19वीं एशियाई महिला चैम्पियनशिप के लिए भारतीय राष्ट्रीय महिला वॉलीबॉल टीम का कोच किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ravindra Banshtu / रवीन्द्र बंशटू
- (b) Saly Joseph / सैली जोसेफ
- (c) Minimol Abraham / मिनिमोल अब्राहम
- (d) Aswani Kiran / अश्वनी किरण
- (e) Achyuta Samanta / अच्युत सामंत

Ans. a

Sol. Ravindra Banshtu appointed Indian women's volleyball team new coach

Ravindra Banshtu has been appointed as the coach of the Indian national women's volleyball team for the 19th Asian Women's Championship.

The championship will be held in Hangzhou, China from September 22 to October 8.

Banshtu is currently serving as a coach in the sports department of Himachal Pradesh.

Dr. Bastu himself played 16 nationals in volleyball and played three times with the Indian team.

She was selected as a coach in the Education Department in 2005.

290. Who is the author of the book titled "As the wheel turns"?

"एज़ द व्हील टर्न्स" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
- (b) Dr. Ashwin Fernandes / डॉ अश्विन फर्नांडीस
- (c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर
- (d) Ranjit Pratap / रणजीत प्रताप
- (e) Pulapre Balakrishnan / पुलाप्रे बालकृष्णन

Ans. d

Sol. Former V-P Venkaiah Naidu releases book "As the wheel turns"

Former Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu has released a book named " As the wheel turns " in Chennai, Tamilnadu.

The book is authored by Rayala Corporation CEO Ranjit Pratap.

The book chronicles Ranjit Pratap's triumphs and challenges in the corporate world.

The book's title is a metaphor for the cyclical nature of life and business, highlighting the importance of adaptability and resilience in the face of change.

Rayala Corporation was founded in 1948 as an automotive spare parts and office equipment product company.

Recent Book

- **A Fool's Journey** - Sarika Bhardwaj
- **Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow** - Vinod Mankara
- **The Yoga Sutra for Children** - Roopa Pai
- **Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)** - Journalist A.K. Bhattacharya
- **Master Residential Real Estate** - Ashwinder Singh

291. National Broadcasting Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय प्रसारण दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 July / 25 जुलाई
- (b) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (c) 27 July / 27 जुलाई
- (d) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (e) 24 July / 24 जुलाई

Ans. e

Sol. 24 July - National Broadcasting Day

National Broadcasting Day is observed on July 23 every year in India.

The day aims to remind us about the impact of radio on our lives.

This day also marks the start of organized radio broadcasts in the country by All India Radio.

On July 23, 1927, the India Broadcasting Company came into existence and became the first radio company in India. However, the company faced liquidation in less than three years.

Soon after this, All India Radio (AIR) came into being in April 1930 as the Indian Broadcasting Service. On June 8, it was rebranded as All India Radio.

The famous Akashvani tune was composed by Indian Jewish refugee Walter Kauffman in 1930.

The AIR came under the purview of the Department of Information and Broadcasting in British India in 1941.

By Independence, AIR had six radio stations namely in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Lucknow and Tiruchirapalli. However, broadcasting began 30 years later on 23 July 1977 in Chennai.

292. National Thermal Engineer Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय थर्मल इंजीनियर दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 July / 25 जुलाई
- (b) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (c) 27 July / 27 जुलाई
- (d) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (e) 24 July / 24 जुलाई

Ans. e

Sol. 24 July - National Thermal Engineer Day

National Thermal Engineer Day is observed every year on 24 July.

Objective - To create awareness among people about the contributions of thermal engineers in society.

National Thermal Engineer Day was established in 2014 by thermal engineers at Advanced Thermal Solutions, Inc (ATS).

ATS engineers selected July 24 as the date to celebrate National Engineer Day, and the first celebration took place in the year 2015 and eventually secured global recognition.

Thermal engineers play a critical role in the functioning and reliability of electronic systems, yet their contributions often go unnoticed.

Despite their significant impact on the performance and safety of electronic devices, they receive relatively less attention compared to other professionals in the tech industry.

293. Who has recently inaugurated the newly established Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC) at CISF Campus Mahipalpur?
हाल ही में CISF कैम्पस महिपालपुर में नव स्थापित एविएशन सिव्योरिटी कंट्रोल सेंटर (ASCC) का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Amit Shah inaugurated the Aviation Security Control Center

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the newly established Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC) at CISF Campus Mahipalpur in New Delhi.

The CISF was inducted at airports for the first time in February 2000.

After two decades, currently, CISF is providing security cover to 66 airports out of 134 operational airports in the country, including extremely busy and hypersensitive airports like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Jammu, Srinagar, and Amritsar.

In order to monitor the security functions and resource utilization on a real-time basis, Security Operations Control Centres (SOCCs) are functional at every airport.

These SOCCs serve as the nerve/nodal center for the collection and dissemination of important information 24x7, especially during contingencies.

This newly established ASCC will play an important role in its quest to play a greater role in aviation security and the future of the force.

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah inaugurated mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs
- Amit Shah approved the release of Rs 6,194.40 crore to 19 states under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).
- Amit Shah launches Akshar River Cruise Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of '**Balidaan Stambh**' in Srinagar
- Amit Shah unveils ₹8,000 crore schemes to strengthen disaster management

294. Who has inaugurated a two-day National Conference of Rural WASH Partners' Forum at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi?
नई दिल्ली के विज्ञान भवन में ग्रामीण वॉश पार्टनर्स फोरम के दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat / गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत
- (d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
- (e) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya / डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया

Ans. c

Sol. Gajendra Singh inaugurates National Conference On Rural WASH Partners'

Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has inaugurated a two-day National Conference of Rural WASH Partners' Forum at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

The stakeholders from the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector to deliberate on the progress made and the way ahead to support the expeditious implementation of the Jal Jeevan and Swachh Bharat Mission.

The Ministry of Jal Shakti said, under the theme of "Accelerating Progress towards a Swachh Sujal Bharat", the Conference will provide a forum for partners to share their experiences, learn from each other, and identify new ways to collaborate across the WASH sector.

The Rural WASH Partners' Forum (RWPF) is a leading platform for development partners and sector partners working in the rural WASH sector in India.

295. Which state government has signed an MoU with Tata Technologies to transform 36 government ITIs into an Industry 4.0 Technology Hub?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 36 सरकारी आईटीआई को उद्योग 4.0 टेक्नोलॉजी हब में बदलने के लिए टाटा टेक्नोलॉजीज के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Chhattisgarh govt signs MOU with Tata Technologies to transform ITIs

The Chhattisgarh government has signed an MoU worth Rs 1,188.36 crore with Tata Technologies to transform 36 government ITIs into an Industry 4.0 Technology Hub.

The MoU was signed between the state's Department of Technical Education and Skill Development and Tata Technologies in the presence of chief minister Bhupesh Baghel.

The collaboration will offer six new trades and 23 new short-term courses in 36 ITIs, with state-of-the-art technical workshops and trainer arrangements. These ITIs will offer training in six new technical trades. The trades covered in the one-year programme include advanced tool artisan, industrial robotics and digital manufacturing technician, and manufacturing process control and automation.

In the two-year programme, they will offer training in advanced CNC Machining, Basic Designer and Virtual Verifier (Mechanical), and Mechanic Electric Vehicle trades, all of which are of world-class standards.

Tata and its associated companies will also provide placement opportunities to the skilled youth of Chhattisgarh. The project aims to train over 10,000 youths annually in advanced skills, fostering better employment opportunities in the state.

About Chhattisgarh

- **Capital** – Raipur
- **Chief Minister** – Bhupesh Baghel
- **Governor** – Anusuiya Uikey

296. Which edition of the Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit has been organized in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh?
हेलीकाप्टर एवं लघु विमान शिखर सम्मेलन का कौन सा संस्करण मध्य प्रदेश के खजुराहो में आयोजित किया गया है?

- (a) First / पहला
- (b) Second / दूसरा
- (c) Third / तीसरा
- (d) Fourth / चौथा
- (e) Fifth / पांचवां

Ans. e

Sol. 5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit organized in Khajuraho

The Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pawan Hans, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) have jointly organized the 5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.

The event's theme reflects the critical focus on enhancing transportation services and promoting tourism in remote and hilly terrains. Union Civil Aviation Minister, Jyotiraditya M Scindia has inaugurated the event.

The aviation and tourism industries are interconnected, and their synergy fosters employment opportunities and drives economic growth across the country.

The summit's primary objectives are to enhance the scope of the UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme, which focuses on regional connectivity in remote and hilly terrains, and to expand the country's rural-to-urban connectivity.

A key focus is also on boosting the connectivity of helicopters and small aircraft to places with existing and potential tourism hotspots by providing uninterrupted services.

About Madhya Pradesh

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

297. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has recently laid the foundation stone for a 108-foot tall statue of Lord Ram in which state?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने हाल ही में किस राज्य में भगवान राम की 108 फीट ऊंची प्रतिमा की आधारशिला रखी है?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
- (e) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

Ans. d

Sol. Amit Shah laid foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone for a 108-foot tall statue of Lord Ram in Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool in a virtual ceremony.

It will be built at a cost of over 500 crore rupees and this project is spread over an area of 10 acres in Mantralayam village.

The statue to be erected in Mantralayam will convey the message of Sanatan Dharma to the entire world, further bolstering the Vaishnava tradition.

The colossal statue of Prabhu Ram, which will be the tallest in India, will immerse the city with the emotion of devotion while inspiring people to remain unwavering in their commitment to our rich and timeless civilizational values.

298. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a six-day event focusing on semiconductors – Semicon India 2023 – in which city?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी सेमीकंडक्टर्स पर केंद्रित छह दिवसीय कार्यक्रम - सेमीकॉन इंडिया 2023 - का उद्घाटन किस शहर में करेंगे?

- (a) Gandhinagar / गांधीनगर
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. a

Sol. PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate 'Semicon India 2023' in Gandhinagar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a six-day event focusing on semiconductors – Semicon India 2023 – at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar on July 28.

The event is scheduled to be held between July 25 and 30 and with the PM inaugurating the main event on July 28.

Open to the public from July 25 to July 30, this engaging exhibition aims to educate visitors about the intricate manufacturing process of semiconductors and the remarkable strides achieved in this dynamic field.

The exhibition will offer the visitors a comprehensive insight into the cutting-edge technologies and innovations driving the semiconductor industry.

For aspiring students, this platform will present a valuable opportunity to acquire in-depth knowledge about semiconductor manufacturing, fostering a pathway to a rewarding career in this field.

Companies such as Foxconn, Micron, AMD, IBM, Marvell, Vedanta, LAM Research, NXP Semiconductors, ST Microelectronics, Grantwood Technologies, Infineon Technologies, Applied Materials, and other prominent players in the sector will actively participate in this momentous event.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi inaugurates **New Integrated Terminal Building at Port Blair**
- PM Modi launches **development projects worth over 12,110 crore** in Varanasi
- PM inaugurates **Sai Hira Global Convention Centre** in Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh.
- PM Modi inaugurates **National Sickle Cell Anemia Eradication Mission 2047** in Lalpur village of Madhya Pradesh
- PM Modi inaugurated **17th Indian Cooperative Congress** in New Delhi

299. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)?

भारत डायनेमिक्स लिमिटेड (बीडीएल) के नए अध्यक्ष और एमडी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) A Madhavarao / ए माधवराव
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

Ans. a

Sol. A Madhavarao appoints as new Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics

A Madhavarao has been appointed as the new Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).

He joined BDL in March 2020 as executive director and was currently holding the post of Director (Technical) with the additional charge of Director (production).

During his tenure in the Indian Navy, Commodore Madhavarao took part in the Kargil and Parakram operations.

He was instrumental in setting up the Nuclear and Safety field organization in Visakhapatnam for the induction of Nuclear Submarines into the Indian Navy.

He has served as General Manager Technical at Naval Dockyard Visakhapatnam and was responsible for preparing the long-term perspective plan for the Naval Dockyard modernization.

Recent Appointment

- **Indian women's volleyball team new coach** - Ravindra Banshtu
- **1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history** - Lisa Franchetti
- **Chief of International Myeloma Foundation** - S Vincent Rajkumar (replace Brian G.M. Durie)
- **CEO of Jaguar Land Rover** - Adrian Mardell
- **CEO of Noida Industrial Development Authority (NOIDA)** - Lokesh M (replace Ritu Maheshwari)

300. Who has conferred the 8th and 9th National Community Radio Awards in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में 8वां और 9वां राष्ट्रीय सामुदायिक रेडियो पुरस्कार किसने प्रदान किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
- (e) G Kishan Reddy / जी किशन रेड्डी

Ans. a

Sol. Anurag Thakur confers 8th and 9th Community Radio Awards

The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur has conferred the 8th and 9th National Community Radio Awards.

The awards were conferred during the Inaugural Session of the two-day Regional Community Radio Sammelan (North) which was inaugurated by the Union Minister at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication in New Delhi.

Community Radio Stations play a key role in realizing the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi of Jan Bhagidari se Jan Andolan.

These stations complement the efforts of Akashvani and have played a key role in keeping their listeners informed during calamities.

The National Community Radio Awards carry 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for Rs, 1 Lakh, 75,000 Rs and 50,000 Rs respectively.

Thematic Awards

- First Prize: Radio Mind Tree, Ambala, Haryana; Name of Programme: Hope Jeene Ki Rah
- Second Prize: Radio Hirakhand, Sambalpur, Odisha; Name of Programme: Adhar O PoshanBigyan
- Third Prize: Green Radio, Sabour, Bihar; Name of Programme: PoshanShrinkhla

Most Innovative Community Engagement Awards

- First Prize Radio SD, Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh; Name of the programme: Hizra in Between
- Second Prize Kabir Radio, Sant Kabir Nagar, Uttar Pradesh; Name of Program: Selfie Le Le Re
- Third Award: Radio Mind Tree, Ambala, Haryana Name of Programme: Book Bugs

Promoting Local Culture Awards

- First Prize: Voice of SOA, Cuttack, Odisha; Name of Programme: Asmita
- Second Prize: Friends FM, Tripura, Agartala; Name of Programme: Revived a dying art: MASK & POT
- Third Prize: PantnagarJanvani, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand; Name of Program: Dadi Ma Ka Batua

Sustainability Model Awards

- First Prize: Radio Hirakhand, Sambhalpur, Odisha
- Second Prize: VayalagaVanoli, Madurai, Tamil Nadu
- Third Prize: VAGAD Radio "90.8", Banswara, Rajasthan

301. Who among the following has won the country's first-ever gold medal in the World Archery Para Championships in Pilsen, Czech Republic?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने चेक गणराज्य के पिलसेन में विश्व तीरंदाजी पैरा चैंपियनशिप में देश का पहला स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

- (a) Rakesh / राकेश
- (b) Ankita / अंकिता
- (c) Pooja / पूजा
- (d) Sheetal Devi / शीतल देवी
- (e) Shyam Sundar Swami / श्याम सुंदर स्वामी

Ans. a

Sol. Rakesh & Sarita win India's 1st gold at World Para Archery Tournament

Indian compound archers Sarita and Rakesh Kumar gave a fine performance to claim the country's first-ever gold medal in the World Archery Para Championships in Pilsen, Czech Republic.

The duo claimed the mixed team world title, while 16-year-old armless archer Sheetal Devi bagged the compound women's individual silver.

Sarita bagged a second medal when she took the women's team bronze with Jyoti.

The country's previous best showing was two silver medals — by Pooja in recurve individual event and Shyam Sundar Swami and Jyoti in compound mixed team — in Dubai last year.

Sarita and Rakesh defeated Brazil's Jane Gogel and Reinaldo Ferreira 152-146 in the final. The match began with both sides sharing honours (37-37) in the first end. The Indians showed consistency to take the next three ends 37-36, 39-38, 39-35.

302. Who among the following has won the Korea Open 2023 title after defeating Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto in Yeosu, Korea?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने कोरिया के येओसु में फजर अल्फियान और मुहम्मद रियान अर्दियांतो को हराकर कोरिया ओपन 2023 का खिताब जीता है?

- (a) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty / सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी और चिराग शेटी
- (b) Lakshya Sen and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy / लक्ष्य सेन और सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी
- (c) Lakshya Sen and Chirag Shetty / लक्ष्य सेन और चिराग शेटी
- (d) Srikanth Kidambi and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy / श्रीकांत किदांबी और सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी
- (e) Prannoy HS and Chirag Shetty / प्रणय एचएस और चिराग शेटी

Ans. a

Sol. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty clinch Korea Open 2023

Asian Champions Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated world no. 1 Indonesian duo Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto in a thrilling 3-game men's doubles final 17-21, 21-13, 21-14 to clinch the Korea Open 2023 title in Yeosu, Korea.

This is the third Super 500 title of their career so far after Thailand Open 2019 and Yonex Sunrise India Open 2022.

And also the third BWF World Tour title in 2023 as well, having previously won Swiss Open 2023 (Super 300) and Indonesia Open 2023 (Super 1000) earlier this year.

303. Sumit Nagal has won Tampere Challenger 2023 title after defeating Czech Republic's Dalibor Svrčina in Finland. Sumit Nagal is related to which sport?

सुमित नागल ने फिनलैंड में चेक गणराज्य के डेलिबोर स्त्रसीना को हराकर टाम्परे चैलेंजर 2023 का खिताब जीता है। सुमित नागल किस खेल से सम्बंधित हैं?

- (a) Basketball / बास्केटबॉल
- (b) Tennis / टेनिस
- (c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
- (d) Chess / शतरंज
- (e) Rugby / रग्बी

Ans. b

Sol. Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal won Tampere Challenger 2023

Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal beat Dalibor Svrčina of the Czech Republic in straight sets to clinch the Tampere Open title held in Finland.

Nagal beat Svrčina 6-4 7-5 to emerge victorious.

This was Sumit Nagal's fourth ATP Challenger title overall.

It was the second Challenger title of the season after the one in Rome, and the fourth Challenger title of his career for the 25-year-old.

304. World Drowning Prevention Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व डूबना रोकथाम दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 22 July / 22 जुलाई
- (b) 23 July / 23 जुलाई
- (c) 25 July / 25 जुलाई
- (d) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 25 July - World Drowning Prevention Day

World Drowning Prevention Day is observed every year on July 25.

Objective - To raise awareness about the critical issue of drowning and its devastating impact on individuals, families, and communities worldwide.

Theme 2023 - Anyone can drown, no one should

Approximately 236,000 individuals lose their lives to drowning annually, with children between the ages of five and 14 being more susceptible to this tragedy.

Research indicates that youngsters and teenagers living in rural areas are at a higher risk of drowning compared to their urban counterparts.

 **ambitious baba**.com

305. World Embryologists Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व भ्रूणविज्ञानी दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 22 July / 22 जुलाई
- (b) 23 July / 23 जुलाई
- (c) 25 July / 25 जुलाई
- (d) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 25 July - World Embryologist Day

World Embryologists Day is observed every year on July 25 to recognize the work and contributions of embryologists worldwide. Embryologists play an important role in treating infertility and help couples have babies through in vitro fertilization or the IVF process.

In an IVF clinic, embryologists play a vital role. They are responsible for creating new life outside a woman's body.

Embryologists also help in conceiving a baby. They are also known as the caretakers of clients' eggs, sperm, or embryos.

On July 25, 1978, Louise Joy Brown was the first child to be born through IVF in England. Since then, IVF has emerged as a glimmer of hope for couples who dream of becoming parents, but are struggling with infertility. Therefore, Brown's birthday is recognised as World Embryologist Day.

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305. Cricketer Brian Taber passed away recently at the age of 83. He was from which country?

क्रिकेटर ब्रायन टैबर का हाल ही में 83 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस देश से थे?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. Former Australian wicketkeeper Brian Taber passes away

Former Australia and New South Wales wicketkeeper Brian Taber has died at the age of 83.

Taber, who played 16 Test matches for Australia between 1966 and 1970.

He made his Test debut against South Africa in Johannesburg where he claimed seven catches and a stumping.

His highest Test score of 48 came against West Indies at Sydney in 1969 in a match Australia won by 382 runs.

He played more than 100 games for New South Wales during his domestic career.

307. World Ranger Day is celebrated every year on July 31. What is the theme of World Ranger Day 2023?

विश्व रेंजर दिवस हर साल 31 जुलाई को मनाया जाता है। विश्व रेंजर दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) To safeguard wildlife
- (b) Diversity
- (c) Ranger Safety and Wellbeing
- (d) 30 by 30
- (e) 31 by 31

Ans. d

Sol. 31 July - World Ranger Day

World Ranger Day is celebrated every year on July 31, serves as a special occasion to pay tribute and show gratitude to the courageous men and women who devote their lives to safeguarding wildlife and preserving our precious natural resources.

These unsung heroes selflessly work day and night, striving to protect some of the most fragile ecosystems and endangered species on our planet.

Theme 2023 - 30 by 30

The origins of World Ranger Day can be traced back to the International Ranger Federation (IRF), an organization established in 1992 to promote and support the work of park rangers worldwide.

The day was first observed in 2007 in memory of eight rangers who tragically lost their lives while on duty in Virunga National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Since then, World Ranger Day has grown to become an internationally recognized occasion to celebrate rangers' contributions and raise awareness about the challenges they face in their line of duty.

308. The third and final meeting of the G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group under the chairmanship of India has been held in which city?

भारत की अध्यक्षता में G20 आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण कार्य समूह की तीसरी और अंतिम बैठक किस शहर में आयोजित की गई है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. 3rd and final meeting of G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group held in Chennai

The third and final meeting of the G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group under the chairmanship of India has been held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu

This is the first time a dedicated working group on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) has been constituted, signifying India's commitment to addressing global challenges posed by disasters and climate emergencies.

This meeting will bring together G20 countries and their leadership, international organizations and knowledge partners to engage in drafting the communique encapsulating shared commitments and key recommendations regarding the working group's priority areas.

These areas include the Global Coverage of Early Warning Systems, Disaster and Climate Resilient Infrastructure, Financing Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Response System, and the Ecosystem-based Approach to DRR.

The communique, endorsed by all, will serve as a seminal guiding document for G20 nations, underscoring the critical significance of disaster risk reduction.

Recent Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting

- **1st G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting** - Gandhinagar, Gujarat (30 March - 1 April 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting**- Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023).
- **3rd G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu (24 - 26 July 2023)

309. India's first Cannabis Medicine Project is set to be pioneered in which city?

भारत की पहली कैनबिस मेडिसिन परियोजना किस शहर में शुरू की जाएगी?

- (a) Delhi / दिल्ली
- (b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
- (c) Jammu / जम्मू
- (d) Ladakh / लद्दाख
- (e) Puducherry / पुदुचेरी

Ans. c

Sol. Jammu to pioneer India's first Cannabis Medicine Project

Union Minister of State Science & Technology Jitendra Singh confirmed that India's first Cannabis Medicine Project is set to be pioneered in Jammu.

This project will play a vital role in Atma-Nirbhar Bharat, as it will be capable of producing export-quality drugs designed for various neuropathies etc.

The project will spread awareness that this substance of abuse has diverse medicinal uses, especially for patients suffering from malignancies.

The 'Cannabis Research Project' of CSIR-IIIM Jammu is a first-of-its-kind in the country in public-private partnership with a Canadian firm, which has a "great potential to put substance of abuse for the good of mankind especially for patients suffering from neuropathies, cancer and epilepsy

This project of CSIR-IIIM is also important from the perspective of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India) as after getting all the approvals, it will be able to produce export quality drugs meant for different kinds of neuropathies and diabetic pains.

310. Noor Shekhawat became the first transgender person in which state to be issued a birth certificate with her gender listed as transgender?

नूर शेखावत किस राज्य की पहली ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्ति बनीं, जिन्हें उनके लिंग को ट्रांसजेंडर के रूप में सूचीबद्ध करते हुए जन्म प्रमाण पत्र जारी किया गया?

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

Ans. c

Sol. First-ever transgender birth certificate issued in Rajasthan

Noor Shekhawat became the first transgender person in Rajasthan to be issued a birth certificate with the gender recorded as transgender.

In her old birth certificate, her gender was marked as male.

Shekhawat was handed her new birth certificate by municipal and state government officials.

She runs an NGO for the transgender community and also wants to complete her graduation.

About Rajasthan

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

311. Twitter revealed its new logo replacing the blue bird on its website with an X as part of a broader rebranding effort.

Where is the headquarters of Twitter?

व्यापक रीब्रांडिंग प्रयास के तहत ट्विटर ने अपनी वेबसाइट पर नीले पक्षी के स्थान पर एक्स के साथ अपना नया लोगो जारी किया है। ट्विटर का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) New York / न्यूयॉर्क
- (b) Los Angeles / लॉस एंजिल्स
- (c) New Jersey / न्यू जर्सी
- (d) Houston / ह्यूस्टन
- (e) California / कैलिफ़ोर्निया

Ans. e

Sol. Twitter changes logo to 'X', replacing blue bird symbol

The owner Elon Musk, and Chief Executive Officer Linda Yaccarino of Twitter, revealed its new logo replacing the blue bird on its website with an X as part of a broader rebranding effort.

The logo - a white 'X' seen on a black background was seen on the network's site and accounts, evoking mixed reactions and an ocean of memes from the netizens.

It is the latest change since Elon Musk bought the social media platform for 44 billion dollars last year.

Twitter is a free social networking site where users broadcast short posts known as tweets.

About Twitter

- Founded- 21 March 2006
- Founders- Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Noah Glass, Biz Stone
- Headquarters- San Francisco, California, United States
- CEO- Linda Yaccarino
- Owner - Elon Musk

312. Which organization has launched an Action Plan designed to support the implementation of its ambitious Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031.

किस संगठन ने जलवायु परिवर्तन पर अपनी महत्वाकांक्षी रणनीति 2022-2031 के कार्यान्वयन का समर्थन करने के लिए डिज़ाइन की गई एक कार्य योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)/ खाद्य एवं कृषि संगठन (एफएओ)
- (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. a

Sol. FAO launches action plan for to tackle Global Agri Challenges

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) has launched an Action Plan designed to support the implementation of its ambitious Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031.

The Strategy, which was endorsed in June 2022 by FAO's executive body, the Council, envisages agrifood systems as sustainable, inclusive, resilient and adaptive to climate change.

Global agrifood systems, which encompass the production of food and non-food agricultural products, as well as their storage, transportation, processing, distribution, marketing, disposal and consumption, are currently responsible for about a third of total greenhouse gas emissions.

The Strategy aims to scale up the visibility, uptake and investment in these solutions by contributing to adaptive, resilient low-emission economies "while providing sufficient, safe and nutritious foods for healthy diets, as well as other agricultural products and services, for present and future generations, leaving no one behind.

313. In which country a memorial has been unveiled in honor of Indian soldiers who fought in World War II?

द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध में लड़ने वाले भारतीय सैनिकों के सम्मान में किस देश में एक स्मारक का अनावरण किया गया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Italy honours Indian Army's contribution in World War II

A memorial has been unveiled in Italy to honor Indian troops who fought in the Italian Campaign during the Second World War.

The memorial is in the form of a live sundial and its motto is "We all live under the same sun."

The memorial pays tribute to Naik Yeshwant Ghadge, Victoria Cross, who was killed in action fighting on the heights of Upper Tiber Valley.

About Italy

- Capital- Rome
- Currency- Euro
- President- Sergio Mattarella
- Prime Minister- Georgia Meloni

314. Which fintech platform has recently launched a feature to pay income tax through its app?
हाल ही में किस फिनटेक प्लेटफॉर्म ने अपने ऐप के माध्यम से आयकर का भुगतान करने की सुविधा लॉन्च की है?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) GooglePay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) BHIM
- (e) Instamojo

Ans. a

Sol. PhonePe launches income tax payment feature

Digital payments and fintech platform, PhonePe has launched a feature to pay income tax through its app.

Individuals and businesses can pay self-assessment and advance tax through UPI or credit card via the application, without logging into the income tax portal.

The amount will be credited to the tax portal within two working days.

Users can pay taxes by logging into the app and selecting the "income tax" icon. Then, they must select the type of tax to be paid, assessment year and Permanent Account Number (PAN) details. After entering the total tax amount, users will be able to pay using the chosen mode of payment.

Taxpayers will receive a Unique Transaction Reference (UTR) number as an acknowledgment within one working day after paying the tax while challan for the payment will be available within two working days.

Users can get a 45-day interest-free period and earn reward points on their tax payments, depending on their bank.

PhonePe has partnered with digital B2B payments service provider PayMate for enabling the feature.

Started in 2015, the Walmart subsidiary was recently separated from its e-commerce sibling Flipkart.

PhonePe has about 50 crore registered users and processes 45 percent of transactions on Bharat Bill Pay System (BBPS). The company became a fintech in 2017 and launched mutual funds and insurance products.

315. Who has been re-appointed as the MD and CEO of Tata Steel for a period of five years?
पांच साल की अवधि के लिए टाटा स्टील के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे फिर से नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) T V Narendran / टी वी नरेंद्रन

Ans. e

Sol. T V Narendran re-appointed as Tata Steel CEO and MD

T V Narendran has been re-appointed as the MD and CEO of Tata Steel, for a period of five years effective 19 September 2023.

He has over 35 years of experience in the mining and metals industry. Narendran joined Tata Steel in 1988.

He was appointed as Managing Director of Tata Steel for India and South East Asia on November 1, 2013.

In October 2017, Tata Steel elevated Narendran as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director globally.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics** - A Madhavarao
- **Indian women's volleyball team new coach** - Ravindra Banshtu
- **1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history** - Lisa Franchetti
- **Chief of International Myeloma Foundation** - S Vincent Rajkumar (replace Brian G.M. Durie)
- **CEO of Jaguar Land Rover** - Adrian Mardell

316. President Draupadi Murmu has recently presented how many National Geology Awards (NGA) 2022 at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने हाल ही में राष्ट्रपति भवन सांस्कृतिक केंद्र में कितने राष्ट्रीय भूविज्ञान पुरस्कार (एनजीए) 2022 प्रदान किए हैं?

- (a) 5
- (b) 11
- (c) 15
- (d) 19
- (e) 9

Ans. b

Sol. Draupadi Murmu Confers National Geoscience Awards

President Droupadi Murmu has conferred the National Geoscience Awards (NGA) - 2022 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre.

Instituted in 1966, the NGA is a symbol of recognition and appreciation for exceptional individuals and organizations that have demonstrated excellence, dedication, and innovation in the realm of Geosciences.

The Ministry of Mines confers this award every year in three categories comprised National Geoscience Award for Life Time Achievement, the National Young Geoscientist Award, and the National Geoscience Award in various fields of geosciences.

There are six boys and five girls among the awardees from 11 states and UTs.

Each awardee of the PMRBP will be given a medal, a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh and a certificate.

The Union government the PMRBP award to children for their exceptional achievements. The award is conferred on children in the age group 5-18 for their excellence in six categories, viz art and culture, bravery, innovation, scholastic, social service and sports, which deserve national recognition.

This year, the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar will be conferred on 11 children selected from all regions of the country for their exceptional achievement in the field of art and culture (4), bravery (1), innovation (2), social service (1), and sports (3).

317. Who among the following won the gold medal in the men's javelin throw events at the Lebanon Athletics Championships 2023 in Beirut?

बेरूत में लेबनान एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2023 में पुरुषों की भाला फेंक स्पर्धा में निम्नलिखित में से किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

- (a) Kishore Jena / किशोर जेना
- (b) Shivpal Singh / शिवपाल सिंह
- (c) Neeraj Chopra / नीरज चोपड़ा
- (d) Davinder Singh Kang / दर्विंदर सिंह कंग
- (e) Vipin Kasana / विपिन कसाना

Ans. a

Sol. Indian javelin throwers bagged gold medals at Lebanon Athletics 2023

India's Annu Rani and Kishore Jena won the gold medal in the men's and women's javelin throw events, respectively at the Lebanon Athletics Championships 2023 in Beirut.

Annu Rani recorded a best throw of 55.32m to top the six-woman field. Her effort, though, was far from her national record-setting mark of 63.82m, achieved last year.

In four competitions since the Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham, where she won the bronze, Annu Rani has not crossed the 60m mark.

In the men's event, Kishore Jena hurled the spear 78.96m to win the gold. His personal best is 82.87, achieved in Bhubaneswar last month.

Tokyo 2020 Olympian Shivpal Singh won the silver with a 73.34m throw, a modest effort compared to his personal best of 86.23m achieved at the 2019 Asian championships in Doha.

Seven men competed in the men's javelin event. Nabil Al-Akoumi was third with 59.79m

Tokyo Olympics champion Neeraj Chopra holds India's national record in men's javelin throw courtesy his 89.94m mark, registered at the 2022 Stockholm Diamond League in Sweden.

318. Lahiru Thirimanne has retired from international cricket after a 13-year career. He is from which country?

लाहिरू थिरिमाने ने 13 साल के करियर के बाद अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास ले लिया है। वह किस देश से है?

- (a) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. Lahiru Thirimanne announces retirement from international cricket

Sri Lankan cricketer Lahiru Thirimanne has retired from international cricket after a 13-year career.

The 33-year-old Lankan featured in 44 Tests, 127 One-Day Internationals, and 26 T20 Internationals, having made his debut in 2010.

He played for Sri Lanka in three ICC T20 World Cups, including the 2014 edition where the side emerged victorious.

Besides, he also featured in a couple of ODI World Cups. He also had the honour of leading the team in five ODIs.

Thirimanne played his final international tie for Sri Lanka in March 2022 — a Test against India in Bengaluru.

In his prime, he was considered one of the most prolific batters of the side, especially in the 50-over format, scoring 3,194 runs in 106 innings at an average of 34.71, including four tons and 24 half-centuries.

Recently Retired Players

- Nahida Khan - International Cricket - Pakistan
- 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

319. Which Football Club became the first Indian club to win the Gothia Cup in Sweden?

कौन सा फुटबॉल क्लब स्वीडन में गोथिया कप जीतने वाला पहला भारतीय क्लब बन गया है?

- (a) Minerva Academy / मिनर्वा अकादमी
- (b) Velocity Football Academy / वेलोसिटी फुटबॉल अकादमी
- (c) Spartan Academy / स्पार्टन अकादमी
- (d) Bhaichung Bhutia Football Academy / बाईचुंग भूटिया फुटबॉल अकादमी
- (e) Champion Football Academy / चैंपियन फुटबॉल अकादमी

Ans. a

Sol. Minerva Academy becomes first Indian club to win Gothia Cup

India's Minerva Academy FC scripted history as they became the first team from the subcontinental nation to lift the prestigious Gothia Cup in Sweden.

The Gothia Cup, an international youth football tournament organized has been held annually at Gothenburg in the Scandinavian country of Sweden.

The prestigious tournament is organized under the aegis of Allsvenskan club BK Hacken.

The Indian team triumphed in the B13 category of the illustrious event with a 3-1 win over Brazilian side Ordin FC in the final of the tournament on Saturday.

The tournament is the world's largest and most international youth football tournament with 1700 teams.

The first-ever edition of the tournament was held in 1975.

In total, 4500 games were played on 110 pitches during the tournament.

320. Which of the following country will host Formula 1 until 2032?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश 2032 तक फॉर्मूला 1 की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Austria / ऑस्ट्रिया
- (b) Germany / जर्मनी
- (c) Italy / इटली
- (d) Hungary / हंगरी
- (e) Belgium / बेल्जियम

Ans. d

Sol. Hungary to host Formula 1 until 2032

Formula 1 has announced that the Hungarian Grand Prix will continue to be part of the F1 calendar for an additional five years until 2032.

As per the Formula 1 website, the existing deal that ran until 2027 was extended until 2032.

As part of the agreement, the Hungaroring circuit will undergo significant development and refurbishment, including the construction of a new pit building and main grandstand.

The Hungaroring, located near Budapest, has been a part of Formula 1 since 1986 and has seen many legendary drivers claim victory at the circuit, such as Michael Schumacher and Ayrton Senna, who won four and three Hungarian Grands Prix, respectively.

The 4.38km Hungaroring has been part of the F1 calendar since 1986, with many legends of the sport claiming victory at the circuit.

Five of the 2023 grid have been victorious at the Hungarian Grand Prix, with Lewis Hamilton holding a record eight wins.

About Hungary

- Capital- Budapest
- Currency - Forint
- Official language- Hungarian
- Prime minister- Viktor Orbán
- President- Katalin Novák

321. Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed annually on 26 July to mark India's victory in which year's conflict with Pakistan?

पाकिस्तान के साथ किस वर्ष के संघर्ष में भारत की जीत को चिह्नित करने के लिए कारगिल विजय दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 26 जुलाई को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1961
- (b) 1971
- (c) 1988
- (d) 1999
- (e) 1996

Ans. d

Sol. 26 July - Kargil Vijay Diwas

Kargil Vijay Diwas, or Kargil Victory Day is observed annually on July 26 to mark India's triumph in the 1999 conflict with Pakistan. The day honours the bravery and sacrifices made by Indian soldiers during the intense and prolonged war.

Kargil Vijay Diwas History

- The two neighbouring countries, which were involved in a significant conflict in 1971 that resulted in the formation of Bangladesh, have experienced ongoing tensions in the subsequent years.
- Although direct armed conflicts have been limited, they have been vying for control over the Siachen Glacier by establishing military outposts on the nearby mountain ridges.
- The situation escalated further when both nations conducted nuclear tests in 1998. To ease the tension, they signed the Lahore Declaration in February 1999, which aimed to seek a peaceful and bilateral resolution to the Kashmir conflict.
- During the winter of 1998-1999, the Pakistani armed forces covertly trained and deployed troops to cross the Line of Control (LOC) and seize fortified positions that overlooked NH 1A in the Drass and Batalik Sectors of Kargil, Ladakh region. Their objective was to gain control over both military and civilian movements in the area.
- The Kargil War resulted in the loss of 527 soldiers from the Indian Army. The conflict concluded on July 26, 1999, when the Pakistan army was forced to retreat from their occupied positions, signifying India's triumph. Since then, this day is observed as Kargil War Diwas to honour and remember the supreme sacrifice made by the soldiers during the war.

322. The International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is celebrated every year on which day?
मैंग्रोव पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र के संरक्षण के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (b) 29 July / 29 जुलाई
- (c) 30 July / 30 जुलाई
- (d) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. d

Sol. 26 July - International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

The International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is celebrated every year on 26 July.

Objective - To raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as "a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem".

This International Day was adopted by the General Conference of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2015.

As per Forest Survey Report 2021, Mangrove cover in India has increased by 17 sq km as compared to 2019 assessment. It now spread to 4,992 sq km.

Three states in which highest increase in mangrove cover was observed include- Odisha (8 sq km), Maharashtra (4 sq km) and Karnataka (3 sq km).

323. India and which country have agreed to a bilateral exchange of young researchers and Startups, particularly in the field of Biotechnology and Agriculture?

भारत और कौन सा देश विशेष रूप से जैव प्रौद्योगिकी और कृषि के क्षेत्र में युवा शोधकर्ताओं और स्टार्टअप के द्विपक्षीय आदान-प्रदान पर सहमत हुए हैं?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Argentina / अर्जेंटीना
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. India & Argentina signs MoU for bilateral exchange of young researchers

India and Argentina have agreed to a bilateral exchange of young researchers and Startups, particularly in the field of Biotechnology and Agriculture.

The two countries also decided to hold comprehensive talks between delegations comprising academia, Research, and Development Institutes, and Industry in the field of Science and Technology and Biotechnology.

India is the 4th largest trading partner of Argentina, with bilateral trade touching a historic peak of 6.4 billion US dollar in the year 2022, recording a growth rate of 12 percent over 2021.

About Argentina

- Capital: Buenos Aires
- Currency: Argentine Peso
- Official language: Spanish
- President - Alberto Fernández

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- India & Sri Lanka sign MoU on cooperation in field of renewable energy
- India & Singapore sign MoU to co-operate on public administration
- Union govt signs an MoU with Tanzania to set up IIT Madras campus
- Israel ties up with IIT-M to set up water technology centre
- India signed an MoU with Israel on Industrial R&D Cooperation

324. More than 123 lakh domestic passengers have travelled on Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) flights since the inception of the scheme, as per the government. In which year UDAN scheme was launched?

सरकार के अनुसार, योजना की शुरुआत के बाद से 123 लाख से अधिक घरेलू यात्रियों ने उड़े देश का आम नागरिक (UDAN) उड़ानों पर यात्रा की है। UDAN योजना किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) 2015
- (b) 2016
- (c) 2017
- (d) 2018
- (e) 2019

Ans. b

Sol. Over 123 lakh passengers travelled on UDAN flights since its inception: Government

More than 123 lakh domestic passengers have travelled on Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) flights since the inception of the scheme, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation Gen V K Singh (Retd) said in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha.

The scheme was initiated in October 2016 with the objective of fulfilling the aspirations of the common citizen, with an enhanced aviation infrastructure and air connectivity in tier II and tier III cities.

Under UDAN, 148 Airports, including nine heliports and two water aerodromes, have been developed/operationalized till date. The govt has also approved the 'Revival of unserved and under-served airports' scheme to develop 100 airports, and water aerodromes by 2024.

325. The union government has approved the establishment of how many new Greenfield airports across the country?
केंद्र सरकार ने देश भर में कितने नए ग्रीनफील्ड हवाई अड्डों की स्थापना को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 15
- (b) 18
- (c) 21
- (d) 30
- (e) 50

Ans. c

Sol. Centre grants in-principle approval to set up 21 greenfield airports

The government has approved the establishment of 21 new Greenfield airports across the country.

These airports will be set up in different regions of the country to enhance connectivity and boost air travel accessibility.

11 Greenfield airports have already been made operational. These include Durgapur, Shirdi, Kannur, Pakyong, Kalaburagi, Orvakal (Kurnool), Sindhudurg, Kushinagar, Itanagar, Mopa, and Shivamogga.

Other approved airports are in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.

The state government of Tamil Nadu has applied for the first stage clearance, known as 'site-clearance,' to develop a Greenfield airport at Parandur in Kancheepuram District.

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INDIA'S NET GOVERNMENT JOBS PORTAL

326. "Akira" which is in the news recently, what is it?

"अकीरा" जो हाल ही में चर्चा में है, यह क्या है?

- (a) Diseases / रोग
- (b) Missile System / मिसाइल प्रणाली
- (c) Government's Scheme / सरकार की योजना
- (d) Internet Ransomware / इंटरनेट रैनसमवेयर
- (e) Military Exercise / सैन्य अभ्यास

Ans. d

Sol. CERT-In issues alert on 'Akira' ransomware

CERT-In (Indian Computer Emergency Response Team) has issued a warning about new Internet ransomware named 'Akira'.

This computer malware is targeting Windows and Linux-based systems.

A recently emerged ransomware operation dubbed Akira is reportedly active in cyberspace. This group first steals the information from victims, then encrypt data on their systems and conducts double extortion to force the victim into paying the ransom.

In case the victim does not pay, they release their victim's data on their dark web blog.

This ransomware group has also utilized tools such as AnyDesk, WinRAR, and PC Hunter during intrusions, it said, adding these tools are often found in the victim's environment, and their misuse typically goes unnoticed.

About ICERT

- The agency is the central technology arm to combat cyber attacks and guards cyberspace against phishing and hacking assaults and similar online attacks.
- It functions as a division within the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology under the Government of India.
- Director General - Sanjay Behl

What is Ransomware?

- Ransomware is a computer malware that infects and blocks users from using their own data and system and they can get it back against a pay-off.
- The ransomware group is "known to access victim environments via VPN (virtual private network) services, particularly where users have not enabled multi-factor authentication."

327. Which state government has signed an MoU with British Council Education India Pvt Limited (BCEIPL) to launch the online course 'English for Work'?

किस राज्य सरकार ने ऑनलाइन पाठ्यक्रम 'इंग्लिश फॉर वर्क' शुरू करने के लिए ब्रिटिश काउंसिल एजुकेशन इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (बीसीईआईपीएल) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Punjab govt signs MoU with BCEIP to launch online course 'English for Work'

The Punjab government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with British Council Education India Pvt Limited (BCEIPL) to expand employment opportunities for the youth, reported Khalsa Vox.

The MoU was officially signed by the Director of Higher Education Amarpal Singh on behalf of the Punjab Government, and Managing Director of BCEIPL Duncan Wilson.

Following that, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann expressed his optimism and highlighted the potential of MoU to open new directions for employment and skills enhancement for the youth.

Moreover, under the partnership, they will launch a specialized training course "English for Work" for students of government colleges under the Higher Education Department.

The training program aims to upskill the employability of young individuals, making them more competitive in the job market.

The "English for Work" course will be offered online and will have a "flipped classroom" approach. It will further aim to blend the flexibility of self-study with interactive live classes.

In the beginning of this course, around 5,000 students from government colleges will be offered the opportunity to undergo comprehensive training starting from this academic session.

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

- Punjab govt signs MoU with BCEIP to launch online course 'English for Work'
- Himachal Pradesh signs MoU with Oil India Ltd for Green Hydrogen
- 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
- Odisha govt collaborates with Infosys, Nasscom to enhance the skills and employability of students

328. The Union government has notified an interest rate of how much percent on deposits under the Employees Provident Fund scheme for 2022-23?

केंद्र सरकार ने 2022-23 के लिए कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि योजना के तहत जमा पर कितने प्रतिशत की ब्याज दर अधिसूचित की है?

- (a) 7.9%
- (b) 8.15%
- (c) 8.9%
- (d) 8.35%
- (e) 9.2%

Ans. b

Sol. Govt approves 8.15% interest rate on Employees Provident Fund deposits

The government has cleared the interest rate for Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) accounts for the financial year 2022-23.

The declared interest rate stands at 8.15 percent, as notified by the retirement body Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in a circular.

The EPFO has directed all filed offices to credit the interest at a rate of 8.15 percent on EPF for the financial year 2022-23 into the respective accounts of its members.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, has conveyed the approval of the Central Government under para 60(1) of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 to credit interest@ 8.15 % for the year 2022-23 to the account of each member of the EPF Scheme as per the provisions under Para 60 of EPF Scheme, 1952.

The EPFO has directed its field offices to credit the interest into the accounts of over 6 crore active members as of March 2023.

About Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)

- Founded - 4 March 1952
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- EPFO is the statutory body under the ownership of Ministry of Labour and Employment

329. What was the total amount of loans extended by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to state-backed corporations and public sector undertakings during the fiscal year 2022-23?

वित्तीय वर्ष 2022-23 के दौरान सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों (पीएसबी) द्वारा राज्य समर्थित निगमों और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों को दिए गए ऋण की कुल राशि कितनी थी?

- (a) Rs 2.12 trillion
- (b) Rs 3.12 trillion
- (c) Rs 4.12 trillion
- (d) Rs 5.12 trillion
- (e) Rs 6.12 trillion

Ans. c

Sol. Canara Bank was top lender to public sector cos in FY23

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed Parliament that during the fiscal year 2022-23, Public Sector Banks (PSBs) extended loans amounting to Rs 4.12 trillion to state-backed corporations and public sector undertakings.

Canara Bank led the lending during 2022-23 to government-backed entities at ₹187,813 crore during the recently concluded fiscal year.

Followed by Punjab National Bank (₹70,142.5 crore), State Bank of India (₹66,523.2 crore), Bank of India (₹25,147 crore), Bank of Baroda (₹15,706.8 crore), Union Bank of India (₹12,584.8 crore), Bank of Maharashtra (₹10,822.7 crore), Indian Bank (₹9,021 crore), Indian Overseas Bank (₹7,490 crore), Central Bank of India (₹3,949 crore), UCO Bank (₹2,939.4 crore), Punjab and Sind Bank (₹87.7 crore).

Public sector banks (PSBs) will have to take steps to adopt a focused approach on ease of service delivery and customer protection, follow regulatory norms, adopt robust risk management practices, focus on increasing rural, agriculture and sectoral credit to meet the Priority Sector Lending targets.

In a meeting held between the top PSB bank executives and top finance ministry officials, including the finance minister, on 6 July, it was decided that the sponsor banks of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) will take steps for technological upgradation of the RRBs to make them more efficient.

Performance under PM SVANidhi scheme, which was started to support COVID-affected street vendors to restart their businesses, was noted, wherein 50.57 lakh loans have been disbursed, amounting to ₹6,482 crore, to 38.5 lakh street vendors as on 20.7.2023.

330. According to the RBI's data, banks wrote off bad loans amounting to how many crores during the financial year 2022-23?

RBI के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, वित्तीय वर्ष 2022-23 के दौरान बैंकों ने कितने करोड़ रुपये के बुरे ऋण माफ कर दिए हैं?

- (a) Rs 3.09 lakh crore
- (b) Rs 1.09 lakh crore
- (c) Rs 2.19 lakh crore
- (d) Rs 2.09 lakh crore
- (e) Rs 1.89 lakh crore

Ans. c

Sol. Banks write off bad loans worth Rs 2.09 lakh crore in 2022-23: RBI

According to the RBI's data during the financial year 2022-23, banks wrote off bad loans amounting to over Rs 2.09 lakh crore, contributing to a total loan write-off of Rs 10.57 lakh crore by the banking sector over the past five years.

This huge loan write-off aided banks to bring down gross non-performing assets (GNPA) – or loans defaulted by borrowers — to a 10-year low of 3.9 percent of advances in March 2023.

Gross NPAs of banks had fallen from Rs 10.21 lakh crore in FY2018 to Rs 5.55 lakh crore by March 2023, mainly on the back of loan write-offs by banks.

Banks have written off a whopping Rs 15,31,453 crore (US \$ 187 billion) since FY2012-13, as per RBI data.

Banks recovered only Rs 109,186 crore from Rs 586,891 crore loans written off in the last three years, revealing that they could only recover 18.60 percent of the write-offs during the three-year period.

The total defaulted loans (including write-offs but excluding loans recovered from write-offs in three years) amount to Rs 10.32 lakh crore, according to back-of-the-envelope calculation.

Including write-offs, the total NPA ratio would have become 7.47 percent of advances as against 3.9 percent reported by the banks.

331. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has increased its projection for India's GDP growth in the current fiscal year from 5.9% to how much percent?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (आईएमएफ) ने चालू वित्त वर्ष में भारत की जीडीपी वृद्धि का अनुमान 5.9% से बढ़ाकर कितना प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 6.0%
- (b) 6.1%
- (c) 6.2%
- (d) 6.3%
- (e) 6.4%

Ans. b

Sol. IMF revises India's GDP growth forecast to 6.1% for FY24

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has raised the FY24 economic growth forecast for India by 20 basis points to 6.1 percent.

As per World Economic Outlook, In 2023 the growth rate of India's economy is estimated to be 6.1 percent, which is 0.2 percentage points higher than what was predicted in April 2023

Most professional forecasters expect the Indian economy to grow between 6 percent and 6.5 percent in FY24.

While the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) last month revised upward its forecast to 6 per cent for FY24, the Reserve Bank of India expects the economy to expand at 6.5 per cent in the same financial year.

Updated GDP List

- World Bank - 6.3% (FY24), 6.4% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- MOODY'S. – 5.5% (FY23)
- S&P – 6% (FY24)
- IMF – 6.1% (FY24), 6.3% (FY25)
- ADB – 6.4% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)
- RBI – 6.5% (FY24)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING – 6.3% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)
- FICCI - 7% (FY23), 6.4% (FY24)
- OECD - 6% (FY24), 5.7% (FY24)

332. Phangnon Konyak has become the first woman to chair the Rajya Sabha. She is from which state?

फांगनोन कोन्याक राज्यसभा की अध्यक्षता करने वाली पहली महिला बन गई हैं। वह किस राज्य से है?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) Sikkim / सिक्किम
- (c) Nagaland / नागालैंड
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. c

Sol. Phangnon Konyak became the first woman to chair the Rajya Sabha from Nagaland

Phangnon Konyak, the first woman member from Nagaland in the Rajya Sabha, presided over the House.

Phangnon Konyak became the first woman member to be appointed to the panel of Vice-Chairpersons.

She is also the first woman to be elected to Rajya Sabha from Nagaland (April 2022) and the second woman from the state to be elected to either house of the Parliament or the state assembly.

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar nominated four women members (50% of the total) to the panel of Vice-Chairpersons to promote gender equality.

All the nominated women members are first-time MPs

The reconstituted panel now comprises a total of eight members, half of whom are women, a first in the history of the Upper House.

The nominated women members are as follows - PT Usha, S. Phangnon Konyak, Dr. Fauzia Khan, Sulta Dev

333. Tenzing Yangki has become the first female IPS officer of which state?

तेनजिंग यांगकी किस राज्य की पहली महिला आईपीएस अधिकारी बन गई हैं?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) Sikkim / सिक्किम
- (c) Nagaland / नागालैंड
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. d

Sol. Tenzing Yangki becomes the 1st female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh

Tenzing Yangki has become the first female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh who cracked the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Services Examination 2022.

Tenzin Yangki achieved a rank of 545 and has become the first lady IPS officer from Arunachal Pradesh.

Yangki had earlier cleared the Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) exam in 2017.

Robin Hibu was the first IPS officer from Arunachal Pradesh. He joined as an IPS officer in 1993.

The state boasts of 11 later entry IPS officers, who have been promoted to the rank of inspector general of police (IGP).

After the elevation of 2004 batch AGMUT cadre IPS officer C K Mein to IGP rank on 31.03.22 by the MoHA, Arunachal till then had 11 IGPs, including Chukhu Apa, Tussar Taba, Apur Bitin, Kime Kaming, PN Khirmey, Sang Norbu Mosovi, Nabam Gungte, Hibu Tamang, Isaac Pertin, Mari Riba and C K Mein.

Recent Appointment

- **CEO and MD of Tata Steel** - T V Narendran (reappointment)
- **Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics** - A Madhavarao
- **Indian women's volleyball team new coach** - Ravindra Banshtu
- **1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history** - Lisa Franchetti
- **Chief of International Myeloma Foundation** - S Vincent Rajkumar (replace Brian G.M. Durie)

334. The Indian Air Force will be celebrating its 91st anniversary on 08 October 2023. This year's Air Force Day parade and Air Display will be held in which city?

भारतीय वायु सेना 08 अक्टूबर 2023 को अपनी 91वीं वर्षगांठ मनाएगी। इस वर्ष की वायु सेना दिवस परेड और वायु प्रदर्शन किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Prayagraj / प्रयागराज

Ans. e

Sol. Air Force Day Parade and Flypast to be held at Prayagraj

The Indian Air Force will be celebrating its 91st anniversary on 08 October 2023.

Keeping with the new tradition of hosting the Air Force Day celebrations in different parts of the country, this year's Air Force Day parade and Air Display will be held in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

The ceremonial parade will be conducted at Air Force Station, Bamrauli, while the air display will take place at the Sangam area, the picturesque confluence of the Ganga and Yamuna rivers in Prayagraj.

The Air Force Day celebrations will commence more than a week before with an air display near Bhojtal Lake in Bhopal on September 30.

The IAF was officially established on October 8, 1932. Its first aircraft flight came into being on April 1, 1933, with six officers trained by the Royal Air Force (RAF) and 19 "havai sepoy" (air soldiers)

335. Who won the gold medal in the Junior Asia Cup Judo Championship 2023 in Macau, China?

मकाऊ, चीन में जूनियर एशिया कप जूडो चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Kalpana Devi Thoudam /कल्पना देवी थौदम
- (b) Shelly /शेली
- (c) Ankita Singh /अंकिता सिंह
- (d) Asmita Dey /अस्मिता डे
- (e) Garima Chaudhary /गरिमा चौधरी

Ans. d

Sol. Tripura's Asmita Dey wins gold at Junior Asian Judo Championships 2023

Tripura's sporting pride 20-year-old, Asmita Dey won the gold medal in the Junior Asia Cup Judo Championship 2023 in Macau, China.

She competed in the women's 48 kg category against opponents from 27 different countries.

The Judo Asian Championship is organized by the Judo Union of Asia.

The men's tournament began in 1966 and was held approximately every four years, until 1991.

336. Who has won the Formula 1 Hungarian Grand Prix 2023?

फॉर्मूला 1 हंगेरियन ग्रां प्री 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 clinches Hungarian GP

Red Bull's driver Max Verstappen stormed to victory over Lando Norris and Sergio Perez with another commanding performance in the Hungarian Grand Prix.

McLaren's Lando Norris was runner-up for the second straight race.

With the victory the reigning double world champion clinched his seventh straight victory and the Red Bull their 12th in a row beating McLaren's long-standing record.

Teammate Perez also furthered his advantage over third-place man Fernando Alonso, who finished a disappointing ninth in Hungary.

337. How many gold medals has won by India at ISSF World Championship 2023 in in Changwon, South Korea?

दक्षिण कोरिया के चांगवोन में ISSF विश्व चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में भारत ने कितने स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं?

- (a) 17
- (b) 6
- (c) 5
- (d) 3
- (e) 12

Ans. b

Sol. India ranked 2nd at ISSF World Championship in South Korea 2023

India finished 2nd on the medals tally at the recently concluded ISSF Junior Shooting World Championships 2023 in Changwon, South Korea.

Indian shooters bagged 17 medals, which include 6 Gold, 6 Silver, and 5 Bronze.

The championships saw 90 Indian shooters vie for medals in pistol, rifle, and shotgun competitions in the under-21 age category.

The majority of the medalists were Khelo India athletes. Seven Indians managed to bag more than one medal.

Abhinav Shaw and Kamaljeet won two golds each. Sainyam won three medals -- gold in the 10m air pistol women, and a bronze each in the 10m air pistol mixed team and women's team events.

338. National Refreshment Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय जलपान दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) Fourth Thursday of July / जुलाई का चौथा गुरुवार
- (b) Fourth Tuesday of July / जुलाई का चौथा मंगलवार
- (c) Fourth Monday of July / जुलाई का चौथा सोमवार
- (d) Fourth Wednesday of July / जुलाई का चौथा बुधवार
- (e) Fourth Friday of July / जुलाई का चौथा शुक्रवार

Ans. a

Sol. 27 July 2023 - National Refreshment Day

National Refreshment Day is observed every year on the fourth Thursday of July and this year celebrated on July 27.

The day draws our attention to the much-needed destressing activities we need to do for peace of mind and a healthy body.

National Refreshment Day was first commemorated in 2015 by Traveler Beers. The U.S.-based company was established in 2012.

The founders wanted to integrate European shandy flavors with American ones in order to bring a refreshing touch and look to the beer scene in America.

339. The government has extended the unemployment scheme, the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana, under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for a period of two years. In which year Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana was launched?

सरकार ने कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम के तहत बेरोजगारी योजना, अटल बीमित व्यक्ति कल्याण योजना को दो साल की अवधि के लिए बढ़ा दिया है। अटल बीमित व्यक्ति कल्याण योजना किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) 2015
- (b) 2016
- (c) 2017
- (d) 2018
- (e) 2020

Ans. d

Sol. Government extends Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana for two years

The government has extended the unemployment scheme, the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana, under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for a period of two years up to June 30, 2024.

It has been decided to extend the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana for the period 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2024 with the relaxed eligibility conditions and enhanced rate of relief. This is the third extension to the scheme with two extensions given each in 2020 and 2021 to financially support ESIC beneficiaries who had lost jobs during the pandemic. Launched in 2018 on a pilot basis for a period of two years, the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana provides relief in the form of cash compensation up to 90 days to the insured persons (IPs) under ESIC who have become unemployed. However, with the outbreak of Covid and subsequent lockdown, the government extended the unemployment scheme while also relaxing the eligibility criteria and enhancing the compensation amount.

The existing benefits under the scheme include enhanced rate of unemployment relief of 50% of wages as against 25% earlier along with relaxation in eligibility conditions which includes availing benefit after 30 days from date of unemployment.

As per the government data, 66,013 employees availed unemployment benefits under the scheme Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana (ABVKY) and an amount of Rs 87.83 crores were disbursed between July 1, 2018 and December 12, 2022.

340. The highly anticipated 43-day-long annual Machail Mata Yatra has begun in which state / UTs?

बहुप्रतीक्षित 43 दिवसीय वार्षिक मचैल माता यात्रा किस राज्य/केंद्र शासित प्रदेश में शुरू हुई है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Machail Mata Yatra begins in Kishtwa, Jammu

In Jammu and Kashmir, the highly anticipated 43-day-long annual Machail Mata Yatra begins in the Kishtwar district and it will conclude on the 5th September 2023.

The Yatra is the second most famous pilgrimage in the Jammu division, during which thousands of devotees from across the country visit the scenic Paddar valley, and pay obeisance at the holy shrine of goddess Durga in Machail village after trekking a 30 km arduous route.

Pilgrims from all around the region will embark on this sacred journey to seek blessings at the Machail Mata Temple. The Administration along with the other stakeholders have made elaborate arrangements for safe and smooth pilgrimage.

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341. Which state had the highest crime rate against people belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) community in 2021, according to the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data?

राष्ट्रीय अपराध रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो (NCRB) के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, 2021 में किस राज्य में अनुसूचित जाति (SC) समुदाय के लोगों के खिलाफ अपराध दर सबसे अधिक थी?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Madhya Pradesh has the highest crime rate against SCs

Madhya Pradesh had the highest crime rate against people belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) community in 2021, according to the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data.

In the same year, Kerala topped the list for crimes against individuals from the Scheduled Tribe (ST) community, the data shows.

Crimes against people belonging to the SC community

- In 2020 as well, MP had the highest crime rate against SCs, and in the previous year, it ranked second after Rajasthan.
- According to the NCRB data, MP had a crime rate of 63.6 against SCs in 2021, against the national average of 22.6.
- Rajasthan ranked second in crimes against people belonging to the SC community with a rate of 60.8.
- The crimes include all crimes/atrocities committed against SCs and not just those which was filed under the Prevention of Atrocities against SC/ST Act.
- In terms of the number of incidences or cases against the people belonging to the SC community, Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 9,492 cases, followed by Rajasthan (7,435) and MP (7,211).
- In this category, 45,610 cases were reported during the year under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The number of pending cases under the Act from the previous year stands at 17,146.

Crimes against people belonging to the ST community

- Kerala topped the list of the highest crime rate against people belong to the Scheduled Tribes (ST) community with a rate of 26.4, against a national average of 8.1. Rajasthan (22.7) was ranked second, followed by Madhya Pradesh (17.2).
- In terms of the number of incidences or cases against the people belonging to the ST community, MP topped the list with 2,627 cases, followed by Rajasthan (2,101) and Odisha (676).
- In this category, 8,475 cases were reported during the year under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. As many as 2,711 cases were pending under the Act from the previous year, the data shows.

342. Which state government has approved Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana, under which interest subvention on bank loans up to Rs 1 lakh will be provided to beneficiaries to purchase a scooter?

किस राज्य सरकार ने मिशन शक्ति स्कूटर योजना को मंजूरी दे दी है, जिसके तहत लाभार्थियों को स्कूटर खरीदने के लिए 1 लाख रुपये तक के बैंक ऋण पर ब्याज छूट प्रदान की जाएगी?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha cabinet approves Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana

Odisha Cabinet, led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, has approved Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana, under which interest subvention on bank loans up to Rs 1 lakh will be provided to beneficiaries to purchase a scooter.

Around 75,000 SHG community support staff and nearly 1,25,000 SHG federation leaders will be benefited under the new scheme.

The State government has made budgetary provision of Rs 528.55 crore for execution of the scheme over a period of next five years. The Cabinet has also approved a budget of Rs 1001.14 crore for expanding Comprehensive Cancer Services across the State with an objective to provide cancer care facilities nearer to the household of the patients.

The Cabinet decided to set up 11 Comprehensive Cancer Care Units within a period of 2 years in the state.

The Cabinet also approved a proposal to extend the Canal Lining and System Rehabilitation Programme (CLSRP) for a further period of five years.

About Odisha

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

342. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently inaugurated the new International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex in Delhi. What is the name of this complex?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने हाल ही में दिल्ली में नए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शनी-सह-सम्मेलन केंद्र (IECC) परिसर का उद्घाटन किया है। इस कॉम्प्लेक्स का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Bharat Ramanathapuram / भारत रामनाथपुरम
- (b) Bharat Podium / भारत पोज़ियम
- (c) Bharat Mandir / भारत मंदिर
- (d) Bharat Mandapam / भारत मंडपम
- (e) Bharat Convention Centre / भारत कन्वेंशन सेंटर

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates new ITPO complex 'Bharat Mandapam'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the new International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex 'Bharat Mandapam' in Delhi.

The International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex has been developed at a cost of about ₹2,700 crore.

With a campus area of approximately 123 acres, the IECC complex has been developed as India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) destination.

The newly developed IECC complex at Pragati Maidan comprises multiple state-of-the-art facilities including Convention Centre, Exhibition halls, amphitheatres etc.

It is a grand architectural marvel, designed to host large-scale international exhibitions, trade fairs, conventions, conferences, and other prestigious events.

It is equipped with multiple meeting rooms, lounges, auditoriums, an amphitheatre and a business centre, making it capable of hosting a wide range of events.

Its majestic multi-purpose hall and plenary hall have a combined capacity of seven thousand people, which is larger than the seating capacity of the famous Sydney Opera House in Australia. Its magnificent Amphitheatre is equipped with a seating capacity of 3,000 individuals.

The architectural design of the Convention Centre building is inspired by Indian traditions and showcases India's confidence and conviction in its past while also embracing modern facilities and way of life.

343. Which state government has increased the retirement age of government doctors from 62 years to 65 years to address the shortage of doctors?

किस राज्य सरकार ने डॉक्टरों की कमी को दूर करने के लिए सरकारी डॉक्टरों की सेवानिवृत्ति की आयु 62 वर्ष से बढ़ाकर 65 वर्ष कर दी है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. UP govt raised retirement age of doctors to 65 years

The Uttar Pradesh government has increased the retirement age of government doctors from 62 years to 65 years to address the shortage of doctors.

In January, a panel was set up to evaluate the proposal for increasing the retirement age from 62 to 65 years of age.

Currently, there are 14,000 doctors working across 19,000 sanctioned posts in the state.

More than a dozen doctors retire Every month, reducing the strength by at least 200 a year.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

344. Which state will host the world's biggest national male pageant "The Rubaru" Mr. India competition?

विश्व की सबसे बड़ी राष्ट्रीय पुरुष प्रतियोगिता "द रूबरू" मिस्टर इंडिया प्रतियोगिता की मेजबानी कौन सा राज्य करेगा?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Goa to host the world's biggest national male pageant

Goa will host the world's biggest national male pageant "The Rubaru" Mr. India competition.

It is the biggest and most respected competition for men in the world.

The candidates will undergo several preliminary activities like the formal wear round, the health and fitness round, & the individual interviews.

This renowned event will take place this August with the national finals taking place at the Bogmallo Beach Resort on August 5.

In the month of August, Goa will welcome 32 of the most handsome, charismatic and talented men from different parts of India for the 19th season of the Rubaru Mr. India competition.

The Chief Minister of Goa, Pramod Sawant, will be at the event as the chief guest.

About Goa

- **Formation** – 30 May 1987
- **Capital** – Panaji
- **Chief Minister** – Pramod Sawant
- **Governor** – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

345. Which bank has signed an MoU with Dvara KGFS to provide credit for micro-enterprises?

सूक्ष्म उद्यमों के लिए ऋण प्रदान करने के लिए किस बैंक ने द्वार केजीएफएस 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. HDFC Bank partners with Dvara KGFS for microloans

Chennai-based non-banking financial company Dvara KGFS has signed an MoU with private sector lender HDFC Bank to provide credit to micro-enterprises operating primarily in the unorganized sector facing challenges in accessing formal credit sources.

Dvara KGFS has entered into a co-lending partnership with HDFC Bank to provide business capital to micro business units operating primarily in rural areas and the unorganized sector across 10 States.

Dvara KGFS had launched its enterprise loan vertical in 2020, focusing on three value chains viz., grocery, dairy, and agri.

The company has assisted numerous beneficiaries with working capital and business growth loans, improving their livelihood generation capabilities and facilitating their inclusion in the Indian economy.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Ministry of Culture signs MoU with Canara Bank to provide financial assistance
- Max Life, DCB Bank join hands to offer insurance products
- IFSCA and Climate Policy Initiative sign MoU on Sustainable Finance
- Kotak Insurance partners with actyv.ai to provide insurance to MSMEs
- Manipal Technologies, Indian Bank joined hands to offer banking products

346. Which of the following bank has overtaken State Bank of India (SBI) to earn top spot on the list of 2023 CRISIL's Greenwich market share Leaders in Large Corporate Banking?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने बड़े कॉर्पोरेट बैंकिंग में 2023 CRISIL के ग्रीनविच मार्केट शेयर लीडर्स की सूची में शीर्ष स्थान अर्जित करने के लिए भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (SBI) को पीछे छोड़ दिया 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. d

Sol. HDFC Bank overtakes SBI in CRISIL's corporate banking ranking for 2023

India's largest private lender HDFC Bank has overtaken State Bank of India (SBI) to earn top spot on the list of 2023 CRISIL's Greenwich market share Leaders in Large Corporate Banking.

For middle market corporates, HDFC Bank again topped the list of 2023 Leaders among local banks, and joined ICICI Bank as the year's joint Greenwich Quality Leaders.

According to Coalition Greenwich many of the gains for large private sector and foreign banks came at the expense of the smaller banks.

Indian companies are joining forces with the country's largest banks to help fuel their drive to become bigger, more international and more.

About HDFC Bank

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

347. Who has been appointed as President and Chief Digital and Information Officer (CDIO) of Tata Motor?

टाटा मोटर के अध्यक्ष और मुख्य डिजिटल और सूचना अधिकारी (सीडीआईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Kannan / राजेश कन्नन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

Ans. a

Sol. Rajesh Kannan appoints as President of Tata Motors

Rajesh Kannan has been appointed as President and Chief Digital and Information Officer (CDIO) of Tata Motor.

Prior to joining Tata Motors Limited, he was working with Tata Consultancy Services Limited.

Kannan has 28 years of experience delivering transformative, end-to-end digital and IT engagements for global organizations across multiple sectors.

Recent Appointment

- **First female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh** - Tenzing Yangki
- **First woman to chair the Rajya Sabha** - Phangnon Konyak (Nagaland)
- **CEO and MD of Tata Steel** - T V Narendran (reappointment)
- **Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics** - A Madhavarao
- **Indian women's volleyball team new coach** - Ravindra Banshtu
- **1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history** - Lisa Franchetti

348. Who has won the Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023 for her novel Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens?

अपने उपन्यास चाय टाइम एट सिनामन गार्डन्स के लिए माइल्स फ्रैंकलिन लिटरेरी अवार्ड 2023 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Dalai Lama / दलाई लामा
- (b) Neeli Bendapudi / नीली बेंदापुडी
- (c) Raghu Ram Pillarisetti / रघु राम पिल्लरीसेट्टी
- (d) Shankari Chandran / शंकरी चंद्रन
- (e) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा

Ans. d

Sol. Shankari Chandran Wins Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023

Shankari Chandran has won the Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023 for her novel Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens.

The novel is set in the Cinnamon Gardens Nursing Home in the suburb of Westgrove, Sydney – populated with residents with colourful histories.

Ten years ago, her first novel was rejected by several Australian publishers for not being sufficiently “Australian”. It was published in 2017 in Sri Lanka with the title Song of the Sun God.

The Miles Franklin Literary Award is an annual prize given to “a novel which is of the highest literary merit and presents Australian life in any of its phases”.

Recent Awards

- **International Eni Award 2023** - Thalappil Pradeep (Professor of IIT Madras)
- **Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award in US** - Indian-American Dr. Ami Bera
- **Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023** - NTPC Ltd
- **Golden Peacock' Environment Management Award 2023** - Adani Transmission Limited
- **SKOCH Award** - Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission

349. Who has clinched Gold Medal in Men's individual 50-metre Pistol Event at ISSF Junior Shooting World Championship 2023 at Changwon Shooting Range, Korea?

कोरिया के चांगवॉन शूटिंग रेंज में ISSF जूनियर शूटिंग विश्व चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में पुरुषों की व्यक्तिगत 50 मीटर पिस्टल स्पर्धा में किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

- (a) Mairaj Ahmad Khan / मैराज अहमद खान
- (b) Ahmad Khan / अहमद खान
- (c) Kamaljeet / कमलजीत
- (d) Saurabh Chaudhary / सौरभ चौधरी
- (e) Manu Bhaker / मनु भाकर

Ans. c

Sol. Kamaljeet bagged two golds in Junior Shooting World Championships 2023

India's Kamaljeet clinched Gold Medal in Men's individual 50-metre Pistol Event at ISSF Junior Shooting World Championship 2023 at Changwon Shooting Range, Korea.

India went in with a strong contingent of 90 shooters in the tournament and bagged 17 medals including 6 Golds, 6 Silvers and 5 Bronzes.

Over 550 shooters from 44 countries participated in the Championships.

China stayed on top with 12 gold, nine silver, and seven bronze medals.

In the women's free pistol, Tiyaana Phogat won the silver, one point behind Khanna Aliyeva of Azerbaijan.

350. World Nature Conservation Day is recognized annually on which day?

विश्व प्रकृति संरक्षण दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (b) 29 July / 29 जुलाई
- (c) 30 July / 30 जुलाई
- (d) 26 July / 26 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. a

Sol. 28 July - World Nature Conservation Day

World Nature Conservation Day is recognized annually on 28 July.

The main purpose of celebrating this day is to create awareness among people about the importance of the natural environment and its resources.

Nature plays an essential role in supporting life on Earth, besides maintaining overall balance of the planet.

Reckless use of natural resources has raised an immediate need to adopt conservational measures and achieve sustainability.

351. World Hepatitis Day is celebrated every year on 28 July. What is the theme of World Hepatitis Day 2023?

विश्व हेपेटाइटिस दिवस हर साल 28 जुलाई को मनाया जाता है। विश्व हेपेटाइटिस दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Bringing hepatitis care closer to you
- (b) Hepatitis Can't Wait
- (c) Hepatitis-free future
- (d) We're not waiting
- (e) Invest in eliminating hepatitis

Ans. d

Sol. 28 July - World Hepatitis Day

World Hepatitis Day is celebrated every year on 28 July.

Objective - To raise awareness about the disease and make more people take tests and seek treatment for the same.

Theme 2023 - We're not waiting

Viral hepatitis is a silent killer that is responsible for numerous deaths every year. The problem is that the symptoms only appear once the disease is advanced.

In the Americas, nearly 80,000 new cases of hepatitis B and C arise each year but mostly go undetected which results in about 100,000 hepatitis-related deaths every single year.

Dr Baruch Samuel Blumberg, also known as Barry Blumberg, a physician, and geneticist, discovered the hepatitis B virus in 1967 and developed the first vaccine for hepatitis B and was awarded the Nobel Prize for the same. 28 July marks his birthday and has been chosen as World Hepatitis Day to honor his achievements and contributions.

In 2008, World Hepatitis Alliance in coordination with different patient groups declared May 19 as the first global World Hepatitis Day but later, a resolution was passed during World Health Assembly in 2010 to change the date to July 28 to commemorate the work of Dr Baruch Samuel Blumberg.

352. Which state's CM has become the second longest-serving chief minister in the country, replacing West Bengal's Jyoti Basu?

पश्चिम बंगाल के ज्योति बसु की जगह लेने के बाद किस राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री देश में दूसरे सबसे लंबे समय तक सेवा करने वाले मुख्यमंत्री बन गए हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Naveen Patnaik becomes 2nd longest-serving CM in India

Odisha's Naveen Patnaik has become the second longest-serving chief minister in the country, replacing West Bengal's Jyoti Basu. Former Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling still holds the record of being the longest-serving Chief Minister in the country.

He was the Chief Minister of the Himalayan state from December 12, 1994 till May 27, 2019 -- more than 24 years.

Mr Patnaik, the five-time chief minister of Odisha, took charge on March 5, 2000, and holds the post for 23 years and 138 days.

Mr Basu served as the chief minister of West Bengal from June 21, 1977 to November 5, 2000, which was 23 years and 137 days.

About Odisha

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

353. Who has launched a Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC) to promote the practices of resource efficiency and circular economy globally?

विश्व स्तर पर संसाधन दक्षता और सर्कुलर अर्थव्यवस्था की प्रथाओं को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किसने संसाधन दक्षता सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी इंडस्ट्री गठबंधन (RECEIC) लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (e) Bhupendar Yadav / भूपेन्द्र यादव

Ans. e

Sol. Bhupendar Yadav launched Circular Economy Industry Coalition

Union Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav has launched a Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC), conceptualized under India's G20 Presidency, to promote the practices of resource efficiency and circular economy globally.

The RECEIC would play a pivotal role in promoting alliances, encouraging technological cooperation and knowledge transfer, fostering innovation, and facilitating the exchange of insights to enhance access to finance.

The RECEIC is envisaged to be industry-driven and a self-sustaining initiative continuing to function even beyond India's G20 Presidency.

The mission of this coalition is to facilitate and foster greater company-to-company collaboration, build advanced capabilities across sectors and value chains, bring learnings from diverse and global experiences of the coalition members, and unlock on-ground private sector action to enhance resource efficiency and accelerate circular economy transition.

354. PM Narendra Modi has recently inaugurated how many Eklavya Model Residential Schools in Rajasthan?
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने हाल ही में राजस्थान में कितने एकलव्य मॉडल आवासीय विद्यालयों का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) 4
- (b) 5
- (c) 10
- (d) 12
- (e) 6

Ans. e

Sol. Prime Minister inaugurates Six EMRSs in Rajasthan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 6 Eklavya Model Residential Schools located in the districts of Udaipur (2), Banswara (2), Partapgarh (1) and Dungarpur (1) in Rajasthan.

2880 tribal students half of which will be girls will benefit with the construction of these schools.

In Rajasthan total 31 schools have been sanctioned for year 2022-23 and 8 schools previously in year 2013-14.

Each school has a capacity of 480 students of which 240 will be girls. These schools will have separate hostel for boys and girls, accommodation for staff, dining area and playground.

These schools are being constructed at cost of Rs 38 cr in plain areas and 48 cr in hilly areas.

About Rajasthan

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

355. India has signed a US\$ 295 million loan with ADB to upgrade the state highways of which state?

भारत ने किस राज्य के राज्य राजमार्गों को उन्नत करने के लिए ADB के साथ 295 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर के ऋण पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. d

Sol. ADB, India sign USD 295 million loan pact for Bihar

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Indian government on have signed an agreement for a USD 295 million loan to upgrade around 265-kilometer state highways with climate and disaster-resilient design and road safety elements in Bihar.

The project supports the Bihar government program to upgrade all state highways to standard two-lane widths and improve road safety.

The improved roads will enhance connectivity in some of Bihar's poorest rural districts and promote access to health and education facilities and markets to improve people's lives.

The project will also encourage women's participation by providing employment to female workers in construction works.

Since 2008, ADB has provided five loans totaling USD 1.63 billion to Bihar for the upgradation of about 1,696-kilometre state highways and the construction of a new bridge over the Ganga.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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

356. According to the SBI Research's Ecowrap Report 2023, India is expected to become the world's 3rd largest economy by which year, if it maintains its current rate of growth?

एसबीआई रिसर्च की इकोरैप रिपोर्ट 2023 के अनुसार, अगर भारत अपनी वर्तमान विकास दर को बरकरार रखता है, तो किस वर्ष तक दुनिया की तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की उम्मीद है?

- (a) 2026
- (b) 2027
- (c) 2028
- (d) 2029
- (e) 2030

Ans. b

Sol. India to become 3rd largest economy by 2027: SBI Research

India is expected to become the world's 3rd largest economy by 2027 if it maintains its current rate of growth, according to the SBI Research's Ecowrap Report 2023.

Earlier, SBI Research had expected India to become the third-largest economy in the world by 2029.

India is currently ranked third, a movement of seven places upward of what it was in 2014.

Interestingly, the incremental increase by India between 2022-2027, is expected to be more than the current size of Australia's economy at USD 1.8 trillion.

At this rate, India is likely to add USD 0.75 trillion in every two years, implying that India is all set to touch USD 20 trillion by 2047.

India's global share in GDP will cross 4 percent by 2027.

The share of India's GDP is now at 3.5 percent, as against 2.6 percent in 2014, and is likely to reach 4 percent in 2027.

Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh will cross USD 500 billion mark by 2027.

357. Which bank has recently launched an exclusive NR savings account scheme named "NRE Eve+ " specifically curated for NRI women?

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने विशेष रूप से एनआरआई महिलाओं के लिए "एनआरई ईव+" नामक एक विशेष एनआर बचत खाता योजना शुरू 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. a

Sol. Federal Bank launches NR savings accounts for NRI women

Federal Bank has launched an exclusive NR savings account scheme, specifically curated for NRI women.

This scheme, named NRE Eve+, is designed to cater to the unique financial needs of NRI women, offering a range of benefits tailored to enhance the financial journey of NRI women.

With NRE Eve+, account holders will enjoy complimentary access to international and domestic airport lounges, providing a seamless and luxurious travel experience.

The power-packed NRE Eve+ debit card unlocks a world of customized offers, including exclusive deals on beauty, healthcare, shopping, dining, travel, and entertainment, tailored to suit women's preferences.

Zero balance savings accounts are available for two children below 12 years of age. Complimentary insurance coverage is available up to ₹78 Lakh, including child education benefits, accidental death, hospital cash, and card protection.

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.
- MD & CEO- Shyam Srinivasan
- Executive Director - Shalini Warriar

358. Which of the following bank has partnered with IBM India Private Limited to create a Digital Business Platform?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने डिजिटल बिजनेस प्लेटफॉर्म बनाने के लिए आईबीएम इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के साथ साझेदारी की 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. c

Sol. Union Bank partners with IBM to co-create Digital Business platform

Union Bank of India has partnered with IBM India Private Limited to create a Digital Business Platform.

The platform aims to establish a Digital Bank with cutting-edge capabilities.

This strategic partnership signifies a significant milestone in the evolution of the bank and promises to revolutionize the way customers interact with their financial services.

The primary objective of this collaboration is to establish a state-of-the-art Digital Business Platform that caters to the ever-evolving needs of modern-day banking

By embracing the power of cutting-edge technology, Union Bank of India aims to provide its customers with seamless and efficient banking experiences.

This forward-thinking approach focuses on three key elements: omnichannel experiences, data-driven hyper-personalization, and a comprehensive financial services superstore.

Union Bank of India will embrace Open Banking capabilities, allowing seamless integration of services across partnerships. The bank aims to create a future-ready banking ecosystem.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- HDFC Bank partners with Dvara KGFS for microloans
- Ministry of Culture signs MoU with Canara Bank to provide financial assistance
- Max Life, DCB Bank join hands to offer insurance products
- IFSCA and Climate Policy Initiative sign MoU on Sustainable Finance
- Kotak Insurance partners with actyv.ai to provide insurance to MSMEs

359. Food delivery platform Swiggy has partnered with which bank to launch a co-branded credit card?

फूड डिलीवरी प्लेटफॉर्म स्विगी ने सह-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) Bandhan Bank / बंधन बैंक

Ans. d

Sol. HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with Swiggy

Food delivery platform Swiggy has partnered with HDFC Bank to launch a co-branded credit card.

The card offers 10% cashback on Swiggy spends and 5% cashback on shopping across various platforms.

The cashback will be credited in the form of Swiggy Money, redeemable across various Swiggy transactions.

The co-branded credit card is hosted on the Mastercard payment network. Cardholders will also enjoy World Tier Mastercard benefits such as free stay and dine, and complimentary loyalty memberships.

As a welcome benefit, cardholders will enjoy a complimentary 3-month Swiggy One membership.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- SBI to set up Trustee Company to manage **Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF)**.
- PhonePe launches **India's first Health Insurance platform**
- Simplifai launches **world-first generative AI tool for insurance**
- Bank of India inaugurates **IFSC Banking Unit** at GIFT City
- PNB launched the virtual branch, **PNB Metaverse**.

360. Who has been appointed as new CEO of Dentsu X India?

डेंटसु एक्स इंडिया के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Arvind Krishna / अरविन्द कृष्ण
- (b) James M. Whitehurst / जेम्स एम. व्हाइटहर्स्ट
- (c) Marc Ewing / मार्क इविंग
- (d) Jose Leon / जोस लियोन
- (e) Richard H Anderson / रिचर्ड एच एंडरसन

Ans. d

Sol. Dentsu X India appoints Jose Leon as CEO

Brand and marketing agency, Dentsu X, an agency of Dentsu Aegis Network India Private Limited, has appointed Jose Leon as its chief executive officer.

Leon has about 26 years of work experience and has helped brands build revenues across industries.

Prior to joining Dentsu X, he was the managing director at Publicis Groupe for over five years.

Divya Karani previously served as the CEO for Dentsu X for about a decade till 2021.

Recent Appointment

- **President & CDIO of Tata Motors** - Rajesh Kannan
- **First female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh** - Tenzing Yangki
- **First woman to chair the Rajya Sabha** - Phangnon Konyak (Nagaland)
- **CEO and MD of Tata Steel** - T V Narendran (reappointment)
- **Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics** - A Madhavarao

361. Who was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to journalism?

पत्रकारिता में उनके योगदान के लिए लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) K.K. Shailaja / के.के. शैलजा
- (e) Prem Prakash / प्रेम प्रकाश

Ans. e

Sol. Journalist Prem Prakash receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Renowned veteran journalist and Asian News International (ANI) founder Prem Prakash was honoured with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Global Education Mentor Awards program was organized at Ambedkar International Center in Delhi.

The award aims to foster collaboration and partnership among education stakeholders.

ANI chairman Prem Prakash has dedicated over 70 years in the world of journalism. Throughout his illustrious career, he has established new dimensions to journalism from time to time and emerged as a great inspiration to society.

The Global Education Mentor (GEM) Awards aims to celebrate the achievements of those who have dedicated their lives in improving education or its associated social sector and promoting innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

Recent Awards

- **Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023** - Shankari Chandran (for Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens)
- **International Eni Award 2023** - Thalappil Pradeep (Professor of IIT Madras)
- **Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award in US** - Indian-American Dr. Ami Bera
- **Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023** - NTPC Ltd
- **Golden Peacock' Environment Management Award 2023** - Adani Transmission Limited

362. The Byculla Railway station has been awarded by UNESCO after its successful restoration to its original glory. Byculla Railway station is located in which state?

बायकुला रेलवे स्टेशन को इसके मूल गौरव को सफलतापूर्वक बहाल करने के बाद यूनेस्को द्वारा सम्मानित किया गया है। बाइकुला रेलवे स्टेशन किस राज्य में स्थित है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Heritage Byculla Railway Station received the UNESCO award 2023

The Byculla Railway station, a heritage site on the Central line of the Mumbai Suburban Railway, has been awarded by UNESCO after its successful restoration to its original glory.

The 169-year-old Byculla railway station in Mumbai is one of the oldest railway stations in India still in use.

In fact, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS) also won the highest award of excellence in the UNESCO Asia Pacific awards 2022, for cultural heritage conservation last year.

The project, launched in July 2019 by Shaina NC, trustee of 'I Love Mumbai' and in memory of her father Nana Chudasama, aimed to revive the station's original architectural splendor.

263. Who has become the 83rd Grandmaster of India?

भारत के 83वें ग्रैंडमास्टर कौन बन गए हैं?

- (a) R Praggnanandhaa / आर प्रज्ञानानंद:
- (b) Aditya Samant / आदित्य सामंत
- (c) Alexandr Predke / एलेक्ज़ेंडर प्रेडके
- (d) Abhijeet Gupta / अभिजीत गुप्ता
- (e) Jaykumar Sammed / जयकुमार सम्मेद

Ans. b

Sol. Aditya Samant becomes India's 83rd Grandmaster

Aditya Samant became India's 83rd Grandmaster after earning his third GM norm at the Master Tournament (MTO) in the Biel International Chess Festival. The Maharashtra player had earned his first norm to become a grandmaster at the Abu Dhabi Masters last year in August. His second norm was achieved in December last year at the 3rd El Llobregat Open.

Aditya is the third Indian to achieve their final GM norm at the Biel Chess tournament. In 2021, Harshit Raja had earned his 3rd GM-norm in Biel while last year, Pranav Anand had done the same in Biel.

Telangana's Vuppala Praneeth had become the country's 82nd in May this year.

Recent Grand Masters of India (Chess)

- 82nd - Vuppala Praneeth (Telangana)
- 81st - Sayantan Das (West Bengal)
- 80th - Vignesh N R (Tamil Nadu)
- 79th - Pranesh M (Tamil Nadu)
- 78th - Koustav Chatterjee (West Bengal)
- 77th - Aditya Mittal (Maharashtra)
- 76th – Pranav Anand (Karnataka)
- 75th - V. Pranav (Tamil Nadu)

364. International Tiger Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाघ दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (b) 29 July / 29 जुलाई
- (c) 30 July / 30 जुलाई
- (d) 31 July / 31 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. b

Sol. 29 July - International Tiger Day

International Tiger Day is celebrated on July 29 every year.

The day marks the 13th International Tiger Day is celebrated worldwide to promote comprehensive efforts in safeguarding tigers and their natural habitats, fostering harmonious coexistence between humans and these magnificent creatures.

Tigers, listed as an endangered species in many regions worldwide, face numerous threats to their survival, including habitat loss and poaching.

International Tiger Day, or Global Tiger Day, was proposed for the first time in 2010 during the Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit in Russia.

Many countries agreed to join an agreement to safeguard tigers. Among these countries were thirteen tiger range countries including India, Russia, and China.

At the Saint Petersburg Summit, the countries committed to a resolution to double the number of tigers by 2022, which is also the Chinese year of the tiger. Since then, International Tiger Day has been celebrated every year.

365. World Day against Trafficking in Persons is observed every year on which day?

मानव तस्करी के विरुद्ध विश्व दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (b) 29 July / 29 जुलाई
- (c) 30 July / 30 जुलाई
- (d) 31 July / 31 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. b

Sol. 29 July - World Day against Trafficking in Persons

World Day against Trafficking in Persons is observed every year on 29 July.

Objective - To raise awareness about the ordeal of human trafficking victims and the ways to safeguard their rights.

Theme 2023 - Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind

Human trafficking is a criminal act that involves the exploitation of women, children, and men, forcing them into various forms of labor and sex work.

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has gathered data on approximately 225,000 trafficking victims detected worldwide since 2003.

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366. International Friendship Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मित्रता दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 28 July / 28 जुलाई
- (b) 29 July / 29 जुलाई
- (c) 30 July / 30 जुलाई
- (d) 31 July / 31 जुलाई
- (e) 27 July / 27 जुलाई

Ans. c

Sol. 30 July - International Friendship Day

International Friendship Day is observed every year on 30 July.

The day highlights the power of friendship in promoting peace, understanding, and unity among people and communities worldwide.

Theme 2023 - Sharing the human spirit through friendship

The concept of Friendship Day was first proposed in Paraguay in 1958. Since then, the day has evolved and gained recognition on a global scale.

The International Day of Friendship follows the proposal made by UNESCO. The initiative was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1997.

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367. Which of the following city has become the first Indian city to join World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF)?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर वर्ल्ड सिटीज़ कल्चर फोरम (WCCF) में शामिल होने वाला पहला भारतीय शहर बन गया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. a

Sol. Bengaluru becomes first Indian city to join World Cities Culture Forum

Bengaluru has become the first Indian city to become part of the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF)

It is a global network of cities that share research and intelligence and explores the role of culture in future prosperity.

The network currently has 40 cities spanning six continents.

Bengaluru became the 41st city to join the forum and the network currently includes 40 cities across six continents. The forum includes cities like New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, and Dubai.

The global consortium was founded in 2012 by Justine Simons OBE, London's Deputy Mayor for Culture & the Creative Industries.

368. NITI Aayog convened a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy in which city?

नीति आयोग ने वैश्विक अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए हरित और सतत विकास एजेंडा पर दो दिवसीय G20 सम्मेलन किस शहर में आयोजित किया?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. Green & Sustainable Growth Agenda for Global Economy begins in New Delhi

NITI Aayog convened a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy in New Delhi. The aim of this conference is to examine prospects and challenges for green and sustainable growth globally.

The first day of the workshop will focus on themes related to energy, climate, technology, policy, and reshaping global finance for sustainable growth.

The second day will discuss several themes related to multilateralism as well as adjustment, resilience, and inclusion in an uncertain world.

Around 40 leading thinkers will attend this conference.

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

- **3rd G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu (24 - 26 July 2023)
- **Labour & Employment Ministers Meeting** - Indore, Madhya Pradesh (21 July 2023)
- **4th Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting** - Goa (19 – 20 July 2023)
- **G20 Conference on Crime and Security** - Gurugram, Haryana (13 - 14 July 2023)
- **3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** - Kevadia, Gujarat (11 - 13 July 2023)

369. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Semicon India 2023 conclave in which state?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने किस राज्य में सेमीकॉन इंडिया 2023 कॉन्क्लेव का उद्घाटन किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates Semicon India 2023 conclave in Gujarat

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Semicon India 2023 conclave at Mahatma Mandir in Gujarat.

The three-day conclave is being organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to showcase India's semiconductor strategy and development in the field of Semiconductors.

The theme of the Conference is 'Catalysing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'.

The government has identified more than 300 educational institutes that will provide academic courses dedicated to the semiconductor sector to create skilled engineers.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi inaugurates **6 Eklavya Model Residential Schools** in Rajasthan
- PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate '**Semicon India 2023**' in Gandhinagar
- PM Modi inaugurates **New Integrated Terminal Building at Port Blair**
- PM Modi launches **development projects worth over 12,110 crore** in Varanasi
- PM inaugurates **Sai Hira Global Convention Centre** in Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh.

370. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched "Urea Gold"--a new variety of urea that is coated with sulphur in which state?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने किस राज्य में सल्फर से लेपित यूरिया की एक नई किस्म "यूरिया गोल्ड" लॉन्च की है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi launched "Urea Gold" in Rajasthan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched "Urea Gold"--a new variety of urea that is coated with sulphur in Rajasthan's Sikar.

A bag of urea, which is sold in India at Rs 266, is being sold at Rs 800 in Pakistan, Rs 720 in Bangladesh, Rs 2,100 in China, and Rs 3,000 in the US."

What is Urea Gold?

- It is a new variety of urea that is coated with sulphur, which is expected to address sulphur deficiencies in the soil.
- The application of sulphur-coated urea, known as Urea Gold, will address sulphur deficiencies in the soil.
- This "innovative fertiliser" is more economical and efficient than neem-coated urea, "ensuring improved nitrogen use efficiency, reduced consumption, and enhanced crop quality.
- Urea coated with sulphur helps in slow release of nitrogen, therefore increasing its availability and uptake.
- Urea Gold has added humic acid to enhance longevity of the fertiliser. It will substitute urea consumption and also reduce fertiliser use.
- It is said that 15 kg of Urea Gold is comparable to 20 kg of conventional urea.

371. Which state will set up India's first fisheries Atal Incubation Centre (AIC)?

कौन सा राज्य भारत का पहला मत्स्य पालन अटल इन्क्यूबेशन सेंटर (एआईसी) स्थापित करेगा?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Kerala to set up India's first fisheries Atal Incubation Centre

The Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (Kufos) has secured a grant of ₹10 crore from NITI Aayog to establish India's first Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) in fisheries at the University.

The AIC initiative is part of the Atal Innovation Mission, which seeks to encourage a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across various sectors in the country.

The AIC will foster collaborations between academia, industry, and the government, encouraging knowledge transfer and commercialization of research outcomes.

Kufos, under the guidance of Radhika Rajasree, professor and head of the Department of Fish Processing Technology, will spearhead the "transformative project as its principal investigator".

Kufos is a pioneering institution dedicated to excellence in education, research, and outreach in the field of fisheries and ocean studies. The university addresses critical challenges faced by marine ecosystems and fishing communities through innovative solutions.

NITI Ayog is the government of India's premier policy think tank and the grant given to Kufos is a significant boost to innovation and entrepreneurship.

372. India has signed five MoUs with which country for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in education, health, water facility, and IT?

भारत ने शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, जल सुविधा और आईटी में त्वरित प्रभाव परियोजनाओं (क्यूआईपी) के लिए किस देश के साथ पांच समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Laos / लाओस

Ans. e

Sol. India and Laos sign MOUs for five quick impact projects India has signed five MoUs with Laos for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in education, health, water facility, and IT. The MoUs were signed during the 3rd round of Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) held between India and Lao PDR in Vientiane. Both sides discussed ways to bolster cooperation in various domains, including agriculture, health, and trade ties. The next round of Foreign Office Consultations will be held in New Delhi.

- Capital- Vientiane
- Currency- Laotian Kip
- Official language- Lao
- Continent- Asia

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- India & Argentina signs MoU for bilateral exchange of young researchers
- India & Sri Lanka sign MoU on cooperation in field of renewable energy
- India & Singapore sign MoU to co-operate on public administration
- Union govt signs an MoU with Tanzania to set up IIT Madras campus
- Israel ties up with IIT-M to set up water technology centre

373. Union Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the "ULLAS" mobile application on the 3rd anniversary of NEP. What is the meaning of second "L" in "ULLAS"?

केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री, धर्मेंद्र प्रधान ने NEP की तीसरी वर्षगांठ पर "ULLAS" मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन लॉन्च किया है। "ULLAS" में दूसरे "L" का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Learning
- (b) Lesson
- (c) Lifelong
- (d) Library
- (e) Liberal

Ans. a

Sol. Dharmendra Pradhan launches ULLAS mobile app

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society) initiative's logo, slogan, and mobile application on the 3rd anniversary of NEP.

The app serves as a digital gateway for learners to engage in diverse learning resources through the DIKSHA portal of NCERT.

The ULLAS initiative focuses on promoting functional literacy, vocational skills, & digital literacy.

The newly-unveiled logo and slogan, "ULLAS: Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram", symbolize the campaign's enthusiasm and vigor in spreading knowledge and education to every corner of the country.

The initiative aims to ignite the flame of curiosity and continuous learning in each individual, fostering a culture of knowledge-sharing in communities across India.

374. Amazon India will open its first-ever floating store in which lake under the last point delivery programme 'I Have Space'?

अमेज़न इंडिया लास्ट पॉइंट डिलीवरी प्रोग्राम 'आई हैव स्पेस' के तहत किस झील में अपना पहला फ्लोटिंग स्टोर खोलेगा?

- (a) Wular Lake / वुलर झील
- (b) Dal Lake / डल झील
- (c) Lonar Lake / लोनार झील
- (d) Manasbal Lake / मानसबल झील
- (e) Chilika Lake / चिल्का झील

Ans. b

Sol. Amazon India to open first floating store in Dal Lake

As a part of the last point delivery programme 'I Have Space', Amazon India has announced to open its first-ever floating store in famous Dal Lake in Srinagar.

The store should be open in a houseboat and will provide deliveries to its customers every day in Srinagar.

Murtaza Khan Kashi, owner of houseboat Selec Town, will deliver packages every day to customers at the doorstep of their houseboats as part of the onboarding.

This will provide faster and more reliable deliveries to customers across Srinagar, opportunities for small businesses and strengthen Amazon's delivery network.

Launched in 2015, the 'I Have Space' programme has 28,000 neighbourhood and kirana partners in about 420 towns and cities in India.

It partners with local stores and small businesses for delivering products within a 2-4 kilometres radius.

375. Which of the following country has recently announced the successful elimination of Rubella?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने हाल ही में रूबेला के सफल उन्मूलन की घोषणा की है?

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) India / भारत

Ans. c

Sol. Bhutan announces successful elimination of Rubella

Bhutan has announced the successful elimination of rubella.

The World Health Organisation recognized Bhutan's efforts to tackle this highly contagious and potentially devastating disease. In the past 20 years, Bhutan's health workers have worked tirelessly and fought against rubella, also known as German Measles. This infectious disease poses a threat to those infected and also causes severe complications for pregnant women, resulting in irreversible birth defects in newborns.

About Bhutan

- Capital- Thimphu
- Currencies- Bhutanese Ngultrum, Indian Rupee
- Official language- Dzongkha
- Prime Minister - Lotay Tshering

376. Which payment company has launched an account for Indian exporters, the MoneySaver Export Account (MSEA)?
किस भुगतान कंपनी ने भारतीय निर्यातकों के लिए मनीसेवर एक्सपोर्ट अकाउंट (MSEA) खाता लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) GooglePay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) BHIM
- (e) Razorpay

Ans. e

Sol. Razorpay Launches Account To Save Exporters On Bank Transfers

Payment and banking company Razorpay has launched an account for Indian exporters, the MoneySaver Export Account (MSEA). With this product, Indian exporters will be now open a smart account in any country of their choice and receive payments locally via bank transfers on the Razorpay platform.

The initiative allows exporters to receive international bank transfers from 160 countries.

This will be India's first smart account to offer 50% savings on international bank transfers for exporters and help save them from high transfer costs, chargebacks and payment failures.

The account can be opened and accessed via the Razorpay dashboard without any additional paperwork. The account comes with a single-click electronic Foreign Inward Remittance Statement (FIRS), accessible directly from the Razorpay dashboard.

377. NS Vishwanathan has been appointed as the non-executive chairman of which bank for a three-year?

एनएस विश्वनाथन को तीन साल के लिए किस बैंक का गैर-कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष नियुक्त किया गया 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. NS Vishwanathan appointed as non-executive chairman of Axis Bank

Reserve Bank of India has granted approval for the appointment of NS Vishwanathan as the non-executive chairman of Axis Bank for a three-year term.

With a career spanning nearly four decades at the central bank, Vishwanathan joined the Reserve Bank of India in 1981 and retired in March 2020 as the deputy governor.

He showcased expertise in various areas, such as banking, and non-banking regulation, demonstrating extensive knowledge in central banking.

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

- **MD & CEO of SBI Cards & Payment Services** - Abhijit Chakravorty (replace Rama Mohan Rao Amara)
- **Chairperson of International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** - K. Rajaraman (replace Injeti Srinivas)
- **CEO of Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB)** - Krishna Mishra
- **MD & CEO of UK-based Lloyds Banking Group** - Sirisha Voruganti
- **Executive Director by RBI** - P Vasudevan

378. Which space agency has launched the world's largest private communications satellite 'Jupiter 3' using a Falcon Heavy rocket?

किस अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी ने फाल्कन हेवी रॉकेट का उपयोग करके दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा निजी संचार उपग्रह 'ज्यूपिटर 3' लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) NASA
- (c) JAXA
- (d) SpaceX
- (e) Blue Origin

Ans. d

Sol. SpaceX launches 'Jupiter 3', world's largest private communication satellite

SpaceX has launched the world's largest private communications satellite 'Jupiter 3' using a Falcon Heavy rocket from Launch Complex-39A of NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

The 'Jupiter 3' satellite, developed by Maxar Technologies in Palo Alto, California, holds the record as the largest commercial communications satellite ever built.

This upcoming launch marks the seventh mission of SpaceX's triple-booster rocket, the Falcon Heavy, which first attracted widespread attention during its debut in 2018.

JUPITER 3, also referred to as 'EcoStar XXIV', is a satellite of Hughes, an EchoStar company.

As the next-generation Ultra High Density Satellite (UHDS), it is designed to provide gigabytes of connectivity to customers across North and South America.

379. Who has won the prestigious Miles Franklin Literary Award for her novel, "Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens"?
अपने उपन्यास "चाई टाइम एट सिनामन गार्डन्स" के लिए प्रतिष्ठित माइल्स फ्रैंकलिन साहित्यिक पुरस्कार किसने जीता है?

- (a) Shankari Chandran / शंकरी चंद्रन
- (b) Neeli Bendapudi / नीली बेंदापुडी
- (c) Raghu Ram Pillarisetti / रघु राम पिल्लरीसेट्टी
- (d) Shanti Lakra / शांति लकड़ा
- (e) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा

Ans. a

Sol. Australian-Tamil lawyer Shankari Chandran has won literary award

Australian-Tamil lawyer Shankari Chandran has won the \$60,000 prestigious Miles Franklin Literary Award for her novel, "Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens".

The award was announced at a ceremony at The Ovolo Hotel in Sydney.

She grew up in suburban Canberra, in constant dialogue with herself about where she fitted in and the terms under which acceptance was granted.

Recent Awards

- **Lifetime Achievement Award** - Journalist Prem Prakash (Founder of ANI news agency)
- **Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023** - Shankari Chandran (for Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens)
- **International Eni Award 2023** - Thalappil Pradeep (Professor of IIT Madras)
- **Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award in US** - Indian-American Dr. Ami Bera
- **Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023** - NTPC Ltd

380. Syazrul Ezat Idrus has become the first cricketer to claim an elusive seven-wicket haul in the Men's T20 game against China. He belongs to which country?

सयाजरुल एज़ात इद्रस चीन के खिलाफ पुरुष टी20 मैच में सात विकेट लेने वाले पहले क्रिकेटर बन गए हैं। वह किस देश से सम्बंधित है?

- (a) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
- (b) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (c) Sudan / सूडान
- (d) Zimbabwe / जिम्बाब्वे
- (e) Myanmar / म्यांमार

Ans. b

Sol. Syazrul Ezat Idrus becomes first to claim elusive seven-wicket

Malaysia seamer Syazrul Ezat Idrus scripted history in ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Asia Regional Qualifier B tournament, becoming the first player to record a seven-wicket against China in a Men's T20 game.

The 32-year-old returned jaw-dropping figures of 7/8 in his four overs, a feat made even more remarkable by the fact that all seven of his victims were bowled.

Riding on his stellar showing with the ball, his team posted a comfortable 8-wicket victory at Bayuemas Oval

Nigerian Peter Aho held the previous record after returning figures of 6/5 against Sierra Leone in 2021.

India's Deepak Chahar claimed 6/7 against Bangladesh in 2019 in what remains the best figures in a men's T20 contest between cricket's Test-playing nations. Overall, 12 bowlers have claimed six-wicket hauls in men's T20I.

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