



# Best 300+ MCQs

**AUGUST 2023**

## Current Affairs PDF

**1. According to a research report by Standard Chartered Bank, the per capita income of India is likely to grow around 70% by which year?**

स्टैंडर्ड चार्टर्ड बैंक की एक शोध रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत की प्रति व्यक्ति आय किस वर्ष तक लगभग 70% बढ़ने की संभावना है?

- (a) 2027
- (b) 2028
- (c) 2030
- (d) 2035
- (e) 2047

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India's per capita income to jump 70% by 2030: Standard Chartered Bank

According to a research report by Standard Chartered Bank, the per capita income of India is likely to grow around 70% by 2030 and is expected to reach \$4,000 from current levels of \$2,450.

The boost in income will help the country to become a middle-income economy with a GDP of \$6 trillion and half of it will be coming from household consumption.

Since 2001, the per capita GDP grew from \$460 to \$1,413 in 2011 to \$2,150 in 2021.

The primary factor propelling significant economic growth will be external trade, which is anticipated to nearly double to \$2.1 trillion by 2030.

This substantial increase would be a remarkable jump from the \$1.2 trillion recorded in fiscal 2023 when the GDP stood at \$3.5 trillion.

The report assumes an annual nominal GDP growth of 10% going forward.

Telangana currently takes the top spot in the per capita income rankings with ₹2,75,443 (equivalent to \$3,360).

Following closely are Karnataka with ₹2,65,623, Tamil Nadu with ₹2,41,131, Kerala with ₹2,30,601, and Andhra Pradesh with ₹2,07,771.

## 2. Who has inaugurated the 20th annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region?

राष्ट्रमंडल संसदीय संघ, भारत क्षेत्र के 20वें वार्षिक सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (c) Om Birla / ओम बिरला
- (d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Om Birla inaugurates the 20th annual conference

Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla has inaugurated the 20th annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region.

The conference will focus on discussing natural disasters and management strategies, particularly concerning the northeast region.

He also highlighted the importance of regional cooperation and connectivity through the Act East policy, as it can lead to enhanced regional integration at economic, and social levels in the North East.

**3. According to the government report, India's tiger population is estimated to be 3,925 with an annual growth rate of how much percent?**

सरकारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में बाघों की आबादी कितने प्रतिशत की वार्षिक वृद्धि दर के साथ 3,925 होने का अनुमान है?

- (a) 6.1%
- (b) 6.2%
- (c) 6.3%
- (d) 6.4%
- (e) 6.0%

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** India's tiger population estimated to 3,925 with annual growth rate of 6.1%

India's tiger population is estimated to be 3,925 with an annual growth rate of 6.1% per annum.

This was revealed in a report released by Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ashwini Kumar on the occasion of Global Tiger Day.

Last year during the celebration of 50 years of the Project Tiger at Mysuru, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had declared the minimum tiger population of 3 thousand 167, which is the population estimated from the camera-trapped area.

Now the further analysis of data done by the Wildlife Institute of India, from both camera-trapped and non-camera-trapped tiger presence areas, suggested that the upper limit of the tiger population is estimated to be 3,925 and the average number is 3,682 tigers, reflecting a commendable annual growth rate of 6.1 percent per annum.

India currently harbors almost 75 percent of the world's wild tiger population.

The largest population of tigers is found to be in Madhya Pradesh followed by Karnataka, Uttarakhand.

**4. India has signed a US\$ 200 million loan with ADB to enhance urban services in which state?**

भारत ने किस राज्य में शहरी सेवाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए ADB के साथ 200 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर के ऋण पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India and ADB signed \$200 mn loan deal to enhance urban services

Govt of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing in Rajasthan.

The project will incorporate various innovative and climate-resilient solutions for expanding basic urban services and incorporate nature-based solutions to rehabilitate heritage structures besides piloting public-private partnerships in the state's water and sanitation sector to deepen private sector engagement.

A total of 1,451 km of water supply pipes, and 1,110 km of sewer pipes have been laid as part of the ongoing project, which was approved in September 2020, while 68,098 households have been connected to water services in selected secondary towns in the state.

The additional financing will help improve water supply systems in at least seven towns by converting groundwater sources to surface water, replacing about 700 km of leaking water pipes, installing 1,400 km of new water supply pipelines, and providing 77,000 households with water meter connections.

The amount will also help establish three new water treatment plants.

A new feature in ADB's support is the water facility development for urban resilience improvement and heritage-sensitive urban development in eight heritage.

**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)

**5. Who has become the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)?**

**यूएस इंटरनेशनल डेवलपमेंट फाइनेंस कॉर्पोरेशन (DFC) के उप मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी कौन बने हैं?**

- (a) Nisha Biswal / निशा बिस्वाल
- (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.** Nisha Biswal becomes Deputy CEO of US finance agency

The United States Senate confirmed Indian-American policy expert and businesswoman Nisha Desai Biswal as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).

Biswal has over 30 years of experience in US foreign policy and international development programs within the Executive Branch, Congress, and the private sector.

In her position as SVP at the Chamber of Commerce, she oversees the US India Business Council and US Bangladesh Business Council. She earlier served as Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs at the US Department of State from 2013 to 2017, overseeing the US-India strategic partnership and the launch of an annual US-India Strategic and Commercial Dialogue.

Biswal serves as the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid and is on both the Board of the National Democratic Institute and the US Institute of Peace International Advisory Council.

**Recent Appointments**

- **President's Export Council by US Prez.** - Shamina Singh (Indian-American businessman)
- **Deputy head of UNDP** - Xu Haoliang
- **First Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)** - Vishesh C. Chandiook
- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO** - Ritu Kalra (Indian-American origin)

**6. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Engineering Projects India Ltd (EPIL)?**

इंजीनियरिंग प्रोजेक्ट्स इंडिया लिमिटेड (EPIL) के अध्यक्ष और प्रबंध निदेशक (CMD) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Aryama Sundaram / आर्यमा सुंदरम
- (c) Shivendra Nath / शिवेंद्र नाथ
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Shivendra Nath appoints as CMD of EPIL

Shivendra Nath has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Engineering Projects India Ltd (EPIL).

EPIL is a public sector undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.

Currently, he holds the position of Senior General Manager at Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), which is also a PSU under the Department of Telecommunications.

**Recent Appointment**

- **CEO of Dentsu X India** - Jose Leon
- **President & CDIO of Tata Motors** - Rajesh Kannan
- **First female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh** - Tenzing Yangki
- **CEO and MD of Tata Steel** - T V Narendran (reappointment)
- **Chairman and MD of Bharat Dynamics** - A Madhavarao

**7. James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea was elected as the new chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Nairobi, Kenya. He is from which country?**

जेम्स फर्ग्यूसन 'जिम' स्केया को केन्या के नैरोबी में जलवायु परिवर्तन पर अंतर सरकारी पैनल (आईपीसीसी) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में चुना गया। वह किस देश से है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea elected new IPCC chairman in Nairobi

James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea of the United Kingdom was elected as the new chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Nairobi, Kenya.

Skea beat his nearest rival, Thelma Krug of Brazil, in a run-off. He won 90 votes while Krug won 69.

The election took place at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, where the IPCC is holding its 59th Session.

With nearly 40 years of experience and expertise in climate science, James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea will lead the IPCC through its seventh assessment cycle.

**8. Who has been appointed as the new director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)?**

**राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन और प्रत्यायन परिषद (NAAC) के नए निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** G. Kannabiran appointed as new director of NAAC

Prof Ganesan Kannabiran has been appointed as the new director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). He comes with a experience of over 30 years in the education sector, during which he served as a senior professor of Information Systems at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tiruchirappalli.

He has held various leadership positions, including the Dean of Research and Consultancy, and Director-in-Charge at NIT Trichy and NIT Puducherry.

Founding director of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Andhra Pradesh, from 2018 to 2023. During this time, he made significant contributions towards the implementation of the National Education Policy at the institute, and promoted the adoption of neighbouring villages.

**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)

**9. Maharashtra government has decided to give the first 'Udyog Ratna' award to which personality?**

**महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने किस शख्सियत को पहला 'उद्योग रत्न' पुरस्कार देने का फैसला किया है?**

- (a) Ratan Tata / रतन टाटा
- (b) Gautam Adani / गौतम अडानी
- (c) Mukesh Ambani / मुकेश अंबानी
- (d) Cyrus Mistry / साइरस मिस्त्री
- (e) Azim Premji / अजीम प्रेमजी

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Ratan Tata to get Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award

The Maharashtra government has decided to confer the first 'Udyog Ratna' award (Maharashtra Bhushan award) on veteran industrialist and chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata.

The award is the state's highest honor given to eminent individuals, has led the Maharashtra government to introduce Udyog Ratna Award from this year onward.

The first recipient of this award will be the renowned industrialist, Ratan Tata.

The award is a recognition of his outstanding achievements in the industrial sector.

The 'Udyog Ratna' award is a state-level award given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the industrial sector of Maharashtra.

**Recent Awards**

- **Miles Franklin Literary Award** - Australian-Tamil lawyer Shankari Chandran (for Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens)
- **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

**10. Who has clinched a gold medal in men's 50-meter rifle for India at FISU World University Games 2023 in Chengdu, China?**

**चेंगदू, चीन में FISU वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी गेम्स 2023 में भारत के लिए पुरुषों की 50 मीटर राइफल में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Anjum Moudgil / अंजुम मौदगिल
- (b) Saurabh Chaudhary / सौरभ चौधरी
- (c) Aishwarya Pratap / ऐश्वर्य प्रताप
- (d) Abhishek Verma / अभिषेक वर्मा
- (e) Sanjeev Rajput / संजीव राजपूत

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Shooter Aishwarya clinches gold medal at FISU World University Games 2023

Shooter Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar clinched a gold medal for India on the 2nd day of the FISU World University Games 2023 in Chengdu, China.

Olympian Tomar, competing in men's 50 meter rifle three positions, secured the top podium by scoring a total of 461.7 points in the final.

Earlier, the Indian men's 25-meter pistol rapid-fire team of Vijayveer Sidhu, Udhayveer Sidhu and Adarsh Singh claimed silver.

The Indian trio of Tomar, Sartaj Singh Tiwana and Surya Pratap Singh joined forces to secure Bronze in the men's 50 meter rifle 3 position team event.

The mixed compound archery team of Aman Saini and Pragati also clinched a Gold medal. Now, Indian archers have a Gold, a Silver and two Bronze medal.

**11. How many gold medals has won by India in the Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships 2023?**

**श्रीलंका एथलेटिक्स राष्ट्रीय चैपियनशिप 2023 में भारत ने कितने स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं?**

- (a) 14
- (b) 9
- (c) 4
- (d) 1
- (e) 28

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** India won 14 medals in Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships

Indian contingent finished their Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships with 14 medals including 9 gold, 4 silvers and 1 bronze. Indian athletes clinched six medals on the final day of the event at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo.

The Indian 4×400 meter mixed relay team of Amoj Jacob, Aishwarya Mishra, Muhammed Anas and Himanshi Malik won the first gold medal of the day.

The event also featured a second Indian relay team comprising Nihal Joel William, Subha Venkatesan, Mijo Chacko Kurian and Vithya Ramraj, who bagged the silver medal.

Amoj Jacob, an Asian Athletics Championships gold medallist, then teamed up with Muhammed Anas, Rajesh Ramesh and Muhammed Ajmal to secure the gold medal in the 4×400 meter men's relay event.

India's gold medalist javelin thrower Kishore Kumar Jena received the coveted Best Male Thrower trophy.

**12. Who has launched the book titled 'Dr APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die' in Rameshwaram?**

रामेश्वरम में 'डॉ एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम: मेमोरीज़ नेवर डाई' नामक पुस्तक का विमोचन 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 releases 'Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die' book

Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the book titled 'Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die' in Rameshwaram.

This book is an English translation of the Tamil book 'Ninaivugalukku Maranamillai'. Written by two people closest to A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, his niece Dr. Nazema Maraikayar and the distinguished ISRO scientist Dr. Y.S. Rajan, who was a close confidante of Kalam.

This is the story of how a small-town boy from Rameswaram ascended to the highest echelons of the Indian political world.

The book is about the history of Indian rocketry, science, technology and innovation, beautiful representation of Indian politics and administrative system and description of many incidents related to wishes and imagination of Dr. Kalam.

**Recent Book**

- **Raag Prakash** – Dr. Om Prakash Kaul (released by Himachal CM)
- **As the wheel turns** -Ranjit Pratap (released by M Venkaiah Naidu)
- **A Fool's Journey** - Sarika Bhardwaj
- **Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow** - Vinod Mankara
- **The Yoga Sutra for Children** - Roopa Pai

**13. Yorkshire Day is celebrated every year on which day?**

यॉर्कशायर दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 30 July / 22 जुलाई
- (b) 31 July / 23 जुलाई
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 1 August - Yorkshire Day

Yorkshire Day is an annual celebration that takes place on August 1st to honour the historic county of Yorkshire in England.

It's a day for Yorkshire residents and people with connections to the county to come together, showcase their pride in their Yorkshire heritage, and celebrate the region's rich history, culture, and traditions.

The concept of Yorkshire Day was first proposed in 1974 by the Yorkshire Ridings Society, a group dedicated to preserving and promoting the three historic ridings of Yorkshire - North, East, and West.

On this day in 1759, the Battle of Minden took place during the Seven Years' War. Soldiers from Yorkshire, known as the "White Rose County," played a crucial role in the battle, distinguishing themselves with valor and bravery. Thus, August 1st became the date to commemorate not only Yorkshire's historical contributions but also to foster unity among Yorkshire's communities

**14. National Mountain Climbing Day is observed every year on which day in the US?**

**अमेरिका में राष्ट्रीय पर्वतारोहण दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 30 July / 22 जुलाई
- (b) 31 July / 23 जुलाई
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 1 August - National Mountain Climbing Day

National Mountain Climbing Day is observed every year on 1 August in the United States.

The day was established to honour Bobby Matthews and his friend Josh Madigan.

On 1 August 2015, Mathews and Madigan had achieved the feat of successfully scaling all 46 peaks of the Adirondack Mountains in the state of New York.

They scaled the final of the 46 peaks — the White Face Mountain — on August 1. Later, in May 2016, they were formally inducted into the Adirondack 46er Club.

**15. World Wide Web Day is observed every year on which day?**

**वर्ल्ड वाइड वेब दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 30 July / 22 जुलाई
- (b) 31 July / 23 जुलाई
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 1 August - World Wide Web Day

World Wide Web Day is an annual observance that celebrates the birth of the World Wide Web and its impact on the world.

The World Wide Web, commonly referred to as the Web, was developed by British computer scientist Sir Tim Berners-Lee while he was working at CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research) in 1989.

He proposed the idea of a global hypertext system that would allow information to be shared and accessed over the Internet.

In March 1989, Berners-Lee submitted a proposal for a "distributed information system" to facilitate sharing and updating information among researchers at CERN.

The first web server, "httpd," and the first web browser, "WorldWideWeb" (later renamed Nexus), were created by Berners-Lee and his colleague Robert Cailliau in 1990.

On August 6, 1991, the world's first website went live. It was a simple page that explained the World Wide Web project and provided information about how to access and use it.

This website was hosted on Berners-Lee's NeXT computer, which also served as the world's first web server.

**16. Which state has recently approved the concept of a vertical university campus?**

**हाल ही में किस राज्य ने वर्टिकल यूनिवर्सिटी कैम्पस की अवधारणा को मंजूरी दी है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Mumbai -Thane to get India's First-Ever Vertical University Campus

The state of Maharashtra will approve setting up Vertical University Campus (VUC) in Mumbai and Thane due to less space available in the city thus becoming the first state in the country to approve such campuses.

This concept is adopted by the United States (US) and other Western countries as of now.

In the previous policy, a private university can be established on a minimum land of 25-acre in rural areas, 15-acre in district headquarters and 10-acre in regional headquarters, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) and Pune Metropolitan Region (PMR).

The idea of a vertical university campus was conceived to deal with the issue of land scarcity, which is common in major cities such as Mumbai and international metropolises like New York City, Washington DC and Tel Aviv, Israel.

No area of the building can be used for commercial purposes in any way. It should have a scope for further construction in case there is a rise in the number of students.

The classrooms shall be set up in accordance with University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) guidelines.

Of the total area, it requires 40% reserve space for the playground following the provisions of unified development control and promotion regulations (UDCPR) and development control promotion regulations (DCPR), 2034. Also, the building shall have a hostel facility for students or nearby the premises.

**17. Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani has inaugurated the G20 EMPOWER Summit in which city?**  
केंद्रीय महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्री स्मृति जुबिन ईरानी ने किस शहर में G20 EMPOWER शिखर सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Smriti Irani inaugurates the G20 EMPOWER Summit in Gandhinagar

Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani has inaugurated the G20 EMPOWER Summit in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The summit, organized around the theme- 'Women-Led Development: ensuring a Sustainable, inclusive, and equitable global economic growth', will witness the participation of delegates from across G20 nations, invited guest countries and international organizations in addition to many global experts, policymakers and stakeholders.

The inaugural session launched of key outcomes under the G20 EMPOWER agenda this year including the G20 EMPOWER Tech Equity Digital Inclusion Platform, the Best Practices Playbook, the KPI Dashboard, and the adoption of the G20 EMPOWER Communique 2023.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for EMPOWER which is the G20 Alliance for Empowerment and Progress of Women's Economic Progression.

It is a private sector-led initiative under the Sherpa Track that aims to accelerate women's leadership and empowerment in the private sector across G20 countries.

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

- **G20 Green & Sustainable Growth Agenda for Global Economy Meeting** - New Delhi (28 - 29 July 2023)
- **4th Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting** – Chennai, Tamil Nadu (26 – 28 July 2023)
- **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)

**18. The fifth edition of the World Coffee Conference (WCC) will take place from September 25 to 28 in which city?**

**विश्व कॉफी सम्मेलन (डब्ल्यूसीसी) का पांचवां संस्करण 25 से 28 सितंबर तक किस शहर में होगा?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** For the first time in Asia, World Coffee Conference to be held in Bengaluru

For the first time, World Coffee Conference (WCC) will take place in India in September.

The fifth edition of the global conference will take place from September 25 to 28 in Bengaluru.

This year, tennis player Rohan Bopanna will serve as the brand ambassador of the conference.

"Sustainability through Circular Economy and Regenerative Agriculture" is the central theme for the event.

Producers, curers, roasters, exporters, policymakers, and researchers from 80-plus countries would gather at WCC 2023.

The conference has been organised by the International Coffee Organization and the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The ICO was organized under the aegis of the United Nations. It came into existence in 1963.

It is the only inter-governmental organization for coffee and represents 93% of world coffee production and 63% of world consumption.

The organization works to strengthen the global coffee sector and promote its sustainable expansion in the market.

CEO and Secretary of Coffee Board of India - KG Jagadeesha

**19. How many loans have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) in Financial Year 2022-23?**  
वित्तीय वर्ष 2022-23 में प्रधान मंत्री मुद्रा योजना (पीएमएमवाई) के तहत कितने ऋण स्वीकृत किए गए हैं?

- (a) 7.25 crore
- (b) 17.23 crore
- (c) 6.23 crore
- (d) 16.25 crore
- (e) 10.25 crore

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Over 6.23 core loans sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana

Over 6 core 23 lakh loans have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) in Financial Year 2022-23.

The Union Minister for State for Finance, Dr. Bhagwat Kisanrao Karad, shared this information in a written reply during a Lok Sabha session.

The objective of PMMY is to provide access to institutional finance to new or existing micro units or enterprises up to 10 lakh rupees.

The complaints with regard to the implementation of PMMY are redressed in consultation with the respective Banks.

The complaints received at the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System are also being taken up with respective Banks for redressal within the prescribed timeline.

Mudra loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) can be availed of from a nearby branch office of a bank.

**20. Which university will launch an "Astrology OPD", where teachers and research students at the university's astrology department will check people's horoscopes for an hour every evening?**

कौन सा विश्वविद्यालय "ज्योतिष ओपीडी" शुरू करेगा, जहां विश्वविद्यालय के ज्योतिष विभाग के शिक्षक और शोध छात्र हर शाम एक घंटे के लिए लोगों की कुंडली की जांच करेंगे?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru University / जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय
- (b) Sampurnanand Sanskrit University / संपूर्णानंद संस्कृत 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.** "Astro-OPD" will be launched in Varanasi

The Sampurnanand Sanskrit University in Varanasi will launch an "Astrology OPD", where teachers and research students at the university's astrology department will check people's horoscopes for an hour every evening.

For the 'Astro-OPD', minister of state Ravindra Jaiswal has sanctioned ₹25 lakh from the MLA fund. An OPD is an acronym for outpatient department.

An OPD is an acronym for the outpatient department.

**21. Which of the following bank has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance?**

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने अपने तीसरे बुनियादी ढांचा बांड जारी करने के माध्यम से 7.54 प्रतिशत की कूपन दर पर 10,000 करोड़ रुपये जुटाए 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. a**

**Sol.** SBI raises 10,000 cr via 15-year Infrastructure bonds

State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance.

The proceeds will be directed towards bolstering long-term resources for funding critical infrastructure projects and supporting the affordable housing segment. The bank attracted bids of Rs 21,698 crores, a staggering 4.34 times the base issue size, indicating robust demand for these financial instruments.

The investors range from various sectors including provident funds, pension funds, insurance companies, mutual funds, corporates, etc.

Bidding for the 15-year tenor bonds took place on July 31.

**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

**22. How many lakh crore rupees GST has been collected in July 2023?**

**जुलाई 2023 में कितने लाख करोड़ रुपये का जीएसटी संग्रह हुआ है?**

- (a) 1,45,867 crore
- (b) 1,49,507 crore
- (c) 1,49,577 crore
- (d) 1,60,122 crore
- (e) 1,65,105 crore

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** GST collections cross ₹1.6-lakh cr mark for 5th time

According to the Ministry of Finance, the GST collection for the month of July was recorded at Rs 1,65,105 crore.

GST collection crossed the Rs 1.6 lakh crore mark for the fifth time since the inception of the goods and services tax.

The revenues for July are 11 per cent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year.

The government settled Rs 39,785 crore to CGST and Rs 33,188 crore to SGST from IGST. The total revenue of Centre and the states in July is Rs 69,558 crore for CGST and Rs 70,811 crore for the SGST, after regular settlement.

Of the gross GST of Rs 1.65 lakh crore collected in July, Rs 29,773 crore is CGST and Rs 37,623 crore is SGST. Rs 85,930 crore is IGST, including Rs 41,239 crore that was collected on import of goods, and cess is Rs 11,779 crore, including Rs 840 crore collected on import of goods.

GST revenue for the previous month stood at Rs 1,61,487 crore, which was an increase of 12 percent on-year. However, it was a marked dip from the record-high GST collection of Rs 1.87 lakh crore in April and a sizeable increase from the GST collection of Rs 1,57,090 crore in May.

**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
- June 2023 - 1,61,497 crore
- July 2023 - 1,65,105 crore

**23. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received the Lokmanya Tilak National Award on the 103rd death anniversary of which freedom fighter?**

**प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी को किस स्वतंत्रता सेनानी की 103वीं पुण्य तिथि पर लोकमान्य तिलक राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार मिला है?**

- (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak / बाल गंगाधर तिलक
- (b) Vinayak Damodar Savarkar / विनायक दामोदर सावरकर
- (c) Subhas Chandra Bose / सुभाष चंद्र बोस
- (d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel / सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल
- (e) Jyotirao Phule / ज्योतिराव फुले

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** PM Modi honored with Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received the Lokmanya Tilak National Award in Maharashtra's Pune, on the 103rd death anniversary of freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

The award, according to the organizers, honours his extraordinary leadership, which helped India move up the progress ladder.

PM Modi is the 41st recipient of this award.

Every year on 1st August, the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak, this award is bestowed upon individuals who have made remarkable and extraordinary contributions to the progress and development of the nation.

#### **Recent Awards**

- **Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award** - Ratan Tata
- **Miles Franklin Literary Award** - Australian-Tamil lawyer Shankari Chandran (Novel Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens)
- **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)

**24. Which country's cricketer Stuart Broad has recently announced his retirement from international cricket?**

**हाल ही में किस देश के क्रिकेटर स्टुअर्ट ब्रॉड ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा की है?**

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** England pacer Stuart Broad announced his retirement

England pacer Stuart Broad has announced his retirement from international cricket.

He sits fifth on the all-time list of wicket-takers and is one of only two fast bowlers to take over 600 wickets

He has also played in 167 test matches, 121 one-day internationals, and 56 international T20 games.

In Test cricket, he stands as the sole English player boasting two hat tricks to his credit.

#### **Recently Retired Players**

- Lahiru Thirimanne - International Cricket - Sri Lanka
- 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
- Kamran Akmal - All forms of professional cricket - Pakistan

**25. Who defeated Laura Siegemund to win a title in BNP Paribas Warsaw Open?**

बीएनपी परिबास वारसाँ ओपन में लौरा सीगमुंड को हराकर खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Karolína Muchová / करोलिना मुचोवा
- (b) Elena Rybakina / ऐलेना रयबकिना
- (c) Aryna Sabalenka / आर्यन सबलेंका
- (d) Iga Świątek / इगा स्वेटेक
- (e) Anna Kalinskaya / अन्ना कालिंस्काया

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Iga Swiatek defeats Laura Siegemund to win WTA Title

Poland's tennis sensation and world No. 1 Iga Swiatek claimed her fourth title of the season with a 6-0, 6-1 win defeating Laura Siegemund in the final of the BNP Paribas Warsaw Open. Swiatek won the match and added it to her 15th career title.

This season is turning out great for Swiatek as she already won Doha, Stuttgart, and Roland Garros.

**26. Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in which city?**

खेल मंत्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर ने किस शहर में एशियाई युवा और जूनियर भारोत्तोलन चैंपियनशिप 2023 का उद्घाटन किया है?

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Anurag Thakur inaugurates Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting 2023

Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Greater Noida.

The event is being held in India for the first time.

The international event will see the participation of more than 30 Indian weightlifters, including many Khelo India Athletes who in the past month alone gave India its best-ever performance at the Weightlifting Commonwealth Championships by winning 61 medals in total.

India is hosting this prestigious event where more than 15 nations from the Asian region, 200 athletes, and more than 50 technical staff and coaches are participating.

It will conclude on the 5th of August.

**27. Which of the following city will host India's first International Athletic Union's Ageas Federation Life Insurance 50 km World Championship on November 2023?**

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर नवंबर 2023 को भारत की पहली अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एथलेटिक यूनियन की एजेस फेडरेशन लाइफ इंश्योरेंस 50 किमी विश्व चैम्पियनशिप की मेजबानी करेगा?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Hyderabad to host India's first IAU 50 Km World Championships in November  
Hyderabad will host India's first International Athletic Union's Ageas  
Federation Life Insurance 50 km World championship on 5 November 2023.

The competition will feature four categories - men and women in individual and team events - besides the Master's segment.

The event will also see three other runs - 21.1 half marathon, 10K and 5K Runs organized by NEB Sports.

Top ultrarunners from the USA, Germany, Japan, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand, Australia, Great Britain, India, and other countries will participate.

Bengaluru also successfully hosted the IAU 100km Asia Oceania Championship in July 2023.

**28. Muslim Women's Rights Day is observed every year across the nation on which day?**

**मुस्लिम महिला अधिकार दिवस हर साल पूरे देश में किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 1 August - Muslim Women's Rights Day

Muslim Women's Rights Day is observed every year across the nation on 1 August to celebrate enactment of law against instant triple tala

Triple talaq is the practice prevalent in Muslim community that allows a husband to instantly divorce his wife simply by uttering 'talaq' (divorce) three times.

A law against triple talaq was introduced by the central government of India on 1 August 2019, making the practice a criminal offence.

The legislation is a part of the Protection of Rights on Marriage Act 2019, which outlaws instant triple talaq and protects the marriage rights of Muslim women.

**29. World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated every year from 1 to 7 August every year. What is the theme of World Breastfeeding Week 2023?**

**विश्व स्तनपान सप्ताह हर साल 1 से 7 अगस्त तक मनाया जाता है। विश्व स्तनपान सप्ताह 2023 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Step up for Breastfeeding - Educate and Support
- (b) Protect Breastfeeding: A Shared Responsibility
- (c) Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet!
- (d) Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding
- (e) Let's make breastfeeding and work, work!

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 1 - 7 August - World Breastfeeding Week 2023

World Breastfeeding Week is an annual event that takes place from 1-7 August every year.

Objective - To raise awareness and promote the importance of breastfeeding for the health and well-being of both infants and mothers.

Theme 2023 - Let's make breastfeeding and work, work!

Breast milk is considered the best food for newborns because of its many benefits, including the presence of antibodies that help protect babies from various common childhood diseases.

Despite its importance, current data from the World Health Organization (WHO) suggests that less than half of infants under 6 months of age are exclusively breastfed.

World Breastfeeding Week was established in 1992 under the initiative of the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA).

This annual week-long event is held in honour of the 1990 Innocence Proclamation.

**30. World Lung Cancer Day is observed every year on which day?**

**विश्व फेफड़े का कैंसर दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 1 August - World Lung Cancer Day

World Lung Cancer Day is observed every year on 1 August.

Objective - To raise awareness around the deadly disease and encourage more research on it to break the stigma around the disease.

The campaign for World Lung Cancer Day was recognized in the year 2012 though the momentum was set in the preceding years. The campaign was organised by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies in collaboration with the International Association for the study of Lung Cancer and the American College of Chest Physicians.

Since then, the awareness around lung cancer picked pace most of which centred around being aware of the cough that lasts for more than 3 weeks along with other symptoms of lung cancer.

**31. According to government data, 2.46 lakh farmers have benefited from the PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahabhiyan) scheme till June 2023. In which year PM Kusum scheme was launched?**

सरकारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार, जून 2023 तक 2.46 लाख किसानों को पीएम-कुसुम (प्रधानमंत्री किसान ऊर्जा सुरक्षा एवं उत्थान महाभियान) योजना से लाभ हुआ है। पीएम कुसुम योजना किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) 2017
- (b) 2018
- (c) 2019
- (d) 2020
- (e) 2021

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 2.46 lakh farmers have been benefitted from PM-KUSUM Scheme

The government has said that nearly 2.46 lakh farmers have benefitted from the PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan) Scheme till June 2023.

The scheme provides for the installation of solar pumps, solarization of existing grid-connected agricultural pumps and installation of grid-connected renewable power plants.

New and Renewable Energy Minister R. K. Singh said this in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha. He also said PM-KUSUM Scheme has been extended till 31st March 2026.

#### **About PM KUSUM**

- PM KUSUM Yojana or Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Surakshaevam Utthaan Mahabhiyan Yojana was launched by the government of India in March 2019.
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Surakshaevam Utthaan Mahabhiyan Yojana supports the farmers financially to install solar irrigation pumps for cultivation.
- Farmers will get a 60% subsidy to set up tubewells and pump sets individually.

**32. Which state has retained its tag of the 'tiger state' having accounted for 785 big cats, according to a census released on International Tiger Day by Corbett Tiger Reserve?**

कॉर्बेट टाइगर रिजर्व द्वारा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाघ दिवस पर जारी जनगणना के अनुसार, किस राज्य ने 785 बड़ी बिल्लियों की संख्या के साथ 'बाघ राज्य' का अपना टैग बरकरार रखा है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** With 785 big cats, Madhya Pradesh retains its spot as Tiger state

Madhya Pradesh has retained its tag of the 'tiger state' having accounted for 785 big cats, according to a census released on International Tiger Day by Corbett Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand.

The population of tigers increased by 49% in the state, which is the highest in India despite recording the maximum number of deaths. Between 2012 to 2022, 278 tiger deaths were reported in Madhya Pradesh.

In Madhya Pradesh, 563 tigers were found in six tiger reserves while 222 were found outside the protected areas. In 2018, Madhya Pradesh accounted for 526 tigers, only two more than Karnataka.

On International Tiger Day, with 165 tigers, the highest number of tigers was recorded in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve making it the fourth highest in India after Jim Corbet, Bandipur and Nagarhole.

**About Madhya Pradesh**

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

**33. India and which country will set up a governmental working group on sustainability with a focus on energy investments in biofuels in India?**

भारत और कौन सा देश भारत में जैव ईंधन में ऊर्जा निवेश पर ध्यान देने के साथ स्थिरता पर एक सरकारी कार्य समूह का गठन करेगा?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (d) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** India & Finland to set up sustainability working group

India and Finland to set up a governmental working group on sustainability, with a focus on energy investments in biofuels in India.

The group will be represented by the Ministries of Environment, Power & Renewable Energy, and NITI Aayog.

The focus of the grouping is to be on energy, given that Finland is pushing investments in biofuels and renewable energy in India.

Finland is also lending its expertise to India since New Delhi is planning to study the Nordic power grid.

India, which proposed the creation of this group, will be represented by the Ministries of Environment, Power and Renewable Energy and Natural Gas. NITI Aayog may also be a part of the group.

Finland's new Digitalization, Education, Sustainability, Innovation (DESI) partnership aims to develop smart grids and deepen cooperation on sustainability.

**About Finland**

- Capital- Helsinki
- Currency- Euro
- Prime Minister - Petteri Orpo

**34. The Think20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency concluded in which city?**

**भारत की G20 अध्यक्षता के तहत थिंक20 शिखर सम्मेलन किस शहर में संपन्न हुआ?**

- (a) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Mysuru / मैसूर
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Think20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency concluded in Mysuru

Observer Research Foundation (ORF) has organized Think20 Secretariat Summit under India's G20 Presidency in Mysuru.

Think20 is the official engagement group that serves as an 'ideas bank' for the multilateral grouping by bringing together think tanks and high-level experts to discuss policy issues

The three-day conference gathered distinguished members of the seven Think20 Task Forces and policy experts from around the world.

It provides an unparalleled opportunity to collectively showcase ideas and insights on the priorities of India's G20 Presidency, including issues such as lifestyle for sustainable development, macroeconomics and trade, women-led development, digital transformation, green transition, the global financial order, accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and reforming multilateralism.

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

- **G20 Empower Summit** - Gandhinagar, Gujarat (1 - 2 August 2023)
- **G20 Green & Sustainable Growth Agenda for Global Economy Meeting** - New Delhi (28 - 29 July 2023)
- **4th Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting** – Chennai, Tamil Nadu (26 – 28 July 2023)
- **3rd G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu (24 - 26 July 2023)
- **Labour & Employment Ministers Meeting** - Indore, Madhya Pradesh (21 July 2023)

**35. Who has launched India's first Indigenously developed, Affordable Next Generation Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scanner in New Delhi?**

नई दिल्ली में भारत का पहला स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित, किफायती अगली पीढ़ी का चुंबकीय अनुनाद इमेजिंग (एमआरआई) स्कैनर किसने लॉन्च किया है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Jitendra Singh launched India's First Magnetic Resonance Imaging Scanner

Union Minister of State Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh has launched India's first Indigenously developed, Affordable Next Generation Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scanner in New Delhi.

MRI is a type of scan that uses strong magnetic fields and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

It is an achievement for the National Biopharma Mission, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, and the Department of Biotechnology.

**36. Who has been named as a special agent in charge of the FBI's field office in Salt Lake City in the US state of Utah?**  
अमेरिकी राज्य यूटा के साल्ट लेक सिटी में एफबीआई के फील्ड कार्यालय के प्रभारी विशेष एजेंट के रूप में किसे नामित किया गया है?

- (a) Subby Subramaniam / सुब्बी सुब्रमण्यम
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Shohini Sinha / शोहिनी सिन्हा
- (e) Sonia Guajajara / सोनिया गुज्जारा

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Shohini Sinha named as special agent in FBI

An Indian-American Shohini Sinha, known for her work on counter-terrorism investigations, has been named as a special agent in charge of the FBI's field office in Salt Lake City in the US state of Utah.

Sinha, who most recently served as executive special assistant to the Director at FBI Headquarters in Washington DC was named the special agent in charge by FBI Director Christopher Wray.

Sinha joined the FBI as a special agent back in 2001. In recognition of her outstanding performance, she earned a promotion to supervisory special agent in 2009 and was transferred to the Counterterrorism Division in Washington, DC.

In 2021, Sinha's exceptional performance and leadership qualities were recognized once again when she was chosen to serve as the executive special assistant to the FBI Director in Washington.

**Recent Appointments of Persons of Indian Origin**

- **President's Export Council by US Prez.** - Shamina Singh (Indian-American businessman)
- **Deputy CEO of US Finance Agency** - Nisha Biswal (Indian-American)
- **Deputy head of UNDP** - Xu Haoliang
- **First Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)** - Vishesh C. Chandiook
- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO** - Ritu Kalra (Indian-American origin)

**37. The first joint training exercise "FALCON SHIELD-2023" will be conducted between which of the following two countries?**

**पहला संयुक्त प्रशिक्षण अभ्यास "फाल्कन शील्ड-2023" निम्नलिखित में से किन दो देशों के बीच आयोजित किया जाएगा?**

- (a) Saudi Arabia & Russia / सऊदी अरब और रूस
- (b) China & UAE / चीन और यूएई
- (c) Russia & China / रूस और चीन
- (d) UK & India / यूके और भारत
- (e) UAE and India / यूएई और भारतs

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** China & UAE air forces to conduct first joint training FALCON Shield-2023

The air forces of China and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will conduct their first joint training in China's Xinjiang in August 2023. The FALCON Shield-2023 training aims to deepen pragmatic exchanges and cooperation between the two militaries and enhance mutual understanding and trust.

The joint training between China and the UAE comes months after the latter signed up to buy several L-15 advanced training jets from China. In 2017, the UAE bought Blue Arrow 7 anti-tank missiles from China for use on its Wing Loong 2 fleet, the report said, citing the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

The UAE has also been planning to buy CR500 Golden Eagle helicopter drones made by Norinco, a Chinese state-owned defence contractor.

**Recent Exercise**

- **15th edition of Nomadic Elephant 2023 exercise** between India and Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- **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

**38. Who has been honored with Global Visionary Entrepreneur Award 2023 at the 6th Edition of South Asia Pacific Healthcare Summit & Business Award 2023?**

साउथ एशिया पैसिफिक हेल्थकेयर समिट एंड बिजनेस अवार्ड 2023 के छठे संस्करण में ग्लोबल विजनरी एंटरप्रेन्योर अवार्ड 2023 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Deepak Shenoy / दीपक शेनॉय
- (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.** Deepak Shenoy honored with Global Visionary Entrepreneur Award

Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd, India's fastest-growing research-driven Pharmaceutical API intermediates Contract Manufacturing Company, was awarded the most prestigious "Best Managed Pharmaceutical Sustainable Organizations 2023".

Dr. Deepak Shenoy (Managing Director, Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd) was as "Global Visionary Entrepreneur of the year 2023" at the 6th Edition of South Asia Pacific Healthcare Summit & Business Award 2023 organized by BrandsCouncil Ratings & Medilinks in Mumbai.

The event was organized by BrandsCouncil Ratings & Medilinks in Mumbai.

The awards were presented by India's first Mrs. World, Aditi Govitrikar.

**Recent Awards**

- **Best Managed Pharmaceutical Sustainable Organizations Award 2023**- Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd
- **Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023** - Narendra Modi (41st recipient)
- **Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award** - Ratan Tata
- **Miles Franklin Literary Award** - Australian-Tamil lawyer Shankari Chandran (Novel Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens)
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** - Journalist Prem Prakash (Founder of ANI news agency)

**39. Diego Godin has recently announced his retirement. He is related to which of the following sports?**

**डिएगो गोडिन ने हाल ही में अपनी सेवानिवृत्ति की घोषणा की है। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से संबंधित है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Diego Godin announced his retirement from football

Former Uruguay captain Diego Godin announced his retirement from professional football.

The announcement came after Velez Sarsfield's final Argentine league game of the season, a 1-0 loss to Huracan.

This marked the end of an illustrious career that spanned two decades and saw Godin make 627 professional appearances, score 38 goals, and win 10 titles.

His accolades include two Europa League trophies and three UEFA Super Cups, all won during his tenure as captain of Atletico Madrid. He participated in four World Cups and spent a significant part of his club career in Spain.

#### **Recently Retired Players**

- Stuart Broad - International Cricket - England
- Lahiru Thirimanne- International Cricket - Sri Lanka
- 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

**40. How many gold medals have won by India in World University Games in Chengdu, China?**

**चेंगदू, चीन में विश्व विश्वविद्यालय खेलों में भारत ने कितने स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं?**

- (a) 17
- (b) 9
- (c) 3
- (d) 5
- (e) 21

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** India bags 6 medals at World University Games

Indian shooters and archers bagged six medals including four golds at the World University Games in Chengdu, China.

Shooters Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Divyansh Singh Panwar and Arjun Babuta joined forces to outclass local favourites China to win the 10m air rifle men's team gold.

Aishwary also secured gold in the 10m air rifle men's individual event.

Avneet Kaur pipped USA's Alyssa Grace Sturgill in a thrilling shoot-off to clinch the compound women's individual gold.

Sangampreet Bisla and Aman Saini clinched the gold and bronze medals in the men's individual event.

India have won 17 medals, nine gold, three silver and five bronze, and are second in the tournament. Hosts China lead the standings with a haul of 21 medals.

### 41. Who has won the gold medal in the men's 61kg junior title at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships?

एशियाई युवा और जूनियर भारोत्तोलन चैंपियनशिप में पुरुषों के 61 किग्रा जूनियर खिताब में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Bajrang Punia / बजरंग पुनिया
- (b) KD Jadhav / केडी जाधव
- (c) Udey Chand / उदय चंद
- (d) Siddhanta Gogoi / सिद्धांत गोगोई
- (e) Alka Tomar / अलका तोम

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Siddhanta Gogoi crowned 61kg junior Asian champion

India's Siddhanta Gogoi clinched the men's 61kg junior title while Gyaneshwari Yadav and Koyel Bar secured silver medals in the women's 49kg event at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships.

The 19-year-old Siddhanta lifted 265kg (116kg+149kg) to give hosts India their first gold medal of the ongoing edition.

Another Phillippine lifter Jhodie Peralta won the gold 160kg (73 kg+87 kg).

**42. Which airline has collaborated with the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) to commemorate Aviation Security Culture Week, which will take place from 31st July to 5th August 2023?**

किस एयरलाइन ने विमानन सुरक्षा संस्कृति सप्ताह मनाने के लिए नागरिक उड्डयन सुरक्षा ब्यूरो (बीसीएस) के साथ सहयोग किया है, जो 31 जुलाई से 5 अगस्त 2023 तक होगा?

- (a) Akasa Air / अकासा एयर
- (b) SpiceJet / स्पाइसजेट
- (c) Vistara / विस्तारा
- (d) Go First / गो फर्स्ट
- (e) Indigo / इंडिगो

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** BCAS organized Aviation Security Culture Week

Akasa Air has collaborated with the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) to commemorate Aviation Security Culture Week, which will take place from 31st July to 5th August 2023.

This development aims to intensify security awareness and promote a positive security culture in aviation operations across the country.

The initiative is designed to encourage the industry to prioritize security practices and behaviors, emphasizing that security is a shared responsibility among all stakeholders.

The event's tagline, 'See it, Say it, and Secure it,' urges every individual to remain vigilant about their surroundings and promptly report any suspicious activities.

**43. National Watermelon Day is celebrated every year on which day?**

राष्ट्रीय तरबूज दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 3 August - National Watermelon Day

National Watermelon Day is celebrated every year on August 3.

On this day, people across the world celebrate the delicious and refreshing fruit that has a long history dating back to Ancient Egypt.

Cultivation of this fruit dates back to 2000 B.C., with the first watermelon harvest on record occurring approximately 5,000 years ago in Egypt.

Traces of watermelon and its seeds have been discovered on sites of the 12th Egyptian Dynasty, including in the tomb of King Tutankhamen.

Paintings of different types of watermelon have also been found in ancient Egyptian inscription.

Every part of the watermelon is edible, including the often-discarded rind, which packs a punch with its array of nutrients and health-promoting properties.

With its impressive water content of 92%, watermelon also provides a guilt-free indulgence for those seeking a refreshing treat while staying hydrated.

**44. Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day is observed every year on which day?**

**लौंग सिंड्रोम जागरूकता दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 3 August - Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day

Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day is observed every year on 3 August.

The day aims to spread awareness about the rare genetic disorder. Its emphasis is on action to gather community support.

CLOVES stands for Congenital Lipomatous Overgrowth, Vascular Malformations, Epidermal Nevis, Spinal/Skeletal Anomalies/Scoliosis syndrome, a very rare congenital disorder characterized by a combination of vascular, skin, spinal, and bone abnormalities.

It can vary significantly from one patient to another and is believed to be caused by mutations in a gene called PIK3CA.

At present, only about 200 cases have been identified worldwide. The observance encourages the general public to advocate for additional funding for rare disease research.

**45. Which ministry has launched the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)?**

**किस मंत्रालय ने नशीली दवाओं की मांग में कमी के लिए राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना (NAPDDR) शुरू की है?**

- (a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
- (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests / पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय
- (c) Ministry of Ayush / आयुष मंत्रालय
- (d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment / सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
- (e) Ministry of Jal Shakti (Water) / जल शक्ति मंत्रालय (जल)

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Ministry of Social Justice launched the NAPDDR

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR).

Objective: To reach out to the masses and spread awareness about substance use with a focus on higher educational Institutions, university campuses & schools.

NMBA was launched on 15th August 2020 by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and is being implemented in 372 identified most vulnerable districts.

**46. Which of the following state has launched the "Amrit Brikshya Andolan " web portal/mobile application?  
निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने "अमृत बृक्ष आंदोलन" वेब पोर्टल/मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन लॉन्च किया है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Assam CM launches 'Amrit Brikshya Andolan' app

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Department of Forest & Environment's Amrit Brikshya Andolan web portal/mobile application and the Wood-based Industry (WBI) registration web portal, along with the theme song for the Amrit Brikshya Andolan.

It is an initiative aimed at planting a total of 1 crore (10 million) commercially-viable saplings across the State by individuals from various walks of life on coming September 17.

Individuals who register on the 'Amrit Brikshya Andolan' app or portal and upload their geo-tagged photographs planting saplings will receive a reward of Rs 100 in their bank account, with an aim to encourage more people to participate in the tree plantation drive.

**About Assam**

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

**47. India's first beauty and lifestyle festival NYKAALAND will be held in which city in November 2023?**

**भारत का पहला सौंदर्य और जीवनशैली महोत्सव NYKAALAND नवंबर 2023 में किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** India's First Beauty and Lifestyle Festival NYKAALAND debuts In Mumbai

Omnichannel consumer tech company Nykaa has collaborated with Book My Show to give India its first beauty and lifestyle festival Nykaaland.

The two-day event will be held in Mumbai on November 5 and 6 at the Royal Western India Turf Club in Mahalaxmi Racecourse.

The inaugural beauty and lifestyle festival will see the participation of leading makeup brands, makeup artists, entrepreneurs, dermatologists, beauty experts, and content creators.

Owen Roncon, Chief of Business – Live Events, BookMyShow said, "Nykaaland will serve as a platform to celebrate diversity, inspire creativity, and redefine the way India indulges in the world of beauty. The debut edition of the festival will bring together a highly desirable, curated ensemble of unique events and experiences.

**48. Which of the following city is set to become the first city in the country to be septic tank-free and have toilets in 100% of households soon?**

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर जल्द ही सेप्टिक टैंक मुक्त और 100% घरों में शौचालय वाला देश का पहला शहर बनने जा रहा है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Navi Mumbai / नवी मुंबई

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Navi Mumbai to become country's first septic tank-free city

Navi Mumbai is set to become the first city in the country to be septic tank-free and have toilets in 100% of households soon.

The NMMC has laid a network of sewage drains all over the city with 7 state-of-the-art sewage treatment plants being set up with the help of Central government funds.

The treated water is being used by industries and watering gardens.

As per a survey done in 2015, as many as 5,744 families in the city defecated in the open. The NMMC has constructed 406 public toilets to eradicate the practice.

Toilets have provided 4,340 seats for the residents. Toilets in the households in slums are also being constructed.

**49. Which of the following has partnered with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A)'s startup incubator CIIE to support startups with meritorious ideas and technologies?**

निम्नलिखित में से किसने मेधावी विचारों और प्रौद्योगिकियों वाले स्टार्टअप का समर्थन करने के लिए भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थान अहमदाबाद (IIM-A) के स्टार्टअप इनक्यूबेटर CIIE के साथ साझेदारी की है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** SIDBI collaborated with CIIE at IIM Ahmedabad

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), the principal financial institution for MSMEs in the country has partnered with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A)'s startup incubator CIIE.

Through this tie-up, SIDBI will set up a SIDBI Accelerator Fund at the incubator with an initial corpus of Rs 20 crore.

Objective: To support startups with meritorious ideas and technologies important for India's goals for 2047 to become self-reliant.

The partnership is part of SIDBI's new initiative India of Tomorrow under which it collaborates with different incubators in the country to promote deep technologies and science-led innovation by enabling seed funding to startups in exchange for equity.

Startups in sectors such as deep tech, hardware/ product startups, energy, clean tech, pharmaceuticals, biotech, defence innovations, rural, social and industrial technologies, high-quality components, chips and others are supported.

Last month, SIDBI also launched the NBFC Growth Accelerator Program in collaboration with the Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME), a mass entrepreneurship enablement platform to handhold smaller NBFCs that have at least 60 percent of their exposure to MSMEs.

**50. The union government has recently launched which edition of the Vivad se Vishwas scheme for settling contractual disputes involving the government and government undertakings?**

केंद्र सरकार ने हाल ही में सरकार और सरकारी उपक्रमों से जुड़े संविदात्मक विवादों को निपटाने के लिए विवाद से विश्वास योजना का कौन सा संस्करण लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) 1st
- (b) 2nd
- (c) 3rd
- (d) 4th
- (e) 5th

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Government launched the scheme - Vivad se Vishwas-II

The government has launched the Vivad se Vishwas-2 scheme for settling contractual disputes involving the government and government undertakings.

The scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2023-24.

The scheme aims to resolve the government's contractual disputes with private parties, clear the backlog of litigation, and improve the ease of doing business.

The deadline for submitting claims under the scheme is 31 October 2023.

The scheme will apply to all domestic contractual disputes where one of the parties is either the Government of India or an organization operating under its control.

The central government is aiming to resolve approximately 500 cases, involving an estimated Rs 1 trillion, under this new voluntary settlement scheme.

The one-time settlement scheme will cover cases where the court order was passed by 30 April 2023, and the arbitral order was given by 30 January 2023.

**51. The Union government has launched Digital Crop Survey (DCS) in how many states on a pilot basis from Kharif 2023 for better sowing data collection?**

केंद्र सरकार ने बेहतर बुवाई डेटा संग्रह के लिए खरीफ 2023 से पायलट आधार पर कितने राज्यों में डिजिटल फसल सर्वेक्षण (डीसीएस) शुरू किया है?

- (a) 12
- (b) 10
- (c) 15
- (d) 18
- (e) 5

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Government launched pilot digital crop survey in 12 states

The Union government has launched Digital Crop Survey (DCS) in 12 states on a pilot basis from Kharif 2023 (summer-sown) season of this year for better sowing data collection.

DCS reference application has been developed as an open source, open standard, and interoperable public good.

The 12 states selected for the pilot on DCS are Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Assam.

The states have been selected based on the preparedness in respect of pre-requisite criteria for DCS i.e., geo-referencing of village map and digitized Record of Rights (RoR) with ownership extent.

The project aims to create a single and verified source of truth about the crop sown data which is useful for accurate crop area estimation and the development of various farmers-centric solutions.

**52. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to which state government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24?**

राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक (NABARD) ने 2023-24 के लिए ग्रामीण बुनियादी ढांचा विकास निधि (RIDF) के तहत किस राज्य सरकार को 1,974.07 करोड़ रुपये मंजूर किए हैं?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** NABARD sanctions Rs 1974 crore to Rajasthan govt. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to the Rajasthan government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24. Rs 930.44 crore has been sanctioned for three rural drinking water supply projects in Ajmer, Jalore, and Kota districts. Further, Rs 926.48 crore was sanctioned for the construction of 676 rural roads in the desert and tribal areas of the state. Earlier, Rs 117.15 crore had been sanctioned for the construction of 104 veterinary hospitals and 431 sub-centres in all districts of the state. Drinking water supply projects are expected to provide clean and potable water to 2.87 lakh households in 2,500 villages, whereas rural road projects will improve connectivity in 1,229 villages across 12 districts. NABARD is also supporting the state government in bringing 4.28 lakh hectares under micro-irrigation with a support of Rs 740 crore from the Micro Irrigation Fund.

**About National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**

- **Founded** - 12 July 1982
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - K V Shaji
- NABARD established on the recommendations of B. Sivaraman Committee

**53. Which bank has recently launched EXIM Current Account specially curated for customers involved in the import and export business?**

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने आयात और निर्यात व्यवसाय में शामिल ग्राहकों के लिए विशेष रूप से क्यूरेटेड EXIM चालू खाता लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** South Indian Bank launches SIB EXIM Current Account

South Indian Bank (SIB) has launched SIB EXIM Current Account specially curated for customers involved in the import and export business. The current account is available in two variants SIB EXIM Silver and SIB EXIM Gold with the required Quarterly Forex Throughput (QFT) of \$15,000 and \$50,000 respectively. SIB EXIM Current Account offers competitive rates in trade finance transactions, free and unlimited NEFT/RTGS transactions through digital channels, unlimited free cash withdrawals from any SIB branches, free cash deposit limit of up to 15 times of previous month AMB, free issuance of international debit card and a lot more transactional benefits to cater the needs of this segment. Earlier, the bank launched "SIB TF Online" a digital banking platform to facilitate trade finance transactions through corporate internet banking 24X7, in a safe and paperless manner.

Moreover, South Indian Bank is also authorized by RBI as an Agency Bank for collection of customs duty through the ICEGATE portal.

**About South Indian Bank**

- Founded - 1929
- Headquarters - Thrissur, Kerala
- Chairman - Salim Gangadharan
- MD & CEO - Murali Ramakrishnan
- Tagline - Experience Next Generation Banking.

**54. Who has been appointed as the Additional Director General of the Military Nursery Service (MNS)?**

सैन्य नर्सरी सेवा (एमएनएस) के अतिरिक्त महानिदेशक 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) Amita Rani / अमिता रानी

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Amita Rani appointed additional DG of Military Nurse Service

Major General Amita Rani has been appointed as the Additional Director General of the Military Nursery Service (MNS).

The General Officer is an alumnus of the College of Nursing, Army Hospital (R&R), Delhi. Prior to assuming the present appointment, she held the post of Brig MNS, HQ (NC)

The General Officer was commissioned into the Military Nursing Service in 1983.

In the past, she has held appointments such as DPM CH(EC) Kolkata, Principal Matron at 154 GH, MH Jalandhar, MH Allahabad and Command Hospital Air Force, Bangalore.

She has a Six Sigma Green Belt in Health care, and Quality Management from the National Health Care Academy, Singapore.

**55. Who has won the men's singles title for Hamburg European Open 2023?**

**हैम्बर्ग यूरोपियन ओपन 2023 का पुरुष एकल खिताब किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
- (b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
- (c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
- (d) Alexander Zverev / अलेक्जेंडर ज्वेरेव
- (e) Daniil Medvedev / डेनियल मेदवेदेव

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Alexander Zverev beats Laslo Djere in Hamburg European Open

Alexander Zverev won the Hamburg European Open for the first time by beating Laslo Djere 7-5, 6-3.

It's the 26-year-old Zverev's first title since winning in Turin, Italy, in November 2021 and he achieved it without dropping a set at his hometown tournament.

Dutch player Arantxa Rus won the women's title.

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**56. Assistance Dog Day is celebrated every year on which day?**

सहायता कुत्ता दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 1 August / 1 अगस्त
- (d) 2 August / 2 अगस्त
- (e) 3 August / 3 अगस्त

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** 4 August - Assistance Dog Day

Assistance Dog Day is celebrated every year on August 4.

Dogs are a man's best friend because of their loyalty and dedication, but assistant dogs take this to a whole new level.

Assistance Dog Day is also done to raise awareness and educate the public about how these specially trained dogs are helping so many people in the community.

The first guide dog team in the United States arrived in New York in 1928, led by Buddy, the seeing-eye dog, and his owner Morris Frank.

**57. International Beer Day is celebrated every on which day?**

**अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बीयर दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) First Friday of August /अगस्त का पहला शुक्रवार
- (b) First Saturday of August /अगस्त का पहला शनिवार
- (c) First Monday of August /अगस्त का पहला सोमवार
- (d) First Sunday of August /अगस्त का पहला रविवार
- (e) First Tuesday of August / अगस्त का पहला मंगलवार

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** 4 August 2023 - International Beer Day

International Beer Day is celebrated on the first Friday in August and this year, the occasion falls on August 4.

The day is celebrated to try, enjoy, and explore the different types of beer available in the world.

Celebrating International Beer Day is an opportunity for beer lovers to gather and spend some quality time with friends, family, and colleagues over a glass of beer.

The history of International Beer Day dates back to 2007, during which a group of friends held a beer event in Santa Cruz and since then, the day is observed on global level.

**58. Vakkom Purushothaman passed away recently at the age of 96. Who was he?**

**वक्कोम पुरूषोत्तमन का हाल ही में 96 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?**

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Actor / अभिनेता
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Film Director / फिल्म निर्देशक

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Congress leader and former Speaker Vakkom Purushothaman passes away

Veteran Congress leader and former Mizoram Governor Vakkom Purushothaman passed away at the age of 96.

The veteran leader was elected to the Kerala Assembly five times from Attingal assembly constituency and became a minister thrice, handling portfolios like agriculture, health and tourism.

He was the longest-served Speaker of the Kerala assembly, from 1982 to 1984 and again from 2001 to 2004.

He was also elected twice to the Lok Sabha from Alappuzha constituency and served from 1984 to 1991. Purushothaman served as the 6th Lieutenant Governor of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands from 1993 to 1996, the Governor of Mizoram from 2011 to 2014 and Governor of Tripura for two months in 2014.

**59. President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated 'Unmesha' – International Literature Festival and 'Utkarsh' – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts in which state?**

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने किस राज्य में 'उन्मेशा' - अंतर्राष्ट्रीय साहित्य महोत्सव और 'उत्कर्ष' - लोक और जनजातीय प्रदर्शन कला महोत्सव 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.** President of India inaugurated 'UNMESHA' and 'UTKARSH' festivals in Bhopal

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated 'Unmesha' – International Literature Festival and 'Utkarsh' – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Culture Department Madhya Pradesh along with Sangeet Natak Akademi and Sahitya Akademi of the Ministry of Culture is organizing this event from 3rd to 5th August.

The international literature festival Unmesh is Asia's largest literary convention.

15 countries will participate in the Unmesh festival.

Literature gave strength to the ideals of our freedom struggle. In every corner of the country, many writers gave expression to the ideals of freedom and renaissance.

Novels, stories, poems and plays written in the period of Indian renaissance and freedom struggle are popular even today, and they have a wide influence on our minds.

**60. Which of the following has launched 'Rajmargyatra,' to enhance the highway user experience?**

**निम्नलिखित में से किसने राजमार्ग उपयोगकर्ता अनुभव को बढ़ाने के लिए 'राजमार्गयात्रा' लॉन्च की है?**

- (a) National Highways Authority of India / भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण
- (b) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways / सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय
- (c) National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited / राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग एवं अवसंरचना विकास निगम लिमिटेड
- (d) Larsen & Toubro / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो
- (e) Border Roads Organisation / सीमा सड़क संगठन

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** NHAI launches mobile app 'Rajmargyatra' for national highway users

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched 'Rajmargyatra,' to enhance the highway user experience.

A unified mobile application aimed at providing comprehensive information and efficient complaint redressal for national highway users.

The app offers real-time weather conditions, timely broadcast notifications, and details about nearby toll plazas, petrol pumps, hospitals, hotels, and other essential services, ensuring a seamless and safe journey on National Highways.

Users can report highway-related issues and attach geo-tagged videos or photos for clarity.

Complaints will be handled promptly, with system-generated escalations to higher authorities in case of delays. Users can track the status of their grievances for transparency.

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**61. Taiwanese electronics contract manufacturer Foxconn has signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with which state government for two projects with an estimated investment outlay of ₹5,000 crore?**

ताइवानी इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स अनुबंध निर्माता फॉक्सकॉन ने ₹5,000 करोड़ के अनुमानित निवेश परिव्यय वाली दो परियोजनाओं के लिए किस राज्य सरकार के साथ एक आशय पत्र (एलओआई) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Karnataka govt, Foxconn sign Letter of Intent with Rs 5000 cr investment

Taiwanese electronics contract manufacturer Foxconn has signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the government of Karnataka for two projects with an estimated investment outlay of ₹5,000 crore, expected to generate 13,000 jobs.

These projects are in addition to the iPhone end assembly plant, which the company has planned to set up at Devanahalli with an investment of about ₹14,000 crore.

The intended projects include a phone enclosure project for which Foxconn Industrialist Internet (FII), a Foxconn subsidiary will invest ₹3,000 crore and is estimated to create 12,000 jobs.

The phone enclosure unit will manufacture subassembly components for smartphones, specifically mechanical enclosures of iPhones. FII is currently evaluating suitable land parcels in and around Bengaluru.

Additionally, Foxconn will invest ₹2,000 crore for a semiconductor equipment manufacturing project. The project will be taken up in collaboration with Applied Materials and is expected to generate 1,000 jobs.

The location for this project is likely to be finalized at the Haraluru Muddenahalli - Hi-Tech Aerospace and Defence Park-Phase II in Bengaluru Rural district, where Foxconn has sought a 35-acre plot.

#### **About Karnataka**

- **Capital** – Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** –Siddaramaiah
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - DK Shivakumar
- **Governor** – Thawar Chand Gehlot

#### **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
- Meghalaya signed MoU with NIOS to facilitate the return of dropouts to educational institutions.

**62. Which state government has recently signed an MoU with the Badminton Association of India to set up the National Centre of Excellence for Badminton in the state?**

हाल ही में किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में बैडमिंटन के लिए राष्ट्रीय उत्कृष्टता केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए भारतीय बैडमिंटन संघ के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Assam govt to set up National Centre of Excellence for Badminton

Assam government has signed an MoU with the Badminton Association of India to set up the National Centre of Excellence for Badminton in the state.

The MoU for the centre will be signed between the Assam government and the Badminton Association of India for 25 years, subject to renewal for a further 10 years.

The centre will have world-class facilities to nurture and harness the potential of young badminton players across India.

To ensure effective management and administration of the center, a supervisory committee comprising five members will be formed. This committee will be responsible for overseeing the functioning of the center and its activities.

**About Assam**

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

**63. Who has been appointed as President of Qualcomm India?**

**क्वालकॉम इंडिया के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Savi Soin / सवि सोइन
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Qualcomm India appoints Savi Soin as President

The leading smartphone processor manufacturer, Qualcomm appointed Savi Soin as the President of Qualcomm India.

He will be responsible for guiding the company's strategy in the Indian market.

Savi Soin, who has been with Qualcomm for more than two decades, previously served as the head of strategy and business development at Qualcomm Technologies' semiconductor division.

He will replace Rajen Vagadia.

**Recent Appointment**

- **Additional DG of Military Nurse Service** - Amita Rani
- **Director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** - Prof Ganesan Kannabiran
- **Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** - James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea (UK)
- **CEO of Dentsu X India** - Jose Leon
- **President & CDIO of Tata Motors** - Rajesh Kannan

**64. Who among the following current Cabinet Secretary of India?**

**निम्नलिखित में से भारत के वर्तमान कैबिनेट सचिव कौन हैं?**

- (a) Tushar Mehta / तुषार मेहता
- (b) Rajiv Gauba / राजीव गौबा
- (c) Rajiv Mehrishi / राजीव महर्षि
- (d) Ajay Kumar Bhalla / अजय कुमार भल्ला
- (e) Pramod Kumar Mishra / प्रमोद कुमार मिश्रा

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba gets one-year extension

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved extension in service to Rajiv Gauba as Cabinet Secretary for a further period of one year in relaxation of AIS (DCRB) Rules, 1958 and Rule 56(d) of the Fundamental Rules."

Before Rajiv Gauba, BD Pande had been the longest serving cabinet secretary from November 2, 1972, to March 31, 1977.

Rajiv Gauba, a 1982-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Jharkhand cadre and a former Union home secretary, assumed the country's top bureaucratic post in 2019, and his tenure was initially set for two years.

Subsequently, he received extensions twice, first in 2021 and then in August of the following year.

Rajiv Gauba is credited as the primary architect of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019. This act led to the division of the erstwhile state into two union territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, following the abrogation of the special status accorded to the region under Article 370 of the Constitution.

**Other Appointment**

- Secretary of Department of School Education - Sanjay Kumar
- Secretary in Ministry of Road Transport and Highways - Anurag Jain
- Corporate Affairs Secretary- Manoj Govil
- Revenue Secretary - Sanjay Malhotra
- National Security Advisors - Ajit Doval
- Principal Secretary to PM - Pramod Kumar Mishra

**65. Who will be honoured with Diversity in Cinema Award at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM)?**

मेलबर्न के भारतीय फिल्म महोत्सव (आईएफएफएम) में सिनेमा में विविधता पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Rashmika Mandanna / रश्मिका मंदाना
- (b) Diana Penty / डायना पेंटी
- (c) Tamanna Bhatia / तमन्ना भाटिया
- (d) Rashi Khanna / राशि खन्ना
- (e) Mrunal Thakur / मृणाल ठाकुर

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Mrunal Thakur to be Honoured with Diversity in Cinema Award at IFFM

Actor Mrunal Thakur will be honoured with Diversity in Cinema Award at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM).

The "Sita Ramam" star will be honoured with the award in recognition of "her outstanding performances across diverse roles and languages in the world of Indian cinema.

The actor, who made her film with "Love Sonia", and then featured in movies such "Super 30", "Toofan", "Jersey", will receive the award during the annual gala night on August 11 in the Australian city.

The 14th edition of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne will run from August 11 to 20.

**Recent Awards**

- **Global Visionary Entrepreneur Award** - Deepak Shenoy (MD of Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd)
- **Best Managed Pharmaceutical Sustainable Organizations Award 2023**- Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd
- **Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023** - Narendra Modi (41st recipient)
- **Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award** - Ratan Tata
- **Miles Franklin Literary Award** - Australian-Tamil lawyer Shankari Chandran (Novel Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens)

**66. Which company has handed over the first Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker of Akash - the Next Generation Weapon System to Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)?**

किस कंपनी ने आकाश की पहली रेडियो फ्रीक्वेंसी (आरएफ) सीकर - अगली पीढ़ी की हथियार प्रणाली रक्षा अनुसंधान और विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) को सौंप दी है?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited / भारत हेवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड
- (c) Bharat Dynamics Limited / भारत डायनेमिक्स लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Bharat Dynamics Limited hands over first Radio Frequency to DRDO

The Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has handed over the first Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker of Akash - the Next Generation Weapon System to Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

Seeker is a critical and technology-intensive subsystem used in Surface-to-Air Missiles and Air-to-Air Missiles for target tracking in the terminal phase.

The RF Seeker has been designed by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat, and produced by BDL at its state-of-the-art Seeker Facility Centre set up at BDL, Kanchanbagh Unit in Hyderabad.

The establishment of the Seeker Facility Centre at BDL has enabled India to achieve self-reliance in the field of RF seeker production and contribute greatly towards realizing the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Chairman and Managing Director of BDL - A Madhavarao

**67. Which edition of the Malabar River Festival opens at Thusharagiri in Kozhikode, Kerala?**

मालाबार नदी महोत्सव का कौन सा संस्करण केरल के कोझिकोड में तुषारागिरी में शुरू हुआ है

- (a) 8th
- (b) 9th
- (c) 10th
- (d) 11th
- (e) 12th

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** 9th edition of Malabar River Festival opens in Kerala

The ninth edition of the Malabar River Festival opens at Thusharagiri in Kozhikode, Kerala.

The three-day event, organised by the Kerala Adventure Tourism Promotion Society and the Kozhikode District Tourism Promotion Council will be held at Iruvanjhipuzha and Chalipuzha rivers at Thusharagiri.

Besides Indian Kayakers, paddlers from ten countries including the US, UK, Israel, Kazakhstan, and South Africa are participating in the event.

The competition will be held in Kayak Slalom, Boardercross, and Down River events. The National Whitewater Kayaking Championship will also be held as part of the Malabar River Festival this year.

**About Kerala**

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

**68. Bengal veteran Manoj Tiwary has announced her retirement. He was related to which sport?**

**बंगाल के दिग्गज खिलाड़ी मनोज तिवारी ने संन्यास की घोषणा कर दी है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित थे?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Manoj Tiwary announces retirement from all forms of cricket

India middle-order batter and Bengal veteran Manoj Tiwary announced her retirement from all forms of cricket.

The 37-year-old, who last played for India in 2015, was playing domestic cricket as recently as February 2023.

The highly-talented West Bengal batter led Bengal in Ranji Trophy and the team made it to the final as well.

Manoj Tiwary played 12 ODIs and 3 T20Is for India between 2008 and 2015. He scored a hundred in the 50-over format of the game at the highest level.

Tiwary made his international debut against Australia in the 2007–08 Commonwealth Bank Series.

#### **Recently Retired Players**

- Diego Godin - Professional Football - Uruguay
- Stuart Broad - International Cricket - England
- Lahiru Thirimanne- International Cricket - Sri Lanka
- Nahida Khan - International Cricket - Pakistan
- Shabnim Ismail - International Cricket - South Africa
- Gary Ballance - All forms of cricket - England

**69. The Indian women's compound team won a gold medal at the World Archery Championships 2023. This championship was held in which city?**

भारतीय महिला कंपाउंड टीम ने विश्व तीरंदाजी चैंपियनशिप 2023 में स्वर्ण पदक जीता। यह चैंपियनशिप किस शहर में आयोजित की गई थी?

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Indian women's compound team wins historic gold medal

The Indian women's compound team won a gold medal at the World Archery Championships 2023.

The team comprising of Jyoti Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur and Aditi Gopichand Swami secured the nation's first-ever gold medal in this competition.

The Indian women defeated the Mexican team of Dafne Quintero, Ana Sofia, and Hernandez Jeon by 235-229 in the finals to be crowned as the champions.

Earlier, the trio had pulled off an exemplary win against the defending champions, Colombia, by a 220-216 margin.

World Archery Championship 2023 was held in Berlin, Germany.

The tournament also serves as a qualifier for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

However, 3 more qualifying tournaments will be taking place in the future, in Asian Games 2023, Asian Championship 2023 and the Antalya World Cup 2024.

**70. Who is the author of a book titled 'Monsoon'?**

**'मानसून' नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?**

- (a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
- (b) Arvind Subramanian / अरविंद सुब्रमण्यम
- (c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर
- (d) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत
- (e) Abhay K / अभय के

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Poet-Diplomat Abhay K launches his new book 'Monsoon'

Poet-diplomat Abhay K launched his new book 'Monsoon' at Kathika Cultural Centre in Old Delhi.

The book-length poem takes readers on a journey through the monsoon.

This poem actually takes you along the real path of the monsoon and introduces you to various things; monuments, biodiversity, cuisine, languages, and so on.

The book is a poetic symphony that transcends cultural boundaries and captures the beautiful emotions evoked by monsoons. The book creates a poetic tapestry out of love, reflection, and nostalgia.

His translation of the 1st Magahi novel 'Phool Bahadur' by Jayanath Pati will be published by Penguin in Jan 2024.

**Recent Book**

- **Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die**- Dr. Nazema Maraikayar & Dr. Y.S. Rajan (Tamil to English -Ninaivugalukku Maranamillai & launch by Amit Shah)
- **Raag Prakash** – Dr. Om Prakash Kaul (released by Himachal CM)
- **As the wheel turns** -Ranjit Pratap (released by M Venkaiah Naidu)
- **A Fool's Journey** - Sarika Bhardwaj

**71. Jose Paulino Gomes, touted as the world's oldest man, passes away at age 127. He was from which country?**

दुनिया के सबसे बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति कहे जाने वाले जोस पॉलिनो गोम्स का 127 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस देश से थे?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Japan / जापान
- (c) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (d) Russia / रूस
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** World's oldest man' dies at 127

Brazilian supercentenarian, Jose Paulino Gomes, touted as world's oldest man, passes away at age 127.

Gomes possessed a marriage certificate dating back to 1917, which indicated his birth on August 4, 1895, making him a witness to two world wars and three pandemics.

A legal adviser from the civil registry, responsible for maintaining people's records, confirmed the accuracy of Jose's details and verified that he was indeed born before 1900.

**72. Who has launched Port Health Organization (PHO) module under Sagar Setu - National Logistics Portal (Marine)?**

सागर सेतु - राष्ट्रीय रसद पोर्टल (समुद्री) के तहत पोर्ट हेल्थ ऑर्गनाइजेशन (PHO) मॉड्यूल किसने लॉन्च 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 Port Health Organization under Sagar Setu

The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) and Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal has launched Port Health Organization (PHO) module under Sagar Setu - National Logistics Portal (Marine).

PHO will conduct disease surveillance, health inspection, and quarantine measures to safeguard citizens and port workers.

The launch of the PHO module is yet another step towards the digitalization and modernization of our systems which will further the ease of doing business in the country.

The Port Health Organization module has been envisaged as a part of 'Ease of Doing Business' by covering features like requests for PHO clearance certificates, approval by PHO, online certification generation, tracking of request status, etc.

The PHO module will help the Shipping Agents, PHOs, Port Authorities, Customs, etc allowing easier access to functionalities of PHO clearance online.

**Recent Inauguration by Sarbananda Sonowal**

- Sarbananda Sonowal launches **3rd edition of Global India Maritime Summit**
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates **DGNSS "SAGAR SAMPARK**
- Sarbananda Sonowal launches '**SAGAR SAMRIDDHI**'
- Sarbananda Sonowal flags off **India's 1st International Cruise Vessel** from Chennai to Sri Lanka
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated "**PCIM&H e-Office Portal**" and an online portal.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates **National Mission Conclave** in Delhi

**73. Which ministry has implemented the 'Naya Savera' scheme also known as the 'Free Coaching and Allied' scheme recently?**

हाल ही में किस मंत्रालय ने 'नया सवेरा' योजना, जिसे 'मुफ्त कोचिंग और संबद्ध' योजना भी कहा जाता है, लागू की है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Ministry implemented 'Naya Savera' or 'Free Coaching and Allied' scheme

The Ministry of Minority Affairs implemented the 'Naya Savera' scheme also known as the 'Free Coaching and Allied' scheme.

Objective - To assist students/candidates belonging to the six minority communities namely Sikh, Jain, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, and Parsi by way of special coaching for qualifying examinations.

The coaching period under the scheme ranged from 3 months to 2 years.

Preparing for qualifying examinations for admission into technical/professional courses like engineering, medical, law, management, information technology, etc., and language/aptitude examinations required for seeking admission to foreign universities.

Assisting with competitive examinations for recruitment to Group 'A', 'B', and 'C' services, as well as other equivalent positions under the Central and State governments, including public sector undertakings, banks, insurance companies, and autonomous bodies.

This information was given by the Minister of Minority Affairs, Smriti Zubin Irani in Lok Sabha.

**74. The National Standards Body, the Bureau of Indian Standards has signed MoUs with 35 institutions across the country for fostering collaboration in standardization and conformity assessment. Bureau of Indian Standards comes under which ministry?**

राष्ट्रीय मानक निकाय, भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो ने मानकीकरण और अनुरूपता मूल्यांकन में सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए देश भर के 35 संस्थानों के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो किस मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत आता है?

- (a) Ministry of Corporate Affairs/ कॉर्पोरेट मामलों के मंत्रालय
- (b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry / वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय
- (c) Ministry of Consumer Affairs / उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्रालय
- (d) Ministry of Finance / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (e) Ministry of Home Affairs / गृह मंत्रालय

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Bureau of Indian Standards signs MoU with 35 institutions

The National Standards Body, the Bureau of Indian Standards has signed MoUs with 35 institutions across the country for fostering collaboration in standardization and conformity assessment.

The institutions include some prominent NITs, Government and Private Engineering colleges from different states across the country.

It will pave the way for the partner institutions to participate in standardization activities by associating with the technical committees of the Bureau at the national and international levels.

#### **About Bureau of Indian Standards**

- BIS is a statutory body functioning under the aegis of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.
- It operates various schemes like Product Certification (ISI mark), Management Systems Certification, Hallmarking of Gold and Silver Jewellery and Artefacts, and Laboratory Service for the benefit of the industry and in turn aiming at consumer protection.

**75. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has developed 'MASI' application for real-time monitoring of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and their inspection process across the country. What is the meaning of "M" in "MASI"?**

राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग (एनसीपीसीआर) ने देश भर में बाल देखभाल संस्थानों (सीसीआई) और उनकी निरीक्षण प्रक्रिया की वास्तविक समय की निगरानी के लिए 'एमएसआई' एप्लिकेशन विकसित किया है। "MASI" में "M" का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Members
- (b) Mini
- (c) Media
- (d) Monitor
- (e) Monitoring

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** MASI Portal for Monitoring Child Cares Homes

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has developed the 'MASI' application for real-time monitoring of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and their inspection process across the country.

MASI stands for Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection.

The effective and efficient functioning of the mechanism for inspection of CCIs provided under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021) and synchronous monitoring of the system is the rationale behind developing this comprehensive application.

The app aims to synchronize the monitoring of the system by various authorities, including Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), State Inspection Committees, District Inspection Committees, Members of Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs).

**76. Which company has signed an MoU with Greenstat Hydrogen India Pvt Ltd for potential collaboration opportunities in Green Hydrogen and derivatives in the Hydrogen Value Chain?**

किस कंपनी ने ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन और हाइड्रोजन मूल्य श्रृंखला में डेरिवेटिव में संभावित सहयोग के अवसरों के लिए ग्रीनस्टैट हाइड्रोजन इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited / भारत हेवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड
- (c) Hindustan Unilever Limited / हिंदुस्तान यूनिलीवर लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** BHEL signs MoU with Greenstat to explore opportunities in Hydrogen value chain

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed an MoU with Greenstat Hydrogen India Pvt. Ltd. for "potential collaboration opportunities in Green Hydrogen and derivatives in the Hydrogen Value Chain.

This partnership will pave the way for collaboration in the Hydrogen value chain, contributing towards the 'National Hydrogen Mission' of the Government of India, making India 'Atmanirbhar'.

The collaboration between BHEL and Greenstat Hydrogen India aims to focus on establishing a framework for cooperation between the two organizations to explore and develop projects related to the production, marketing, and use of green hydrogen.

This partnership will leverage BHEL's expertise in manufacturing and renewable energy, with Greenstat's experience in hydrogen technology and solutions.

**Recent MoU**

- 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

**77. Which of the following country planned to limit smartphone usage by children to two hours?**  
निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने बच्चों द्वारा स्मार्टफोन के उपयोग को दो घंटे तक सीमित करने की योजना बनाई है?

- (a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (b) North Korea / उत्तर कोरिया
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) India / भारत
- (e) China / चीन

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** China plans to limit smartphone usage by children to two hours

China's cyberspace watchdog has put forward plans to limit the usage of smartphones by children to no more than two hours a day and to require all tech companies to introduce a "minor mode" to enable restrictions.

The Cyberspace Administration of China published the draft guidelines on its site, stating that minors would not be allowed to use most internet services on mobile devices from 10 pm to 6 am and that children between the ages of 16 and 18 would only be able to use the internet for two hours a day.

Children between the ages of 8 and 15 would be allowed only an hour a day, while those under 8 would only be allowed 40 minutes.

Only certain services, such as apps or platforms that are deemed suitable for the physical and mental development of minors, will be exempted. The CAC did not specify which internet services would be allowed exemptions.

In 2019, Beijing limited children's daily online game time to 90 minutes a day and tightened those restrictions in 2021, allowing children only an hour a day of online gameplay on Fridays, weekends and public holidays.

#### **About China**

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

**78. Who has been appointed as the President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region?**

हनीवेल हाई ग्रोथ रीजन के अध्यक्ष और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Anant Maheshwari appoints as President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region

Former Microsoft India Head, Anant Maheshwari has been appointed as the President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region, effective from September 4, 2023.

In his new role, Maheshwari will oversee operations in China, India, Southeast Asia, Middle East, Central Asia, Africa, and Latin America, driving strategic growth initiatives across these key markets.

Maheshwari previously served the company from 2004 to 2016 in various leadership roles and ultimately became President of Honeywell India.

Prior to rejoining Honeywell, Maheshwari held the position of Head of Microsoft India for seven years. Puneet Chandok, former Head of AWS India, will be succeeding Maheshwari.

**Recent Appointment**

- **President of Qualcomm India** - Savi Soin (replace Rajen Vagadia)
- **Additional DG of Military Nurse Service** - Amita Rani
- **Director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** - Prof Ganesan Kannabiran
- **Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** - James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea (UK)
- **CEO of Dentsu X India** - Jose Leon

**79. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)?**

**केंद्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर और सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड (CBIC) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Surjit Bhujabal / सुरजीत भुजबल
- (b) Sujoy Lal Thaisen / सुजॉय लाल थाउसेन
- (c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति
- (d) Sanjay Kumar Agarwal / संजय कुमार अग्रवाल
- (e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal / सुबोध कुमार जायसवाल

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Government appoints Sanjay Kumar Agarwal as new CBIC Chairman

Union govt has appointed Sanjay Kumar Agarwal as the new Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) after the superannuation of Vivek Johri.

Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, a 1988 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) official as the Chairman of CBIC with the status of special secretary to the government of India.

Separately, the ministry also appointed Surjit Bhujabal, a 1989 batch Indian Revenue Service official as member of CBIC with the status of special secretary to the government.

Bhujabal is currently Principal Director General at the Directorate of GST Intelligence (DGGI) in New Delhi.

**Recent Appointment**

- **President & CDIO of Tata Motors** - Rajesh Kannan
- **First female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh** - Tenzing Yangki
- **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

**80. Which of the following organization has launched a short movie series 'Halla Bol' under the Umbrella Campaign 'Cheer4India on the journey of Asian Games-bound athletes?**

निम्नलिखित में से किसने एशियाई खेलों में भाग लेने वाले एथलीटों की यात्रा पर अम्ब्रेला अभियान 'चीयर4इंडिया' के तहत एक लघु फिल्म श्रृंखला 'हल्ला बोल' लॉन्च की है?

- (a) Hockey India / हॉकी इंडिया
- (b) Board of Control for Cricket in India / भारतीय क्रिकेट कंट्रोल बोर्ड
- (c) Sports Authority of India / भारतीय खेल प्राधिकरण
- (d) National Anti-Doping Agency / राष्ट्रीय डोपिंग रोधी एजेंसी
- (e) Indian Olympic Association / भारतीय ओलंपिक संघ

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** SAI launches short movie series 'Halla Bol'

Sports Authority of India (SAI) under the Umbrella Campaign 'Cheer4India' has launched a short movie series 'Halla Bol' on the journey of Asian Games-bound athletes.

Objective - To motivate them for Hangzhou Asian Games and spread awareness about the upcoming Asian Games.

According to SAI, a total of 12 short movies will be showcased in the coming weeks.

SAI highlighted that the initiative will not only motivate the athletes heading to Asian Games but also youngsters of the country to take up sports

A similar movie series, 'Olympics ki Aasha,' was launched before the Tokyo Olympics.

**81. Who has become the first-ever Indian to clinch the individual World Title at the World Archery Championships final 2023 in Berlin?**

**बर्लिन में विश्व तीरंदाजी चैंपियनशिप फ़ाइनल 2023 में व्यक्तिगत विश्व खिताब जीतने वाले पहले भारतीय कौन बन गए हैं?**

- (a) Deepika Kumari / दीपिका कुमारी
- (b) Dola Banerjee / तरूणदीप राय
- (c) Tarundeep Rai / डोला बनर्जी
- (d) Atanu Das / अतानु दास
- (e) Aditi Swami / अदिति स्वामी

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Aditi Swami becomes 1st Indian to win individual World Title at WAC 2023

Indian archer, Aditi Swami has become the first-ever Indian to clinch the individual World Title at the World Archery Championships final 2023 in Berlin.

17-year-old Aditi, became the senior world champion when she defeated Andrea Becerra of Mexico, 149-147 in the summit clash of the compound women's event.

Conversely, India's Ojas Deotale also created history after defeating Lukasz Przybylski of Poland in a thrilling final to become the new world champion in Men's Individual compound event.

Earlier in the day, Aditi ousted her 'idol' Jyothi Surekha Vennam 149-145 in an all-Indian semifinal.

**82. National Handloom Day is observed across India on which day every year?**

**राष्ट्रीय हथकरघा दिवस पूरे भारत में हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 6 August / 6 अगस्त
- (d) 7 August / 7 अगस्त
- (e) 8 August / 8 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 7 August - National Handloom Day

National Handloom Day is observed across India on August 7 every year.

The primary goal of celebrating Handloom Day is to promote handloom and to recognize the efforts as well as skills of the community of weavers engaged in the sector.

The National Handloom Day was first observed in 2015 which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The day was initiated with the objective of spreading awareness about the importance of the handloom sector.

August 7 was chosen for celebrating National Handloom Day to commemorate the launch of the Swadeshi Movement on the same day in 1905 in Calcutta (now Kolkata). The movement was then led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, and Lala Lajpat Rai.

The Swadeshi Movement was initiated to improve the usage of India-made goods which prominently involved handlooms. This movement also played a major role in the Independence of the country during British Rule.

**83. Friendship Day is celebrated every year which day?**

**फ्रेंडशिप डे हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) First Friday of August /अगस्त का पहला शुक्रवार
- (b) First Saturday of August /अगस्त का पहला शनिवार
- (c) First Monday of August /अगस्त का पहला सोमवार
- (d) First Sunday of August /अगस्त का पहला रविवार
- (e) First Tuesday of August / अगस्त का पहला मंगलवार

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 6 August 2023 - Friendship Day

Friendship Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of August. This year, the day falls on August 6.

The day serves as a reminder to acknowledge the relationships that lighten up our burden in so many ways.

It is time to embrace the spirit of camaraderie and express gratitude to our friends and let them know how much they mean to us.

Theme 2023 - Sharing the Human Spirit through Friendship

The history of Friendship Day can be traced back to 1958 when Joco Hall, the owner of Hallmark Cards, proposed the idea of celebrating Friendship Day in Paraguay.

The International Day of Friendship follows the proposal made by UNESCO. The initiative was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1997.

However, it was in 2011 that the United Nations officially declared July 30 as International Friendship Day.

**84. Hiroshima Day is observed every year on 6 August. This year commemorated the \_\_\_\_\_ anniversary of this event.**  
हिरोशिमा दिवस हर साल 6 अगस्त को मनाया जाता है। इस वर्ष इस घटना की \_\_\_\_\_ वर्षगाँठ मनाई गई।

- (a) 72nd
- (b) 73rd
- (c) 74th
- (d) 75th
- (e) 76th

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 6 August - Hiroshima Day

Hiroshima Day is observed every year on 6 August.

Objective - To raise awareness of the catastrophic consequences of the atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima.

On 6 August 1945, a United States warplane dropped the powerful "Little Boy", the first atomic bomb, over Hiroshima in Japan, killing over 140,000 people.

A US B-29 bomber aircraft dropped flew over Hiroshima and dropped the bomb at 8:15 am. Three days later, Nagasaki was bombed after the US dropped, "Fat Man", another atomic weapon, in its war against imperial Japan.

This year commemorated the 76th anniversary of this event

**85. Gaddar, also known as Gummadi Vittal Rao, passed away recently. Who was he?**

गद्दार, जिन्हें गुम्मदी विठ्ठल राव के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, का हाल ही में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Singer / गायक
- (d) Journalist / पत्रकार
- (e) Composer / संगीतकार

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Telangana folk singer Gummadi Vittal Rao 'Gaddar' passes away

Revolutionary balladeer and renowned folk singer Gaddar, also known as Gummadi Vittal Rao, passed away.

He played a significant role in the Telangana statehood movement through his songs highlighting injustices in the region.

He earned the title of the people's singer due to his songs that brought attention to various issues faced by the common people.

Additionally, he showcased his acting skills in a few films, including "Maa Bhoomi" and "Rangula Kala".

Gaddar was a former Maoist ideologue who played a crucial role in the left-wing extremist movement through his songs.

**86. Which state government will set up a 'Rhino Task Force' to propose measures to restart the rhino conservation plan under the National Rhino Conservation Plan?**

कौन सी राज्य सरकार राष्ट्रीय गैंडा संरक्षण योजना के तहत गैंडा संरक्षण योजना को फिर से शुरू करने के उपायों का प्रस्ताव देने के लिए 'राइनो टास्क फोर्स' का गठन करेगी?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश
- (b) Jharkhand / झारखंड
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Bihar / बिहार
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Bihar to constitute 'Rhino Task Force' to revive rhino conservation in Valmiki Tiger Reserve

The Bihar government will set up a 'Rhino Task Force' to propose measures to restart the rhino conservation plan in 'Valmiki Tiger Reserve' (VTR) located in West Champaran district.

At present there is only one rhino in VTR and 14 rhinos in Patna Zoo.

The VTR has seen a significant increase in the tiger population, prompting state wildlife officials to focus on reviving the rhino population in the region.

Valmiki Tiger Reserve has been selected as a potential site under the National Rhino Conservation Plan.

This national-level scheme allows rhinos to be introduced into Valmiki Tiger Reserve from other reserves across the country to boost their conservation. India plays a critical role in the conservation of the one-horned rhinoceros species. Approximately 75% of the world's rhino population is found in India.

Notably, over 93% of India's rhino population resides in just one protected area, the Kaziranga National Park in the state of Assam.

**About Bihar**

- **Capital** – Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar
- **Governor** – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**87. How many railway stations are set to be redeveloped across the country as part of Amrit Bharat Station Scheme?**

अमृत भारत स्टेशन योजना के तहत देश भर में कितने रेलवे स्टेशनों का पुनर्विकास किया जाना तय है?

- (a) 508
- (b) 412
- (c) 500
- (d) 600
- (e) 850

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** PM Modi launched Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) in 13 railway stations

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) through a video link from Delhi, Which aims to revitalize 508 railway stations across India and turn them into world-class travel hubs.

These 508 stations are spread across 27 states and union territories, including 55 each in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, 49 in Bihar, 44 in Maharashtra, 37 in West Bengal, 34 in Madhya Pradesh, 32 in Assam, 25 in Odisha, 22 in Punjab, 21 each in Gujarat and Telangana, 20 in Jharkhand, 18 each in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Besides 15 stations are in Haryana and 13 in Karnataka.

The redevelopment, which will cost ₹ 24,470 crore, will provide modern passenger amenities along with ensuring well-designed traffic circulation, inter-modal integration and well-designed signage for guidance of passengers, the PMO had said in a statement, adding that the design of station buildings will be inspired by local culture, heritage, and architecture.

Guided by this vision, the 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme' was launched to redevelop 1,309 stations.

As part of this scheme, the foundation stone for redevelopment of 508 stations was laid by the prime minister.

**88. Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) has partnered with Metrowagonmash to manufacture and supply around 120 Vande Bharat trains to Indian Railways, at a cost of Rs 120 crore per train. Metrowagonmash is the company of which country?**

रेल विकास निगम लिमिटेड (आरवीएनएल) ने प्रति ट्रेन 120 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से भारतीय रेलवे को लगभग 120 वंदे भारत ट्रेनों के निर्माण और आपूर्ति के लिए मेट्रोवैगनमैश के साथ साझेदारी की है। मेट्रोवैगनमैश किस देश की कंपनी है?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** RVNL, Russian partner to build 120 Vande Bharat trains

A joint venture between public sector company Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) and Russian company Metrowagonmash is on course to manufacture and supply around 120 Vande Bharat trains to Indian Railways, at a cost of Rs 120 crore per train.

The RVNL wants a larger share of 69%, leaving 26% for Metrowagonmash and 5% for a third partner, Locomotive Electronic Systems.

Blue-and-white trains, with AC, are expected to be manufactured at a railway factory in Maharashtra.

**About Russia**

- **Capital** – Moscow
- **Currency** – Rubel
- **President** – Vladimir Putin

**89. The Federation of Economic Development Association (FEDA) hosted the International Education Summit & Conference 2023 in which city?**

**फेडरेशन ऑफ इकोनॉमिक डेवलपमेंट एसोसिएशन (FEDA) ने किस शहर में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा शिखर सम्मेलन और सम्मेलन 2023 की मेजबानी की है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** FEDA hosts International Education Summit in Dubai on academic excellence

The Federation of Economic Development Association (FEDA) hosted the International Education Summit & Conference 2023 at Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University (HBMSU) in Dubai.

The event was attended by more than 120 participants from various academic disciplines.

The summit was aimed at providing a platform for ambitious minds to showcase academic excellence. It featured a conference on the topic of Innovative Research In Economics Management, Information Technology and Legal Studies.

This international platform provided scholars with an opportunity to present their cutting-edge research and findings, facilitating the exchange of ideas and knowledge.

 **ambitious baba**.com

**90. India has handed over INR 450 million in advance to which country to fund its unique digital identity project?**  
**भारत ने अपनी विशिष्ट डिजिटल पहचान परियोजना को वित्तपोषित करने के लिए किस देश को अग्रिम रूप से 450 मिलियन रुपये सौंपे हैं?**

- (a) Malaysia / मलेशिया
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** India hands over 450 million for Sri Lanka Unique Digital Identity project

India has handed over INR 450 million in advance to Sri Lanka to fund its unique digital identity project.

It is the most crucial step in the island nation's digitalization program being implemented through the Indian grant assistance.

The project aims to collect biographic and biometric information, including facial, iris, and fingerprint data, which will be stored in a centralized system to issue identification cards as per the standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The implementation of the project would lead to more effective and efficient delivery of government services, poverty reduction and welfare programs; financial inclusion through better access to banking and other products/services.

The project commenced with the signing of a MoU between Sri Lanka and India in March 2022 and an Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC) for the Sri Lanka Unique Digital Identity Project (SL-UDI) was introduced.

The Government of India is overseeing the software development for the SL-UDI.

#### **About Sri Lanka**

- **Legislative capital** - Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- **Executive and Judicial capital** - Colombo
- **Currency** - Sri Lankan rupee
- **President** - Ranil Wickremesinghe
- **Prime Minister** - Dinesh Gunawardena

**91. The Union Cabinet has approved how many crores rupees for the modernization of the BharatNet project?**  
केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने भारतनेट परियोजना के आधुनिकीकरण के लिए करोड़ रुपये को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 1.39 lakh crore
- (b) 2.39 lakh crore
- (c) 3.39 lakh crore
- (d) 2.19 lakh crore
- (e) 2.29 lakh crore

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Cabinet approves Rs 1.39 lakh crore for BharatNet project

The Union Cabinet has approved Rs 1.39 lakh crore for the modernization of the BharatNet project.

It will involve a change in execution strategy, with a focus on providing fibre connections to the last mile through village-level entrepreneurs.

With this upgrade, the government aims to expedite the process of connecting all 640,000 villages within the next two and a half years.

Similar to private telcos Airtel and Jio, the government will now involve village-level entrepreneurs or Udyamis in providing fibre connections to homes. This will be done on a 50:50 revenue-sharing basis.

Under the revamped model, the government will bear the cost of taking the infrastructure to the home, while the rural entrepreneur will be responsible for the maintenance and operations of home connections.

Under the BharatNet project, the home broadband package will start at Rs 399 per month, offering unlimited data at a speed of 30 Mbps. This package also includes bundled services such as OTT offerings.

**92. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has laid the foundation stone for an archeological museum in which state?**  
केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने किस राज्य में पुरातत्व संग्रहालय की आधारशिला रखी है?

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Nirmala Sitharaman laid foundation stone for Adichanallur museum

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has laid the foundation stone for an archeological museum at Adichanallur in Tamil Nadu.

Adichanallur was one of the five archaeological sites declared to be developed as 'Iconic Sites' in the Union Budget 2020-21.

It is an archaeological site located on the banks of river Thamirabarani in this district.

The main objective of the museum would be to focus on establishing the significance of the archaeological sites identified as part of the cultural landscape of the Thamirabarani valley, not limiting to the site of Adichanallur.

**About Tamil Nadu**

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

**93. Rajasthan Cabinet has recently approved how many new districts in the state?**

राजस्थान कैबिनेट ने हाल ही में राज्य में कितने नए जिलों को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 19
- (b) 21
- (c) 14
- (d) 23
- (e) 18

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Rajasthan Govt. announces 19 New Districts, 3 New Divisions in State

The Rajasthan cabinet gave its approval to a high-level committee's proposal to establish 19 new districts and three additional divisions within the state.

This decision aims to enhance the administrative framework and accessibility of public services.

As a result, Rajasthan's district count will go up from the existing 33 to 50. The expansion will alleviate the burden on district headquarters and reduce the need for people to undertake extensive journeys for official matters.

The changes include the division of the Jaipur district into "Jaipur" and "Jaipur Rural", as well as the division of the Jodhpur district into "Jodhpur" and "Jodhpur Rural".

New districts include Apoonagarh, Balotra, Beawar, Deeg, Didwana-Kuchaman, Dudu, Gangapur City, Kekri, Kotputli-Behror, Khairthal-Tijara, Neem ka Thana, Phalodi, Slumber, Sanchoore, and Shahpura.

The state will now consist of 10 divisions, with the introduction of Banswara, Pali, and Sikar as the new divisions.

#### **About Rajasthan**

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

**94. Which bank's CEO has emerged as the highest-paid bank chief executive in the financial year 2022-23, grossing over Rs 10.55 crore in overall pay?**

किस बैंक के सीईओ वित्तीय वर्ष 2022-23 में सबसे अधिक वेतन पाने वाले बैंक मुख्य कार्यकारी के रूप में उभरे हैं, जिन्होंने कुल वेतन 10.55 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक कमाया 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's Jagdishan Highest Paid Bank CEO in FY23 with Rs 10.55cr Pay

HDFC Bank's Sashidhar Jagdishan has emerged as the highest-paid bank chief executive in the financial year 2022-23, grossing over Rs 10.55 crore in overall pay.

Amitabh Chaudhry of Axis Bank drew Rs 9.75 crore payout and was the second highest-paid bank CEO.

He was closely followed by Sandeep Bakhshi of bigger rival ICICI Bank, who drew Rs 9.60 crore for the same year.

The details were made public in disclosures made in annual reports.

#### **About HDFC Bank**

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

**95. Who has been appointed as the strategic advisor for Cyrus Poonawalla Groups?**

**साइरस पूनावाला ग्रुप के रणनीतिक सलाहकार के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Keki Mistry / केकी मिस्त्री
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Keki Mistry appointed as strategic advisor for Cyrus Poonawalla Group's

Cyrus Poonawalla Group appointed Keki Mistry as the strategic advisor to all the financial services ventures spearheaded by Adar Poonawalla.

Mistry, with over 4 decades of experience, is one of the most respected professionals in the Indian Financial Services industry.

He had served as the CEO and Vice Chairman of HDFC Ltd from 2010 till its merger with HDFC Bank Ltd.

He is also the Non-Executive Chairman of HDFC Ergo General Insurance Company Limited

**Recent Appointment**

- **Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** - Sanjay Kumar Agarwal (replace Vivek Johri)
- **President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region** - Anant Maheshwari
- **President of Qualcomm India** - Savi Soini (replace Rajen Vagadia)
- **Additional DG of Military Nurse Service** - Amita Rani
- **Director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** - Prof Ganesan Kannabiran

**96. King Norodom Sihamoni has been appointed as new Prime Minister of which country?**

**राजा नोरोडोम सिहामोनी को किस देश का नया प्रधान मंत्री नियुक्त किया गया है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni appoints Hun Manet- as the new PM

Cambodia's King Norodom Sihamoni has appointed former Prime minister Hun Sen's son - Hun Manet- as the new prime minister of the country.

A royal decree was issued by the King stating that he appoints Dr. Hun Manet as the prime minister.

While the King has appointed Hun Manet as the PM, the leader and his cabinet must win the confidence vote on August 22 to assume office.

During the Cambodian Elections 2023, Hun Sen's party - the Cambodian People's Party - won with a landslide victory.

Days after their victory, former PM Hun Sen announced that he will be stepping down as the Prime Minister, after assuming office in 1998.

**About Cambodia**

- Capital- Phnom Penh
- Currency- Cambodian riel
- Official language- Khmer

**97. Alex Hales recently announced his retirement from international cricket. He is from which country?**

एलेक्स हेल्स ने हाल ही में अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश से है?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Alex Hales announces retirement from international cricket

England batsman Alex Hales has announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 34.

Hales, aged 34, was one of the leading figures of England's change in approach to white-ball cricket under Eoin Morgan after the 2015 World Cup.

He was also a key figure in them winning the 2022 T20 World Cup.

Hales played 11 Test matches, 70 ODIs and 75 T20Is, having made his international debut in a T20 match against India in Manchester in August 2011.

He was dropped from England's 2019 ODI World Cup squad, and exiled from international cricket for three years thereafter after news of a failed recreational drugs test broke a month before the tournament and spent nearly three years in exile.

**Recently Retired Players**

- Manoj Tiwary - All forms of cricket - India
- Diego Godin - Professional Football - Uruguay
- Stuart Broad - International Cricket - England
- Lahiru Thirimanne- International Cricket - Sri Lanka
- Nahida Khan - International Cricket - Pakistan
- Shabnim Ismail - International Cricket - South Africa

**98. Quit India Movement, also known as the "Bharat Chodo Andolan", was launched by Mahatma Gandhi on which date?**  
भारत छोड़ो आंदोलन, जिसे "भारत छोड़ो आंदोलन" के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, महात्मा गांधी द्वारा किस तारीख को शुरू किया गया था?

- (a) 8 August 1941
- (b) 8 August 1942
- (c) 8 August 1943
- (d) 9 August 1942
- (e) 7 August 1943

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** 8 August – Quit India Movement Day

Every year Quit India Day is observed every year on August 8 to commemorate occasion, which was a defining moment in the history of India's freedom struggle.

The day is also an occasion to pay tribute to the freedom fighters who have sacrificed their lives for independence of the country.

Quit India Movement, also known as the "Bharat Chodo Andolan", was launched by Mahatma Gandhi on August 8, 1942.

The movement was a mass movement was launched at the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee (AICC).

Gandhiji gave the clarion call of 'Do or Die' to the countrymen for a decisive fight against the British rule.

During World War II, the British empire, which was a part of the allied forces, wanted to utilise Indian resources and manpower in the war. Until 1942, more than 90,000 Indian soldiers were killed in the war.

Later a member of the war cabinet, Stafford Cripps was sent to India to get cooperation in the war, while several protests were already triggered in the country.

**99. Javelin Throw Day is celebrated every year on which day in India?**

**भारत में हर साल भाला फेंक दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 4 August / 4 अगस्त
- (b) 5 August / 5 अगस्त
- (c) 6 August / 6 अगस्त
- (d) 7 August / 7 अगस्त
- (e) 8 August / 8 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 7 August - Javelin Throw Day

Javelin Throw Day is celebrated every year on August 7 in India.

The Athletics Federation of India, the apex body for athletics in India, took the decision to celebrate August 7 as the National Javelin Day to commemorate Neeraj Chopra's historic gold medal during the Tokyo Olympics.

It was on August 7 2021, that Chopra hurled javelin at a distance of 87.58m during the men's Javelin Throw final of the Tokyo Games to win the gold medal.

Chopra scripted history as it was India's first-ever gold medal in Track and Field events in Olympics.

With the gold medal at Tokyo, Chopra also became the second individual gold medalist from India after Abhinav Bindra's gold-medal-winning performance at the 2008 Beijing Games.

**100. The Padma Bhushan awardee and IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre, 1960 batch, N Vittal passed away recently in Chennai. He was the former \_\_\_\_\_.**

**पद्म भूषण पुरस्कार विजेता और गुजरात कैडर, 1960 बैच के आईएस अधिकारी, एन विट्टल का हाल ही में चेन्नई में निधन हो गया। वह पूर्व \_\_\_\_\_ थे।**

- (a) Solicitor General of India / भारत के सॉलिसिटर जनरल
- (b) Central Vigilance Commissioner / केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयुक्त
- (c) National Security Advisor of India / भारत के राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार
- (d) Director General of NSG / एनएसजी के महानिदेशक
- (e) Director Central Bureau of Investigation / निदेशक केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Padma Bhushan awardee and IAS officer N Vittal passes away

The Padma Bhushan awardee and IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre, 1960 batch, N Vittal passed away in Chennai.

He was a former Telecom Secretary and Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC).

His experience of more than 40 years covered a wide spectrum with focus on industrial administration, science and technology, and security.

As Chairman of the Telecom Commission, he also initiated the process of liberalization in the telecom sector and played a major role in getting the National Telecom Policy 1994 approved.

He authored a book titled Corruption in India - The Roadblock to National Prosperity.

101. Which state government has recently implemented the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme with a grant of 58 crores rupees to promote its indigenous products at the international level?

हाल ही में किस राज्य सरकार ने अपने स्वदेशी उत्पादों को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर बढ़ावा देने के लिए 58 करोड़ रुपये के अनुदान के साथ एक जिला एक उत्पाद (ओडीओपी) योजना लागू की है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat Govt implement One District One Product (ODOP) scheme

The government of Gujarat has implemented the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme with a grant of 58 crores rupees to promote its indigenous products at the international level.

Under this scheme, more than 25 handicraft products have been selected from 21 districts of the state.

The ODOP initiative is aimed at fostering balanced regional development across all districts of the country, enabling holistic socio-economic growth across all regions.

The objective is to focus on the district of the country as a unit for converting into a manufacturing and export hub by identifying products with export potential in the district.

About Gujarat

Capital- Gandhinagar

Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel

Governor- Acharya Devvrat

102. A special art exhibition dedicated to G-20 member countries commenced in which state?

G-20 सदस्य देशों को समर्पित एक विशेष कला प्रदर्शनी किस राज्य में शुरू हुई?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Special art exhibition dedicates to G-20 member countries to commence

In Bihar, a special art exhibition dedicated to G-20 member countries commenced in the Bihar Museum, Patna. The exhibition has inaugurated by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar

The title of the two-month-long exhibition is Together We Art and it will conclude on 7th October 2023.

29 countries including India are participating in the exhibition which is organized by the Union Art and Culture ministry as part of India's presidency of G-20 countries.

About Bihar

Capital – Patna

Chief Minister – Nitish Kumar

Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

103. Which state government is planning to build a dam in the state at a cost of Rs 6,134 crore?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार, राज्य में 6,134 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से बांध बनाने की योजना बना रही है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Haryana govt planning to build a dam at cost of 6,134 crore rupees

The Haryana government is planning to build a dam at a cost of 6,134 crore rupees.

It will have a 14-km-long reservoir and will be built 4.5 km upstream from the Hathnikund Barrage in Yamunanagar district.

Once the project is completed, the state will have greater availability of irrigation water, groundwater recharge, and aquaculture, apart from the generation of 250 MW of electricity.

Its reservoir will have a capacity of 10.82 lakh cusecs. This is likely to prevent floods caused by the Yamuna in Delhi and in adjoining areas of the river in Haryana. The dam area also shares borders with Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

Last month the Chief Minister informed that the proposal to construct a dam behind the Hathnikund Barrage is being taken up with the Himachal government. He said that it will help to check the floods caused by excessive rains.

About Haryana

Capital – Chandigarh

Chief Minister – Manohar Lal Khattar

Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

104. Guyana will purchase two Dornier 228 aircraft from which Indian company?

गुयाना किस भारतीय कंपनी से दो डोर्नियर 228 विमान खरीदेगा?

- (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. Guyana to buy Indian Dorniers Aircrafts manufactured by HAL

Guyana to the purchase of two Dornier 228 aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Guyana is also interested in purchasing patrol vessels, a fleet of armoured vehicles, and radar systems.

Guyana and India will also step-up personnel training to improve military-to-military contacts and Guyana is collaborating with India on cybersecurity and IT operations.

India and Guyana will improve military-to-military contacts through personnel training.

About Guyana

Capital - Georgetown

Currency - Guyanese Dollar

Prime Minister- Mark Phillips

President- Mohamed Irfaan Ali

Continent - South America

105. Which bank has partnered with the state government for Odisha Tourism Development Corporation to ramp up the state tourism department's payment solutions?

राज्य पर्यटन विभाग के भुगतान समाधानों को बढ़ाने के लिए किस बैंक ने ओडिशा पर्यटन विकास निगम के लिए राज्य सरकार 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. e

Sol. Bandhan Bank ties up with Odisha govt to strengthen OTDC

Bandhan Bank has partnered with the state government for Odisha Tourism Development Corporation to ramp up the state tourism department's payment solutions.

The bank has provided Point of Sale (PoS) machines to facilitate card payments by tourists.

Prime locations including Puri, Bhubaneswar, Konark, Chilka, and Gopalpur will be covered under this tieup.

The PoS machines will hasten tourist payment collections, bringing convenience to both the tourists and OTDC.

About Bandhan Bank

Founded – 2001 Founder - Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

Headquarters - Kolkata

MD & CEO - Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

Chairperson - Anup Kumar Sinha

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

Union Bank partners with IBM to co-create Digital Business platform

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 signed MoU on Sustainable Finance



106. Which insurance company has launched the 'Direct Incentive Disbursement' for its sales force in the Delhi and Uttarakhand circles?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने दिल्ली और उत्तराखंड सर्कल में अपने बिक्री बल के लिए 'प्रत्यक्ष प्रोत्साहन संवितरण' शुरू किया है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz Insurance / बजाज आलियांज इश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA Insurance / भारती एक्सा इश्योरेंस
- (c) Postal Life Insurance / डाक जीवन बीमा
- (d) Max Life Insurance / मैक्स लाइफ इश्योरेंस
- (e) Edelweiss Insurance / एडलवाइस इश्योरेंस

Ans. c

Sol. Postal Life Insurance launches direct incentive disbursement for sales staff

Postal Life Insurance (PLI) has launched the 'Direct Incentive Disbursement' for its sales force in the Delhi and Uttarakhand circles.

The insurance sector player has taken the step-in order to benefit its sales staff — who are the driving force behind the department's growth.

Through the 'Direct Incentive Disbursement' feature, agents will be able to seamlessly receive the transfer of their commissions from the previous month directly to their Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) Accounts.

The initiative will impact around two lakh sales force members across the nation, including Gramin Dak Sevaks, Direct Agents, Field Officers, and Departmental Employees.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

Federal Bank launches NR savings accounts named "NRE Eve+" for NRI women

HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with Swiggy

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

107. According to which organization's annual report, Domestic companies raised Rs 9.8 lakh crore from capital markets in fiscal 2022-23, which was 4.6 percent higher than the amount raised in fiscal 2022?

किस संगठन की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, घरेलू कंपनियों ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2022-23 में पूंजी बाजार से 9.8 लाख करोड़ रुपये जुटाए, जो वित्तीय वर्ष 2022 में जुटाई गई राशि से 4.6 प्रतिशत अधिक था?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Domestic companies raised Rs 9.8 lakh cr from market in FY23: SEBI

According to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) annual report, Domestic companies raised Rs 9.8 lakh crore from capital markets in fiscal 2022-23, which was 4.6 percent higher than the amount raised in fiscal 2022.

SEBI said that corporates or infrastructure entities raised funds via instruments such as equity (public, rights, preferential, QIP), debt (public and private placement), Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs).

Of the total resources mobilized, equity and debt segments accounted for Rs 9.2 lakh crore of capital formation.

In the debt segment, the primary source of resource mobilization was the private placement of debt, which rose 28 percent over funds raised in FY2022

According to the SEBI, its recovery from erring market participants for the year stood at Rs 6,031 crore.

About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Founded - 12 April 1988

Act - 1992

Headquarters - Mumbai

Chairman - Madhabi Puri Buch

SEBI Set up - Uday Kotak committee

108. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer of Elon Musk-owned carmaker Tesla?

एलन मस्क के स्वामित्व वाली कार निर्माता टेस्ला के नए मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Vaibhav Taneja / वैभव तनेजा
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

Ans. d

Sol. Indian-origin Vaibhav Taneja becomes new Tesla Chief Financial Officer

Vaibhav Taneja has been appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer of Elon Musk-owned carmaker Tesla.

He succeeds Zachary Kirkhorn, who has left the position after 13 years with the company.

Taneja joined the company in 2016. He became the Assistant Corporate Controller in February 2017 and was promoted to Corporate Controller in 2018.

In 2019, Taneja became the Chief Accounting Officer (CAO) of Tesla.

Recent Appointment (Indian Origin)

Chief Financial Officer of Tesla -Vaibhav Taneja (Indian-origin)

As special agent in FBI in US - Shohini Sinha (Indian-American)

President's Export Council by US Prez. - Shamina Singh (Indian-American businessman)

Deputy CEO of US Finance Agency - Nisha Biswal (Indian-American)

Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO - Ritu Kalra (Indian-American origin)

109. Who has been awarded Global Leader Award 2023 for Healthcare Expansion in Africa?

अफ्रीका में स्वास्थ्य सेवा विस्तार के लिए ग्लोबल लीडर अवार्ड 2023 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Jayesh Saini / जयेश सैनी
- (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. Jayesh Saini receives Global Leader Award 2023

Jayesh Saini was awarded Global Leader Award 2023 for Healthcare Expansion in Africa.

LifeCare Group, led by Jayesh Saini, has expanded healthcare services across East Africa with hospitals in five major parts of Kenya and plans for 10 more in different regions of Africa.

With LifeCare hospitals already established in five major parts of Kenya (Bungoma, Eldoret, Kikuyu, Meru, and Migori), Saini's passion drives him to lay the foundation for 10 additional hospitals in different regions of Africa.

This ambitious endeavor aims to increase the total bed capacity to over 2,600 by 2024.

Moreover, LifeCare Group has advanced plans to establish hospitals in other Eastern African nations, including Rwanda, Tanzania, Gabon and the Republic of Congo.

These hospitals will be equipped with super specialty clinics such as Cardiology, Orthopaedic, Oncology, Nephrology, Radiology, and more. The combined bed capacity of LifeCare hospitals across the region will exceed 4,100 beds by 2027.

110. Which of the following state has been awarded Best Performing State Award 2023 in cadaver organ donation?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य को शव अंग दान में सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन करने वाले राज्य पुरस्कार 2023 से सम्मानित किया गया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Tamil Nadu won best State award for organ and tissue transplantation

Tamil Nadu bagged the Best Performing State Award 2023 in cadaver organ donation.

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya presented the Best State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation award to Health Minister Ma Subramanian at the 13th Indian Organ Donation Day function held in New Delhi.

Tamil Nadu continues to lead in organ donations with 1,705 people donating their organs to save 6,247 human lives.

Since 2008, 1,705 people donated their organs facilitating 786 heart, 801 lung, 1,565 liver and 3,046 kidney transplants, 37 pancreases, besides small intestines, and other organs, totally benefitting 6,247 recipients so far.

The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) award was presented at the 13th Indian Organ Donation Day (IODD) ceremony meant to facilitate the donor families, in the national capital.

About 40 government hospitals and 120 private hospitals across the state have been provided organ harvest licenses. Transplants were performed even under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.

In the last two years, 292 people donated their organs to benefit 1,062 people.

About Tamil Nadu

Capital – Chennai

Chief Minister – M K Stalin

Governor – R N Ravi

111. Which of the following country is not a part of the 31st edition of the Malabar multilateral exercise to be held from August 11-21?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश 11-21 अगस्त तक आयोजित होने वाले मालाबार बहुपक्षीय अभ्यास के 31वें संस्करण का हिस्सा नहीं है?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) UK / यूके
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) India / भारत

Ans. b

Sol. Australia to host latest edition of 10-day Malabar exercise

The 31st edition of the Malabar multilateral exercise comprising India, Australia, Japan, and the U.S. will be held in Sydney from August 11-21.

Australia is also the host for this mega event which is being hosted there 'for the first time'.

The exercise will take place in a large designated area, the East Australian exercise area, spread over a couple of hundred miles off Sydney and will have a harbour and sea phase.

Exercise Malabar will be followed by AUSINDEX, the India-Australia bilateral naval exercise. In the past, officials have termed Malabar as the most complicated naval exercise that India does.

Australia has also just hosted multilateral Exercise Talisman Sabre, which involved more than 33,000 troops from 13 countries, for which India had sent four observers.

The Malabar series of exercises began as an annual bilateral naval exercise between India and the US in 1992.

Recent Exercise

First FALCON Shield-2023 Exercise between China & UAE – Xinjiang, China

15th edition of Nomadic Elephant 2023 exercise between India and Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

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.

112. Indian Army inducted the lighter and more compact version of the developed Weapon Locating Radar (WLR-M) called "Swathi Mountains" in the Army. It is developed by which company?

भारतीय सेना ने विकसित हथियार लोकेटिंग रडार (डब्ल्यूएलआर-एम) के हल्के और अधिक कॉम्पैक्ट संस्करण को सेना में शामिल किया है, जिसे "स्वाति माउंटेन" कहा जाता है। यह किस कंपनी द्वारा विकसित किया गया है?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited / भारत हेवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड
- (c) Hindustan Unilever Limited / हिंदुस्तान यूनिलीवर लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड

Ans. e

Sol. Indian Army inducts BEL-developed Swathi Mk2 radar

Indian Army inducted the lighter and more compact version of the developed Weapon Locating Radar (WLR-M) called "Swathi Mountains."

Objective - To enhance the Army's battlefield surveillance capabilities, enabling it to effectively monitor and respond to threats in mountainous regions.

The Swathi Mountains WLR is an advanced electronically scanned phased array radar, specifically designed for operations in mountainous and high-altitude areas and was developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) in Bengaluru.

What is a Weapon Locating Radar?

The Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) stands as a critical asset for modern militaries, employing advanced signal processing techniques to autonomously detect and track hostile artillery, mortars, and rocket launchers.

Notably, it even tracks friendly fire trajectories, enabling precise calculations for more accurate artillery strikes.

The radar's sophistication lies in its ability to detect and track small projectiles across the battlefield while factoring in environmental conditions for precise launch and impact point estimations.

113. World Tribal Day is observed every year on August 9. What is the theme of World Tribal Day 2023?

विश्व आदिवासी दिवस हर साल 9 अगस्त को मनाया जाता है। विश्व आदिवासी दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) The Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge
- (b) indigenous peoples' resilience
- (c) Indigenous Languages
- (d) Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination
- (e) Leaving no one behind: Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract

Ans. d

Sol. 9 August - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples also known as World Tribal Day is observed every year on August 9.

Objective - To promote and protect the rights of indigenous populations around the world.

Theme 2023 - Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination

The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is to be marked annually on August 9, according to a decision made by the UN General Assembly in December 1994.

The day was picked in honour of the 1982 Geneva-based Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the UN Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights inaugural meeting, which served as the inspiration for the date.

114. Nagasaki Day is observed every year on which day?

नागासाकी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 9 August / 9 अगस्त
- (b) 10 August / 10 अगस्त
- (c) 6 August / 6 अगस्त
- (d) 7 August / 7 अगस्त
- (e) 8 August / 8 अगस्त

Ans. a

Sol. 9 August - Nagasaki Day

Japan's Nagasaki marked the 78th anniversary of the US atomic bombing.

Nagasaki Day is being observed across the globe to promote peace and create awareness about the threat of nuclear weapons.

This day plays an important role as it focuses on anti-war and anti-nuclear demonstrations in many countries.

On August 9, 1945, the United States dropped the second nuclear bomb named 'Fat-man' on the southern Japanese city, three days after Hiroshima was destroyed by the first one - a uranium bomb- 'Little Boy'.

What happened on 9 August 1945?

As World War II raged on, the United States, along with its allies, sought to end the conflict with Japan. The decision to use atomic bombs was driven by the desire to expedite Japan's surrender and avoid a protracted, costly invasion.

About 20 days after the United States harnessed nuclear energy on July 16, 1945, following the 'Trinity Test', it dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on August 6, nicknamed 'Little Boy' which killed about 1,40,000 people by the end of the year.

The bomb that was dropped on Nagasaki was code-named the 'Fat Man'. It killed over 80,000 people.

This led to Japan's unconditional surrender in Second World War. At least 70,000 people were killed in the initial blast at Nagasaki, while approximately another 70,000 more died from radiation-related illnesses later.

A US warplane named--Enola Gay dropped the 'Fat Man' about 1,650 feet above Nagasaki. This led to Japan's unconditional surrender in Second World War.

115. The 3rd and final meeting of G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) under India's Presidency was held in which city?

भारत की अध्यक्षता में G20 भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक कार्य समूह (ACWG) की तीसरी और अंतिम बैठक किस शहर में आयोजित की गई?

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

Ans. e

Sol. 3rd G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting held in Kolkata

The 3rd and final meeting of G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) under India's Presidency has been held in Kolkata.

Over 154 delegates from G20 member countries, 10 invitee countries, and various international organizations attend the meeting.

It will be followed by the G20 Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meeting on 12th August 2023, which will be chaired by Dr. Jitendra Singh.

Under India's G20 chairmanship, the ACWG has been able to achieve significant progress on anti-corruption cooperation with regard to the crackdown on fugitive economic offenders and the return of assets.

The first and second ACWG meetings were held in Gurugram and Rishikesh respectively.

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

Think20 Secretariat Summit - Mysuru, Karnataka (31 July - 2 August 2023)

G20 Empower Summit - Gandhinagar, Gujarat (1 - 2 August 2023)

G20 Green & Sustainable Growth Agenda for Global Economy Meeting - New Delhi (28 - 29 July 2023)

4th Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting – Chennai, Tamil Nadu (26 – 28 July 2023)

3rd G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group - Chennai, Tamil Nadu (24 - 26 July 2023)

116. Which of the following has recently joined the INTERPOL Global Academy Network?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन हाल ही में इंटरपोल ग्लोबल एकेडमी नेटवर्क में शामिल हुआ है?

- (a) Enforcement Directorate Academy / प्रवर्तन निदेशालय अकादमी
- (b) National Investigation Agency / राष्ट्रीय जांच एजेंसी
- (c) CBI Academy / सीबीआई अकादमी
- (d) Intelligence Bureau Academy / इंटेलिजेंस ब्यूरो अकादमी
- (e) Research and Analysis Wing Academy / रिसर्च एंड एनालिसिस विंग अकादमी

Ans. c

Sol. CBI Academy joins Interpol Global Academy Network

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Academy has joined the Interpol Global Academy Network at a virtual event.

The CBI Academy has become the 10th member of the INTERPOL Global Academy Network, which will pave the way for the development and delivery of joint training programmes and research projects.

The CBI Academy, based in Ghaziabad, is a premier training institution in the fields of crime investigation, prosecution and vigilance functioning.

The three-year-old Interpol Global Academy Network aims to support Interpol in leading a global approach to law enforcement training. The CBI, which is a nodal body for all matters related to Interpol, conducts several international training programmes through its academy based in Ghaziabad, neighbouring Delhi.

Several programmes have been conducted in collaboration with foreign agencies like US Homeland, French Embassy, FBI, NCCU UK, NCA UK, RCMP Canada along with four Interpol Global Programmes.

117. Which state has recently launched the 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh' campaign in the state?

हाल ही में किस राज्य ने राज्य में 'मेरी माटी, मेरा देश' अभियान शुरू किया है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Eknath Shinde launches 'Meri Mati Mera Desh' campaign

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has launched the 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh' campaign at Mumbai's historic August Kranti Maidan, in the presence of Deputy Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar among other dignitaries.

It was a matter of pride that the clarion call of Quit India and to establish Swarajya was given from Maharashtra's soil.

The concept of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' and its concluding chapter, the 'Meri Mati, Mera Desh' campaign have been envisaged not only as a tribute to the martyrs but also to instill the values of patriotism and service towards the nation and nation-building.

The event also saw all the dignitaries take the Panch Pran pledge, the unveiling of 'Shilaphalakam', a memorial with the names of local freedom fighters as well as a tree plantation under 'Vasudha Vandan'.

Mumbai's civic body has said it will carry out plantation drives across three locations, wherein saplings of 75 local species will be planted to create an 'Amritvatika'.

About Maharashtra

Capital - Mumbai

Chief Minister - Eknath Sindhe

Deputy Chief Minsiter - Devendra Fadnavis & Ajit Pawar

Governor - Ramesh Bais

118. The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Mumbai was renamed as National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) Mumbai after the IIM (Amendment) Bill 2023 was passed by both Houses of Parliament. This will be \_\_\_\_ IIM of the country.

IIM (संशोधन) विधेयक 2023 संसद के दोनों सदनों द्वारा पारित होने के बाद भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थान (IIM) मुंबई का नाम बदलकर राष्ट्रीय औद्योगिक इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान (NITIE) मुंबई कर दिया गया। यह देश का \_\_\_\_ IIM होगा।

- (a) 20th
- (b) 21st
- (c) 22nd
- (d) 23rd
- (e) 24th

Ans. b

Sol. National Institute of Industrial Engineering becomes the 21st IIM of India

Mumbai, the country's financial capital, gets its own prestigious Indian Institute of Management as the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) will be renamed as the IIM-Mumbai after both Houses of the Parliament passed the IIM (Amendment) Bill 2023.

The NITIE will be 21st IIM in the country and a second in Maharashtra, after the IIM Nagpur which was first among the six new-generation IIMs established by the Government of India in 2015.

Presently, NITIE ranked 7th in the Management Category by National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) in 2023.

Located in Mumbai's Powai, on the banks of Vihar Lake, NITIE has a campus spread across 63 acres of forested hilltop.

119. Which of the following country will launch the BRICS start-up forum 2023 during BRICS Meeting?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश ब्रिक्स बैठक के दौरान ब्रिक्स स्टार्ट-अप फोरम 2023 लॉन्च करेगा?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (d) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. a

Sol. India to launch BRICS start-up forum

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal represented India at the virtual 7th BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) Industry Minister's Meeting, hosted by South Africa

During the meeting, Goyal announced India's plans to launch the BRICS Startup Forum in 2023.

The minister while highlighting the transformation that has taken place in India, also commented on the expanding Startup India initiative that has led to the creation of nearly 100,000 startups in the country.

He focused on "Transforming Production Systems" and the support India can offer to other BRICS members and the wider international community.

They also re-emphasized the need for digitalization, industrialization, innovation, inclusiveness, and investment among BRICS countries. Through the declaration, the BRICS members acknowledged the need for human resource development and exploring opportunities for cooperation on upskilling and reskilling programs.

120. Which of the following bank has launched a 24x7 of Video Banking Service, providing customers with real-time video calls for banking services?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने 24x7 वीडियो बैंकिंग सेवा शुरू की है, जो ग्राहकों को बैंकिंग सेवाओं के लिए वास्तविक समय वीडियो कॉल प्रदान करती है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited / एयू स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Shivalik Small Finance Bank / शिवालिक स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. AU Small Finance Bank to provide 24x7 video banking service

AU Small Finance Bank has launched 24x7 for 365 days of Video Banking, providing customers with real-time video calls for banking services.

AU Small Finance Bank is the first bank in India to launch this type of service.

This facility is available to the bank's customers irrespective of the type of their banking relationship (credit card, loan, savings, digital savings, basic service savings, current account, etc).

Even Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan account holders of AU SFB can avail of this video banking service for free.

Even on holidays and weekends, AU's dedicated team would ensure face-to-face, human-centric interactions, underscoring the bank's commitment to enhancing nationwide banking experiences.

This 24X7 video calling feature deployed an advanced encryption layer for transmitting data between the customer's device to the bank's servers.

On top of that the bank has also used an artificial intelligence (AI) powered program to detect faces of the customers. This will help ensure that only the account holder is interacting with the bank and not anyone else.

Further traditional security measures like mobile OTP verification, personalized security questions, etc are also used.

About AU Small Finance Bank Limited

Founded - 1996

Founder - Sanjay Agarwal

Headquarters - Jaipur, Rajasthan

MD & CEO - Sanjay Agarwal

Executive Director - Uttam Tibrewal

Tagline - Chalo Aage Badhein

121. What is the current repo rate after the third bi-monthly monetary policy for FY24?

FY24 के लिए तीसरी द्विमासिक मौद्रिक नीति के बाद वर्तमान रेपो दर क्या है?

- (a) 6.0%
- (b) 6.25%
- (c) 6.5%
- (d) 6.75%
- (e) 6.65%

Ans. c

Sol. Repo rate unchanged at 6.5%

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the third bi-monthly monetary policy for FY24.

The three-day meeting of the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of RBI was held from August 8 to 10.

The RBI kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.5%. Since May 2022, the central bank has raised the repo rate by 250 basis points (bps).

Interest Rates

Repo rate unchanged at 6.5%

Standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains at 6.25%

Marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and Bank Rate maintained at 6.75%

CRR at 4.5%

GDP Projections

Real GDP growth projection for FY224 retained at 6.5%

GDP forecast for Q1FY24 at 8%

GDP forecast for Q2FY24 at 6.5

GDP forecast for Q3FY24 at 6%

GDP forecast for Q4FY24 at 5.7%

GDP growth for Q1FY25 is projected at 6.6%

Inflation Forecast

CPI inflation forecast for FY24 raised to 5.4% from 5.1%

CPI inflation forecast for Q2FY24 raised to 6.2% from 5.2%

CPI inflation forecast for Q3FY24 raised to 5.7% from 5.4%

CPI inflation forecast for Q4FY24 retained at 5.2%

CPI inflation forecast for April-June 2024 pegged at 5.2%

122. Who has been appointed as Additional Director General of Indian Coast Guard?

भारतीय तटरक्षक बल के अतिरिक्त महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) S Paramesh / एस परमेश
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

Ans. d

Sol. S Paramesh appointed as ADG of Coast Guard

S Paramesh has been appointed as Additional Director General of Indian Coast Guard.

He specialized in Navigation & Direction and his sea commands include all major vessels of ICG.

He is a recipient of the President's Tatrakshak Medal for Distinguished Service and was also awarded the Director General Coast Guard Commendation in 2012 and FOCINC (East) Commendation in 2009.

Recent Appointment Strategic advisor for Cyrus Poonawalla Group's - Keki Mistry

Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) - Sanjay Kumar Agarwal (replace Vivek Johri)

President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region - Anant Maheshwari

President of Qualcomm India - Savi Soin (replace Rajen Vagadia)

Additional DG of Military Nurse Service - Amita Rani

123. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company?

एसबीआई लाइफ इंश्योरेंस कंपनी के नए एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Amit Jhingran / अमित झिंगरन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. a

Sol. Amit Jhingran appoints as MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has approved the appointment of Amit Jhingran as the new MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company.

He had a successful career with the SBI spanning over 30 years.

Currently, he serves as the Chief General Manager of the Hyderabad circle.

He started as PO in August 1991 and has held various positions in international banking.

Headquarters of IRDAI - Hyderabad, Telangana

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

Non-executive chairman of Axis Bank - NS Vishwanathan

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

124. Which ship recently participated in PASSEX 2023 with Royal Saudi Navy?

हाल ही में किस जहाज ने रॉयल सऊदी नेवी के साथ PASSEX 2023 में भाग लिया?

- (a) INS Satpura / आईएनएस सतपुरा
- (b) INS Sahyadri / आईएनएस सह्याद्री
- (c) INS Chennai / आईएनएस चेन्नई
- (d) INS Talwar / आईएनएस तलवार
- (e) INS Karma / आईएनएस कर्म

Ans. c

Sol. INS Chennai participates in PASSEX 2023 with Royal Saudi Navy

INS Chennai participated in Passage Exercise (PASSEX) 2023 with the Royal Saudi Naval Ship HMS Al Jubail in the Red Sea.

INS Chennai also conducted a port call to Jeddah to enhance defense alliances between India and Saudi Arabia.

These collaborative actions not only fortified the bedrock of mutual reliance but also solidified the operational rapport between the two maritime forces.

Furthermore, this exercise stood as a testament to the burgeoning interoperability that has taken root between the Indian Navy and its Saudi Arabian counterpart.

Recent Exercise

31st edition of Malabar Multilateral Exercise - Sydney, Australia

First FALCON Shield-2023 Exercise between China & UAE – Xinjiang, China

15th edition of Nomadic Elephant 2023 exercise between India and Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

7th edition of SALVEX exercise between India & USA - Kochi

7th edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) - Visakhapatnam

125. 'Maya' is in the news recently, what is it?

'माया' हाल ही में चर्चा में है, यह क्या है?

- (a) Banking App / बैंकिंग ऐप
- (b) Missile System / मिसाइल प्रणाली
- (c) Drone System / ड्रोन प्रणाली
- (d) ISRO's Satellite/ इसरो का उपग्रह
- (e) Operating System / ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम

Ans. e

Sol. Defence Ministry to switch to locally built OS Maya amid threats

Defence Ministry has decided to replace the Microsoft Operating System (OS) in all computers connected to the Internet with a new OS 'Maya', based on open-source Ubuntu developed locally.

Maya has the interface and all functionality like Windows and users will not feel much difference as they transition to it.

Currently, Maya is being installed only in Defence Ministry systems and not on computers connected to the networks of the three Services. The three Services had also vetted it and would adopt it on service networks as well soon.

Maya was developed by government development agencies within six months.

Maya would prevent malware attacks and other cyberattacks which had seen a steep increase.

To begin with, the direction is to install Maya on all computers connected to the Internet in South Block before August 15. In addition, an 'endpoint detection and protection system', Chakravyuh, is also being installed in these systems.

126. Who will lead the 28-member Indian team at World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary?

हंगरी के बुडापेस्ट में विश्व एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप में 28 सदस्यीय भारतीय टीम का नेतृत्व कौन करेगा?

- (a) Neeraj Chopra / नीरज चोपड़ा
- (b) PV Sindhu / पीवी सिंधु
- (c) Rohit Yadav / रोहित यादव
- (d) Saikhom Mirabai Chanu / सैखोम मीराबाई चानू
- (e) Lovlina Borgohain / लवलीना बोरगोहेन

Ans. a

Sol. Neeraj Chopra to lead 28-member Indian team in World Athletics Championships

Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will once again headline India's campaign in the World Athletics Championships beginning on August 19 in Budapest, Hungary with the country fielding a 28-member team.

Reigning Diamond League champion Chopra is gunning for a gold medal in Budapest after winning a silver in the last edition in Eugene, USA in 2022.

He has won two Diamond League Meetings this season -- in Doha on May 5 and Lausanne on June 30.

His season's best is the 88.67m in Doha, the third longest throw this season behind 89.51m of Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic and 88.72m of Julian Weber of Germany.

Meanwhile, Asian record-holder shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor has pulled out of the August 19-27 showpiece as he is recovering from the groin injury he sustained during the Asian Championships in July.

127. World Lion Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व शेर दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 9 August / 9 अगस्त
- (b) 10 August / 10 अगस्त
- (c) 11 August / 11 अगस्त
- (d) 12 August / 12 अगस्त
- (e) 13 August / 13 अगस्त

Ans. b

Sol. 10 August - World Lion Day

World Lion Day is observed every year on 10 August.

Objective - To learn about the importance of lions in the natural world and the potential impacts of their extinction on humanity.

Gujarat state in India is the only place outside of Africa where it is possible to witness lions in their natural habitat. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has designated the Asiatic Lion as an endangered species because of its limited population and constrained habitat.

The history of World Lion Day can be traced back to the decline of lion populations by approximately 80 percent in the past century. This decline prompted the establishment of World Lion Day in 2013, with conservation enthusiasts Dereck and Beverly Joubert taking the lead.

These individuals collaborated with National Geographic and initiated the Big Cat Initiative (BCI) in 2009 to safeguard and preserve the world's remaining lion species.

128. World Biofuel Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व जैव ईंधन दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 9 August / 9 अगस्त
- (b) 10 August / 10 अगस्त
- (c) 11 August / 11 अगस्त
- (d) 12 August / 12 अगस्त
- (e) 13 August / 13 अगस्त

Ans. b

Sol. 10 August - World Biofuel Day

World Biofuel Day is observed every year on 10 August.

Objective - To create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative for the energy sector.

The day also tries to highlight the government's efforts to promote the biofuel sector.

August 10 was chosen to mark World Biofuel Day as it was on this date in 1893 that German inventor Sir Rudolf Diesel successfully used peanut oil to operate a diesel engine.

This discovery was exceptional as it opened a new path from fossil fuels to renewable and sustainable energy sources.

129. The Kerala Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a resolution urging the Central Government to change the name of the state from 'Kerala' to 'Keralam'. In which year Kerala state was formed?

केरल विधानसभा ने सर्वसम्मति से एक प्रस्ताव पारित कर केंद्र सरकार से राज्य का नाम 'केरल' से बदलकर 'केरलम' करने का आग्रह किया। केरल राज्य का गठन किस वर्ष हुआ था?

- (a) 1949
- (b) 1951
- (c) 1952
- (d) 1955
- (e) 1956

Ans. e

Sol. Kerala Assembly passes resolution to rename 'Kerala' as 'Keralam'

The Kerala Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a resolution urging the Central Government to change the name of the state from 'Kerala' to 'Keralam'.

The resolution was moved by CM Pinarayi Vijayan who stated that the name 'Keralam' is used in the Malayalam language.

The resolution said, "The name of our state in Malayalam is Keralam. States were formed on the basis of language on November 1, 1956. That day is also observed as Kerala formation day.

The demand for a united Kerala for all Malayalam-speaking communities has been strongly raised right from the days of the freedom struggle.

However, the name of our state in the First Schedule of the Constitution has been written as Kerala. This Assembly is unanimously requesting the Union Government to take immediate steps under Article 3 of the Constitution to change the name of the state to Keralam.

About Kerala

Capital – Thiruvananthapuram

Chief Minister – Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

130. Which state government has launched the 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' for indigenous people of the state to ensure individual and community rights over forest land for eligible beneficiaries?

किस राज्य सरकार ने पात्र लाभार्थियों के लिए वन भूमि पर व्यक्तिगत और सामुदायिक अधिकार सुनिश्चित करने के लिए राज्य के स्वदेशी लोगों के लिए 'मो जंगल जामी योजना' शुरू की है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha launches 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' scheme

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched the 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' for indigenous people of the state to ensure individual and community rights over forest land for eligible beneficiaries.

It was launched on the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

All welfare activities of the government will be linked to the scheme to create stability in the livelihoods of tribal people.

Stating the aim of the government is to ensure the benefits of the scheme reach all eligible beneficiaries, the chief minister said it will also help protect the forest ecosystem.

Besides steps will be taken to reduce climate change as part of the scheme. Odisha is the front runner in the country in the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, he said adding so far 4.5 lakh tribal households have been given land rights over 6.7 lakh acre land.

About Odisha

Capital – Bhubaneswar

Chief Minister – Naveen Patnaik

Governor – Ganeshi Lal

131. 'Neerakshi' is in the news recently, what is it?

'नीराक्षी' हाल ही में चर्चा में है, यह क्या है?

- (a) Missile System / मिसाइल प्रणाली
- (b) Autonomous Underwater Vehicle / स्वायत्त अंडरवाटर वाहन
- (c) Operating System / ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम
- (d) Ransomware / रैंसमवेयर
- (e) ISRO's Satellite / इसरो का उपग्रह

Ans. b

Sol. India launches 'Neerakshi' - Autonomous Underwater Vehicle

An autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) designed to detect mines and a first of its kind in the country was launched.

The AUV named 'Neerakshi' is a collaboration of Kolkata-based warship maker Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd and MSME entity AEPL.

The commercial launch of the AUV is likely to be within six months to a year after the completion of user trials by the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, and possibly the Army too.

This can be used for a variety of functions ranging from mine detection to mine disposal to underwater surveys.

This is 2.1-metre-long cylindrical unmanned vehicle about a foot in diameter and weighing around 45 kg.

132. Who has launched the e-portal of 'Bhartiya Vastra evam Shilp Kosh' – a Repository of Textiles and Crafts developed by the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)?

नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फैशन टेक्नोलॉजी (NIFT) द्वारा विकसित कपड़ा और शिल्प का भंडार 'भारतीय वस्त्र एवं शिल्प कोष' का ई-पोर्टल किसने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi launched 'Bhartiya Vastra Evam Shilp Kosh' E-Portal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the e-portal of 'Bhartiya Vastra evam Shilp Kosh' – a Repository of Textiles and Crafts developed by the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT).

The launch was held on the 9th National Handloom Day celebration at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, Delhi.

The programme was attended by over 3000 handloom and khadi weavers, artisans, and stakeholders from the textile and MSME sectors.

It brought together handloom clusters across India, NIFT campuses, Weaver Service Centres, Indian Institute of Handloom Technology campuses, National Handloom Development Corporation, Handloom Export Promotion Council, KVIC institutions, and various State Handloom Departments.

PM Modi in News

PM Modi launched "Urea Gold" in Rajasthan

PM Modi inaugurates Semicon India 2023 conclave in Gujarat

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

133. Which state government will organize 'Khel Maharan' from November 1 to January 10 to identify and nurture sports talents at the grassroots level?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार जमीनी स्तर पर खेल प्रतिभाओं की पहचान करने और उनका पोषण करने के लिए 1 नवंबर से 10 जनवरी तक 'खेल महारण' का आयोजन करेगी?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Assam Govt to organize 'Khel Maharan' across state

The Assam government will organize 'Khel Maharan' from November 1 to January 10 to identify and nurture sports talents at the grassroots level.

More than 50 lakh sportspersons will participate and compete in five sporting disciplines - Athletics, Football, Kabaddi, Volleyball, and Kho-Kho.

To ensure fair competition, the 'Khel Maharan' initiative has categorized events into four age groups: Under 19 (Men), Under 19 (Women), Above 19 (Men), and Above 19 (Women).

State-level events will be held at Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Kokrajhar, and Diphu.

About Assam

Capital – Dispur

Chief Minister – Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor – Gulab Chand Kataria

134. 5.33 crore subscribers have so far enrolled in Atal Pension Yojana (APY), the government told in Lok Shaba. In which year Atal Pension Yojana was launched?

सरकार ने लोक सभा में बताया कि अटल पेंशन योजना (एपीवाई) में अब तक 5.33 करोड़ ग्राहक नामांकित हो चुके हैं। अटल पेंशन योजना किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) 2015
- (b) 2016
- (c) 2017
- (d) 2018
- (e) 2019

Ans. a

Sol. 5.33 crore subscribers enrolled under Atal Pension Yojana

5.33 crore subscribers have so far enrolled in Atal Pension Yojana (APY), the government told in Lok Shaba.

It aims to deliver old age income security to all citizens of India, particularly to the workers in the unorganised sector.

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) was launched on 9 May 2015 and was operationalized from 1 June 2015.

The minimum age of joining the APY is 18 years and the maximum age is 40 years. As per the scheme, subscribers will receive pension benefits upon attaining the age of 60 years.

The Scheme offers a flexible minimum guaranteed pension of Rs 1000, Rs 2000, Rs 3000, Rs 4000 or Rs 5000 per month based on the age of joining and pension amount chosen.

Accordingly, the per month subscription amount presently varies from Rs 42 to Rs 1454 on the basis of the chosen option.

The same pension would be paid to the spouse of the subscriber after the demise of the subscriber and on the demise of both the subscriber and spouse, the pension wealth as accumulated till age 60 of the subscriber would be returned back to the nominee.

135. In August 2023, how many rupees of bad loans have been written off by banks in the last nine financial years starting from 2014-15?

अगस्त 2023 में, 2014-15 से शुरू होने वाले पिछले नौ वित्तीय वर्षों में बैंकों द्वारा कितने रुपये के बुरे ऋण माफ किए गए हैं?

- (a) 24.56 lakh crore
- (b) 4.56 lakh crore
- (c) 14.56 lakh crore
- (d) 4.6 lakh crore
- (e) 12.56 lakh crore

Ans. c

Sol. Banks write off Rs 14.56 lakh crore NPAs in last nine financial years

Banks have written off bad loans worth Rs 14.56 lakh crore in the last nine financial years starting 2014-15 in Aug 2023.

Out of the total Rs 14,56,226 crore, written-off loans of large industries and services stood at Rs 7,40,968 crore.

In a written reply to Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad said that Scheduled Commercial Banks have recovered an aggregate amount of Rs 2,04,668 crore in written-off loans, including corporate loans, since April 2014 and up to March 2023.

In another reply, the net of recovery in written-off loans during the financial year (net write-off) in public sector banks (PSBs) was Rs 1.18 lakh crore in FY18, which declined to Rs 0.91 lakh crore in FY22 and to Rs 0.84 lakh crore (RBI provisional data) in FY23.

Net write-off loans by private sector bank was Rs73,803 crore (RBI provisional data) in FY 2022-23.

Net write-off as percentage of opening gross loans and advances in private sector banks was 1.25 percent and 1.57 percent in FY 2017-18 and FY 2022-23 respectively, and it was 2 percent and 1.12 percent for PSBs during the same period.

During the year ended March 2023, banks wrote off non-performing assets (NPAs), or bad loans, worth over Rs 2.09 lakh crore, as per Reserve Bank of India.

136. Which of the following bank will acquire the remaining 7 percent stake in Max Life Insurance for Rs 1,612 crore?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा बैंक 1,612 करोड़ रुपये में मैक्स लाइफ इश्योरेंस में शेष 7 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी का अधिग्रहण करेगा?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Axis Bank to acquire balance 7% stake in Max Life for Rs 1,612 crore

Axis Bank, along with its subsidiaries will acquire the remaining 7 percent stake in Max Life Insurance.

Acquisitions, Divestments, and Merger Committee has approved infusion of Rs 1,612 crore in Max Life through preferential allotment.

The combined weight of Axis Bank, Axis Securities, and Axis Capital has already provided them with a significant 12.02 percent stake in Max Life.

With the acquisition of the additional 7 percent stake, the collective holdings of Axis Entities will surge to a slightly over 19.02 percent stake in Max Life.

Notably, this strategic move will also see an increase in Axis Bank's direct stake in Max Life to 16.22 percent.

About Axis Bank

Founded - 1993

Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra

Chairman - Rakesh Makhija

MD & CEO - Amitabh Chaudhary

Tagline - Badhti Ka naam Zindag

137. Bajaj Finance has partnered with which general insurance company to provide car and two-wheeler insurance plans on the platform Bajaj Finance Insurance Mall?

बजाज फाइनेंस ने बजाज फाइनेंस इश्योरेंस मॉल प्लेटफॉर्म पर कार और दोपहिया वाहन बीमा योजनाएं प्रदान करने के लिए किस सामान्य बीमा कंपनी के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance / बजाज आलियांज जनरल इश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance / भारती एक्सा जनरल इश्योरेंस
- (c) ICICI Lombard General Insurance / आईसीआईसीआई लोम्बार्ड जनरल इश्योरेंस
- (d) Royal Sundaram General Insurance / रॉयल सुंदरम जनरल इश्योरेंस
- (e) Reliance General Insurance / रिलायंस जनरल इश्योरेंस

Ans. c

Sol. Bajaj Finance partnered with ICICI Lombard to offer insurance plan

Bajaj Finance has partnered with ICICI Lombard General Insurance along with other partners to provide car and two-wheeler insurance plans on the platform Bajaj Finance Insurance Mall.

These policies can be bought instantly on the platform through an all-digital and seamless customer experience journey.

The ICICI Lombard Car and Two-wheeler Insurance policies offer comprehensive damage coverage, including third-party cover and various add-on benefits to vehicle owners.

These policies provide extensive coverage against various risks and damages to vehicles.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

Bandhan Bank ties up with Odisha govt to strengthen Odisha Tourism Development Corporation

Union Bank partners with IBM to co-create Digital Business platform

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

138. Shrikant Madhav Vaidya has been reappointed as Chairman of which of the following company for an additional year?

श्रीकांत माधव वैद्य को एक अतिरिक्त वर्ष के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी के अध्यक्ष के रूप में पुनः नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Hindustan Petroleum / हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम
- (b) Indian Oil Corporation / इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन
- (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation / तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस निगम
- (d) Steel Authority of India Limited / स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
- (e) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited / भारत पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड

Ans. b

Sol. Shrikant Madhav Vaidya reappointed as Chairman of IOC

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya has been re-employed to hold the position for an additional year.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the proposal of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the tenure extension of Vaidya from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

Vaidya was set to retire this year when he turns 60.

This is one of the very rare occasions when a director on the board of a PSU has been given an extension of service beyond his retirement age. No chairman of a Maharatna PSU has been given an extension beyond 60 years

Recent Appointment

Additional Director General of Indian Coast Guard - S Paramesh

Strategic advisor for Cyrus Poonawalla Group's - Keki Mistry

Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) - Sanjay Kumar Agarwal (replace Vivek Johri)

President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region - Anant Maheshwari

President of Qualcomm India - Savi Soin (replace Rajen Vagadia)

139. How many gold medals has won by India at World Cadet Wrestling Championship 2023 in Istanbul, Turkey?

इस्तांबुल, तुर्की में विश्व कैडेट कुश्ती चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में भारत ने कितने स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं?

- (a) 1
- (b) 12
- (c) 3
- (d) 9
- (e) 5

Ans. a

Sol. Savita won gold at World Cadet Wrestling Championship 2023

Indian wrestler Savita, who entered the event as the defending champion, won the only gold medal for India in the women's 61kg weight division in World aCadet Wrestling Championships 2023.

India bagged a total of 11 medals, including 1 gold, 7 silver, and 3 bronze at the World Cadet Wrestling Championship 2023 in Istanbul, Turkey.

India finished sixth in the men's freestyle and fourth in men's Greco-Roman team rankings as well.

However, it was the women's freestyle where India shone best by finishing third, only behind Japan and USA, with 118 points in the team rankings.

140. Who has been recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the first-ever RICS South Asia Awards?

पहले RICS साउथ एशिया अवार्ड्स में लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट अवार्ड से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Deepak Shenoy / दीपक शेनॉय
- (b) Neeli Bendapudi / नीली बेंदापुडी
- (c) Subhash Runwal / सुभाष रुणवाल
- (d) Shanti Lakra / शांति लकड़ा
- (e) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा

Ans. c

Sol. Subhash Runwal receives the Lifetime Achievement Award RICS

Subhash Runwal, Chairman – Runwal, a leading real estate developer with a legacy of over four decades, was recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the first-ever RICS South Asia Awards.

RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) is a global industry body representing professionals across the country.

Hosting its first-ever awards, it aimed to recognize global and Indian industry-leading achievements and demonstrate the upholding of the highest standards of professionalism and ethics by individuals and teams across built and natural environments.

This recognition is a testimony to Runwal's exceptional contributions, outstanding achievements, and unwavering dedication to the real estate sector.

Recent Awards

Global Leader Award 2023 - Jayesh Saini

Diversity in Cinema Award at Indian Film Festival of Melbourne - Mrunal Thakur

Global Visionary Entrepreneur Award - Deepak Shenoy (MD of Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd)

Best Managed Pharmaceutical Sustainable Organizations Award 2023- Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd

Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023 - Narendra Modi (41st recipient)

Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award - Ratan Tata

141. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has commemorated its 7th Foundation Day on which day?

गवर्नमेंट ई-मार्केटप्लेस (GeM) ने किस दिन अपना 7वां स्थापना दिवस मनाया है?

- (a) 8 August 2023 / 8 अगस्त 2023
- (b) 9 August 2023 / 9 अगस्त 2023
- (c) 10 August 2023 / 10 अगस्त 2023
- (d) 11 August 2023 / 11 अगस्त 2023
- (e) 12 August 2023 / 12 अगस्त 2023

Ans. c

Sol. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) celebrates 7th Foundation Day

Government e-Marketplace (GeM) commemorates its 7th Foundation Day on 10 August 2023.

GeM has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to fostering positive change, and its journey over the past seven years has been marked by remarkable achievements that have propelled it to become one of the largest public procurement portal in terms of both transaction value and the breadth of the buyer-seller ecosystem

In an astonishingly short span of time, GeM has surpassed the achievements of renowned public procurement platforms such as South Korea's KONEPS and Singapore's GeBIZ.

In 2023, GeM achieved a milestone of INR 2 lakh crore in Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) for the fiscal year 2022-23.

GeM is India's online marketplace for public procurement. Launched in 2016, GeM facilitates transparent and efficient procurement for government departments, organizations, and PSUs.

142. Siddique passed away recently at the age of 63. Who was he?

सिद्दीकी का हाल ही में 63 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Theatre artist / थिएटर कलाकार
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Filmmaker / फिल्म निर्माता

Ans. e

Sol. Filmmaker Siddique passes away in Kochi

Prominent filmmaker Siddique passed away at the age of 63 in Kochi.

Siddique's journey in the world of Malayalam cinema began with his directorial debut, "Ramji Rao Speaking" along with his friend Lal.

He and his friend Lal started their directorial journey as the 'Siddique-Lal' duo. They marked their debut with the comedy film Ramji Rao Speaking (1989).

Other Iconic films include In Harihar Nagar (1990), Godfather (1991), Vietnam Colony (1992) and Kabooliwala (1993).

His solo venture films include Hitler, Friends, Chronic Bachelor, and Bodyguard.

143. Who has laid the foundation stone for the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited Nano Urea Plant at Gandhidham in Kutch?

कच्छ के गांधीधाम में भारतीय किसान उर्वरक सहकारी लिमिटेड नैनो यूरिया संयंत्र की आधारशिला किसने रखी 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. e

Sol. Amit Shah lays foundation stone for IFFCO Nano Urea Plant

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone for the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited Nano Urea Plant at Gandhidham in Kutch, Gujarat.

India needs another green revolution in the form of natural farming under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi which aims to ensure the highest value addition to farmers and protect farmlands from degradation.

The nano urea plant will provide multi-dimensional benefits to the agricultural economy. It will also help conserve the nutrients of the soil and ensure judicious use of fertilizers.

The plant will play a vital role to reduce imports of fertilizers and make India self-reliant in the field of fertilizers.

This will reduce imports of fertilizers and make India self-reliant in the field of fertilizers and conserve the nutrients of the soil and ensure judicious use of fertilizers.

About Gujarat

Capital- Gandhinagar

Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel

Governor- Acharya Devvrat

Amit Shah in News

Amit Shah laid foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool

Amit Shah inaugurated the newly established Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC) at CISF Campus Mahipalpur in New Delhi.

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

144. The Supreme Court of India has launched an online portal facility to generate online electronic passes for visitors to enter the apex court's premises. What is the name of this portal?

भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने शीर्ष न्यायालय के परिसर में प्रवेश के लिए आगंतुकों के लिए ऑनलाइन इलेक्ट्रॉनिक पास बनाने के लिए एक ऑनलाइन पोर्टल सुविधा शुरू की है। इस पोर्टल का नाम क्या है?

- (a) e-Gazette / ई-गजट
- (b) e-Court / ई-कोर्ट
- (c) SuSwagatam / सुस्वागतम्
- (d) TAPAS Portal / तापस पोर्टल
- (e) Yuktdhara / युक्तधारा

Ans. c

Sol. SC launches 'SuSwagatam' online portal

The Supreme Court of India has launched 'SuSwagatam', an online facility to generate online electronic passes for visitors to enter the apex court's premises.

“SuSwagatam’ is a web-based and mobile-friendly application that allows users to register themselves online and request for e-passes for various purposes such as attending court hearings, and meeting advocates.

The portal also provides role-based secure logins for different types of users where they can upload their proof of identity and capture their live photo during the registration process.

SuSwagatam’ will enable a user to avoid long queues, and have a paperless entry pass (e-pass) for access at the apex court.

145. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the merger scheme of India's homegrown entertainment company Zee Entertainment Enterprises with which company?

नेशनल कंपनी लॉ ट्रिब्यूनल (एनसीएलटी) ने भारत की घरेलू मनोरंजन कंपनी ज़ी एंटरटेनमेंट एंटरप्राइजेज की किस कंपनी के साथ विलय योजना को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) India TV / इंडिया टीवी
- (b) Sony Pictures Networks / सोनी पिक्चर्स नेटवर्क
- (c) TV18 / टीवी18
- (d) ESPN / ईएसपीएन
- (e) Star Bharat / स्टार भारत

Ans. b

Sol. NCLT Approves \$10 Billion Mega-Merger Between Zee and Sony

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the merger scheme of India's homegrown entertainment company Zee Entertainment Enterprises with Culver Max Entertainment (erstwhile Sony Pictures Networks India or SPNI).

While announcing the order, the bench comprising Justice HV Subba Rao and member Madhu Sinha, gave approval to the scheme and dismissed all objections raised by some lenders including Axis Finance, JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Co, IDBI Bank, Imax Corp, and IDBI Trusteeship.

Objective - To create a \$10-billion Indian media giant.

ZEE will have 30 days to file with the registrar of companies, following which, the shares of the company will be de-listed from the stock exchanges and the merged company will get re-listed in another six weeks.

146. Which state government has launched India's first Agricultural Data Exchange (ADeX) and Agriculture Data Management Framework (ADMF)?

किस राज्य सरकार ने भारत का पहला कृषि डेटा एक्सचेंज (ADeX) और कृषि डेटा प्रबंधन फ्रेमवर्क (ADMF) लॉन्च किया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Telangana launches India's first Agricultural Data Exchange

Telangana has launched India's first Agricultural Data Exchange (ADeX) and Agriculture Data Management Framework (ADMF).

It is developed as a digital public infrastructure (DPI) for the agriculture sector. The ADeX is a collaboration between the Telangana Government, the World Economic Forum, and the Indian Institute of Science.

Both ADeX and ADMF provide the right platform to ensure fair and efficient usage of agricultural data by the industry and startups and provide a big boost to the data economy specifically in the agriculture sector.

These initiatives help Telangana lead the country from the front in using innovation and technology to drive food systems transformation and improve the livelihoods of farmers. In Phase-I of the project, the ADeX Platform is currently deployed in Khammam district and will be expanded to the entire State over a period.

About Telangana

Established – 2 June 2014

Capital – Hyderabad

Chief Minister – K. Chandrashekar Rao

Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

147. Which state government has launched the 'Sinh Suchna' Web App on the occasion of World Lion Day?

विश्व शेर दिवस के अवसर पर किस राज्य सरकार ने 'सिंह सूचना' वेब ऐप लॉन्च किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat CM Unveils 'Sinh Suchna' Web App

On the occasion of World Lion Day, Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel has virtually launched 'Lion Anthem' and unveiled the 'Sinh Suchna' Web App.

The application will help the state forest department track the movement of lions through the information shared by common people using the app.

Using the 'Sinh Suchna' app, common people can directly inform the state forest department about the movement of lions in their area so that timely steps can be taken.

This mobile will help us in locating lions in real-time and also help the authorities in avoiding human-animal conflicts," Patel said after launching the app.

The central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a budget of Rs 2,900 crore under 'Project Lion' for the conservation of Asiatic Lions, which are found only in Gujarat.

Under this project, we will set up a breeding centre for lions, an isolation centre, and more facilities to provide them timely treatment. The funds will also be utilised to install CCTV cameras, buy radio collars as well as drones.

Gir forest is the only abode of Asiatic lions in the world.

About Gujarat

Capital- Gandhinagar

Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel

Governor- Acharya Devvrat

148. Which state government has launched the Rs 500 crore Chief Minister's Solar Mission for minimizing the power deficit in the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में बिजली की कमी को कम करने के लिए 500 करोड़ रुपये का मुख्यमंत्री सौर मिशन शुरू किया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. CM Solar Mission launched in power deficit Meghalaya

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma has launched the Rs 500 crore Chief Minister's Solar Mission here aimed at minimizing the power deficit in this northeastern hill state. The money will be invested by the government in the next 5 years.

The people-centric CM Solar Mission will be a flagship Renewable Energy intervention committed to fostering green and clean energy transformation across the state. The mission will not only address power deficits but also usher in a new era of resilience, independence, and green progress for Meghalaya.

The state government will earmark investment of Rs 100 crore annually for the solar mission initially. It intends to attract and invite more partners to diversify the portfolio for funding, including from corporate social responsibility, carbon credits or investment by like-minded organisations from across the world.

The installed capacity of the mission is expected to be equal to the current installed capacity of the state in the next two to three years.

Net metering will be made available for the higher capacity hybrid solar units which can be fed to a local grid and then the national grid. The subsidy will range from 70 percent for individual households to 50 percent subsidy for schools, hospitals, hotels, and other commercial entities.

The state has an installed capacity of 378.38 MW supplied from hydel power projects, while the current peak power demand is over 500 MW. The demand is increasing every year by over 50 MW.

About Meghalaya

Capital – Shillong

Chief Minister - Conrad Kongkal Sangma

Governor - Phagu Chauhan

149. RBI has increased the per transaction limit for UPI Lite from existing Rs 200 to how much rupees to promote digital transactions?

RBI ने डिजिटल लेनदेन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए UPI लाइट के लिए प्रति लेनदेन सीमा मौजूदा 200 रुपये से बढ़ाकर कितने रुपये कर दी है?

- (a) 400
- (b) 500
- (c) 1000
- (d) 1500
- (e) 2000

Ans. b

Sol. RBI raises per transaction limit for UPI Lite to 500 rupees.

RBI has increased the offline transaction limit from 200 rupees to 500 rupees but the overall limit of small value digital transaction limit is kept unchanged at 2,000 rupees.

These initiatives will further deepen the reach of digital payments in the country.

Central Bank has also proposed to use Near Field Communication (NFC) technology in UPI transactions.

What is UPI Lite?

UPI Lite is an 'on-device wallet' feature that will allow users to make real-time small-value payments without using a UPI PIN.

How to use UPI Lite?

First, you have to add funds to or load money into the wallet on the app, from your bank account. Then, you can use those pre-loaded funds to pay from the wallet via UPI Lite.

Do note that the total limit of UPI Lite balance for an on-device wallet will be Rs 2,000 at any point in time.

In many remote areas, the data network is patchy and RBI's move of increasing the limit on UPI lite transactions will help travellers in doing digital transactions.

Further, RBI to introduce Near Field Communication (NFC) technology to facilitate offline payments. To promote the use of UPI Lite, it is proposed to facilitate offline transactions using Near Field Communication (NFC) technology.

This feature will not only enable retail digital payments in situations where internet/telecom connectivity is weak or not available, but it will also ensure speed, with minimal transaction declined.

150. Which payments bank has launched an eco-friendly debit card for its customers with savings bank accounts?

किस पेमेंट्स बैंक ने अपने बचत बैंक खातों वाले ग्राहकों के लिए पर्यावरण अनुकूल डेबिट कार्ड लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Airtel Payments Bank / एयरटेल पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (b) India Post Payments Bank / इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (c) FINO Payments Bank / फिनो पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (d) Paytm Payments Bank / पेटीएम पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (e) Jio Payments Bank / जियो पेमेंट्स बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. Airtel Payments Bank Launched India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card

Airtel Payments Bank has launched an eco-friendly debit card for its customers with savings bank accounts, underlining the company's 'commitment to sustainability and promoting eco-friendly practices within the financial sector.'

The company will manufacture these debit cards from r-PVC (recycled polyvinyl chloride) material, which it claims to be eco-friendly.

Moreover, the payments bank stated that every batch of 50,000 cards produced would reduce carbon emissions by 350 kilograms, compared to conventional PVC cards in the market.

Producing these eco-friendly debit cards will also diminish petroleum consumption during manufacturing, cutting hydrocarbon usage by 43 percent. This manufacturing approach will conserve 6.6 million litres of water for every batch of r-PVC produced.

Airtel Payments Bank is developing two cards under the classic variant; a personalized Classic card and an Insta Classic card.

The former can be ordered through the Airtel Thanks app, while the latter will be available at select neighbourhood banking points by the end of the current quarter.

The cards come with rewards including e-commerce benefits of up to Rs 10,000 and complimentary dining experiences under the 'One Dines Free' programme across major cities of India.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

AU Small Finance Bank to provide 24x7 video banking service

Postal Life Insurance Launches Direct Incentive Disbursement (DID) for sales staff

Federal Bank launches NR savings accounts named "NRE Eve+" for NRI women

HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with Swiggy

SBI to set up Trustee Company to manage Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF).

151. Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIITD-IC) has signed an MoU with which bank to scale up Indian startups?

इंद्रप्रस्थ इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी दिल्ली इनोवेशन एंड इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर (IIITD-IC) ने भारतीय स्टार्टअप को बढ़ाने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. c

Sol. IIITD-IC partners with YES Bank to scale up Indian startups

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIITD-IC) has signed a MoU with YES Bank.

The partnership aims to enable IIITD-IC to strengthen its mentoring initiatives for startups, gain access to experts across the industry, as well as identify newer investment and funding opportunities that can benefit startups. In this collaboration, YES Bank aims to provide banking services to startups in the developmental phase at IIITD-IC through the Bank's specialized YES Head Startup programme.

YES Bank has brought the bank to Startups, adopting a horizontal approach and bundling up the most lucrative features possible.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

Bandhan Bank ties up with Odisha govt to strengthen Odisha Tourism Development Corporation

Union Bank partners with IBM to co-create Digital Business platform

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

152. India has won the fourth Asian Champions Trophy title by defeating which country at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai?

भारत ने चेन्नई के मेयर राधाकृष्णन स्टेडियम में किस देश को हराकर चौथा एशियाई चैंपियंस ट्रॉफी खिताब जीता है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. India beat Malaysia clinch fourth Asian Champions Trophy

India beat Malaysia 4-3 and clinch a record fourth Asian Champions Trophy title at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai.

With four Asian Champions Trophy titles, India is the most successful team in the history of the tournament.

Pakistan, with three titles, is in the second spot now.

Japan take 3rd spot after beating South Korea 5-3. Japan finished behind Malaysia in the Asian Champions Trophy tournament after the beat defending champion South Korea 5-3 in the third-place playoff tie in Chennai.

153. Which edition of the famous Nehru Trophy Boat Race 2023 is being held at the picturesque Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha district of Kerala?

प्रसिद्ध नेहरू ट्रॉफी बोट रेस 2023 का कौन सा संस्करण केरल के अलाप्पुझा जिले की सुरम्य पुन्नमदा झील में आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) 50th
- (b) 51st
- (c) 61st
- (d) 69th
- (e) 75th

Ans. d

Sol. 69th edition of Nehru Trophy Boat Race held at Punnamada Lake in Kerala

The 69th edition of the famous Nehru Trophy Boat Race 2023 is being held at the picturesque Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha district of Kerala.

73 boats, including 19 Chundan Valloms or Snake Boats vying for the coveted trophy, participated in the boat race, held every year on the second Saturday of August. Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the event.

The current champion, Pallathuruthy Boat Club from Alappuzha, has bagged the Trophy thrice.

About Kerala

Capital – Thiruvananthapuram

Chief Minister – Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

154. International Lefthanders Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वामपंथी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 August / 14 अगस्त
- (b) 15 August / 15 अगस्त
- (c) 11 August / 11 अगस्त
- (d) 12 August / 12 अगस्त
- (e) 13 August / 13 अगस्त

Ans. e

Sol. 13 August - International Lefthanders Day

International Lefthanders Day is celebrated every year on 13 August.

Objective - To raise awareness of the unique skills and talents of left-handed people

Theme 2023 - Left Handers in Sports

Left-handed people are often more creative and intelligent, and they are also more likely to be entrepreneurs and leaders.

International Lefthanders Day was first celebrated in 1976 by Dean R. Campbell, the founder of Lefthanders International, Inc.

The holiday was created to raise awareness of the challenges that left-handed people face in a world that is designed for right-handers. It is also a day to celebrate the unique skills and talents of left-handed people.

155. International Youth Day is observed every year on 12 August. What is the theme of International Youth Day 2023?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस हर साल 12 अगस्त को मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages"
- (b) Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health
- (c) Youth Engagement for Global Action
- (d) Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World
- (e) Transforming education

Ans. d

Sol. 12 August - International Youth Day

International Youth Day is observed every year on 12 August.

International Youth Day is an opportunity to raise awareness of the challenges and opportunities facing young people around the world.

Theme 2023 - Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared August 12 as International Youth Day in 1999.

The UNGA decision was based on the recommendation of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, which was held in Lisbon in 1998.

The first IYD was observed on 12 August 2000.

156. World Elephant Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व हाथी दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 August / 14 अगस्त
- (b) 15 August / 15 अगस्त
- (c) 11 August / 11 अगस्त
- (d) 12 August / 12 अगस्त
- (e) 13 August / 13 अगस्त

Ans. d

Sol. 12 August - World Elephant Day

World Elephant Day is observed every year on 12 August.

The day aims to raise awareness about the threats facing elephants, including habitat loss, poaching, and human-elephant conflict, and to promote efforts to ensure the survival of both African and Asian elephant species.

Theme 2023 - Ending the Illegal Wildlife Trade

World Elephant Day was first launched in 2012 by Canadian filmmakers Patricia Sims and Michael Clark, along with the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand.

The date, August 12th, was chosen to honor the iconic Asian elephant, which holds great cultural and ecological significance.

The day provides a platform for organizations, governments, and individuals to come together, share knowledge, and engage in initiatives aimed at protecting elephants and their habitats

157. The Centre has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in which state for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)?

केंद्र ने भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (ISRO) द्वारा विकसित लघु उपग्रह प्रक्षेपण यान (SSLV) के प्रक्षेपण के लिए किस राज्य में एक नए स्पेसपोर्ट की स्थापना को मंजूरी दे दी है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Centre approves establishment of new spaceport in Tamil Nadu

The Centre has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).

The Indian Space Policy 2023 has the provision for the utilization of a spaceport for carrying out launch activities by Non-Government Entities (NGEs), subject to technical feasibility and range safety constraints.

The Policy opens up the sector for enhanced participation of NGEs across the entire value chain of the space economy, while clearly delineating the roles of various stakeholders like IN-SPACe, ISRO, New Space India Limited and Department of Space.

The Government has set up the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) as a single-window agency for promotion and authorization of space activities. The budget allocations for IN-SPACe are 2023-24 ₹95 crore; 2022-23 ₹33 crore and 2021-22 ₹10 crore.

About Tamil Nadu

Capital – Chennai

Chief Minister – M K Stalin

Governor – R N Ravi

158. Indian School of Business (ISB)'s Bharti Institute of Public Policy has signed an MoU with which state government to initiate knowledge sharing with a focus on evidence-based policymaking?

इंडियन स्कूल ऑफ बिजनेस (आईएसबी) के भारती इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ पब्लिक पॉलिसी ने साक्ष्य-आधारित नीति निर्माण पर ध्यान देने के साथ ज्ञान साझेदारी शुरू करने के लिए किस राज्य सरकार के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. ISB signed MoU with Goa government for knowledge partnership

The Indian School of Business (ISB's) Bharti Institute of Public Policy signed an MoU with the Goa government to commence a knowledge partnership with a focus on evidence-based policy formulation and its impact in the State.

According to the MoU, Bharti Institute will facilitate furthering the State government's objectives to improve the social and economic prosperity indicators through evidence-based public policy

interventions, capacity-building workshops, and citizen-centric governance-based initiatives as a knowledge partner.

It will collaborate with the Goa Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development (GIPARD) to conduct workshops for officials of State services.

### About Goa

Formation – 30 May 1987

Capital – Panaji

Chief Minister – Pramod Sawant

Governor – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

Karnataka govt, Foxconn sign Letter of Intent with Rs 5000 cr investment

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

159. Who has launched the Direct Benefit Transfer in National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रीय शिक्षता संवर्धन योजना में प्रत्यक्ष लाभ हस्तांतरण की शुरुआत किसने की है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Dharmendra Pradhan launches DBT in National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme

Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the Direct Benefit Transfer in National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme in New Delhi.

The Scheme marks a stride towards transparency and efficiency as the skilled workforce is paramount, to encompass policy evolution

Objective - To focus on the vision of making skilling an apprenticeship aspirational as well as encouraging earning while learning as envisioned in the National Education Policy.

The Minister also dispersed around 15 crores Rupees to One lakh apprentice and focused over the vision of making skilling an apprenticeship aspirational as well as encouraging earning while learning as envisioned in National Education Policy.

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship said that more than 25 Lakh apprentices have been engaged since the inception of the Scheme in 2016, whereas around 3 lakh Apprentices have completed training in 2023.

160. Which state government has recently approved the disbursement of 6,000 rupees to eligible farmers under the Chief Minister's Kisan Kalyan Yojana for the financial year 2023-24?

हाल ही में किस राज्य सरकार ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 के लिए मुख्यमंत्री किसान कल्याण योजना के तहत पात्र किसानों को 6,000 रुपये के वितरण को मंजूरी दे दी है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. MP Cabinet approves Rs 6000 for farmers under Kisan Kalyan Yojana

Madhya Pradesh Cabinet has approved the disbursement of 6,000 rupees to eligible farmers under the Chief Minister's Kisan Kalyan Yojana for the financial year 2023-2024.

The decision was taken in a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in Bhopal.

The Cabinet also decided to give the benefit of the seventh pay scale to Gram Panchayat Secretaries. An additional expenditure of 178.88 crore rupees on it will be met from minor mineral heads.

The council of ministers further approved the construction of 53 CM Rise Schools and 19 Kanya Shiksha Parisar with a total cost of over 2,491 crore rupees.

About Madhya Pradesh

Capital – Bhopal

Chief Minister – Shivraj Singh Chauhan

Governor – Mangubhai C. Patel

161. Which state government gave nod to open CSP Plus banking outlets in 4,373 unbanked gram panchayats (GPs) at a cost of Rs 500 crore?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 500 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से 4,373 बैंक रहित ग्राम पंचायतों (जीपी) में सीएसपी प्लस बैंकिंग आउटलेट खोलने की मंजूरी दी है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha Govt to open 'CSP Plus' banking outlet in 4373-gram panchayats

The Odisha Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik gave nod to open CSP Plus banking outlets in 4,373 unbanked gram panchayats (GPs) at a cost of Rs 500 crore. The CSP (customer service point) Plus banking outlets will be opened in coordination with six public sector banks (PSBs). Six PSBs — State Bank of India (SBI), Punjab National Bank (PNB), UCO Bank, Union Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and Bank of India will help in opening the facilities in 4,373 unbanked gram panchayats.

The cabinet also approved an additional budget of Rs 2,687 crore for a special programme for developing and creating awareness for millets in four years from 2023-24 to 2026-27.

About Odisha Capital – Bhubaneswar

Chief Minister – Naveen Patnaik

Governor – Ganeshi Lal

162. Which state government has allotted 12 hydropower projects to three Central Government PSUs by signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with them at State Banquet Hall?

किस राज्य सरकार ने स्टेट बैंकेट हॉल में केंद्र सरकार के तीन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओए) पर हस्ताक्षर करके उन्हें 12 जलविद्युत परियोजनाएं आवंटित की हैं?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
- (b) Sikkim / सिक्किम
- (c) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. a

Sol. Arunachal Pradesh govt inks MoA with 3 Central govt PSUs

Arunachal Pradesh government allotted 12 hydropower projects to three Central Government PSUs by signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with them at State Banquet Hall in Itanagar.

The projects will be implemented by NHPC Ltd., SJVN Ltd., and NEEPCO Ltd.

The total operational capacity of these 12 projects will be to the tune of 11,517 MW.

These projects were initially allotted to independent power developers but remained stalled due to various reasons. To unlock this potential, the Central and the State Governments made joint and concerted efforts over the last two years.

About Arunachal Pradesh

Capital – Itanagar

Chief Minister – Pema Khandu

Governor – LG (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik

163. Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS) 2023 will be held in which city from 17 to 19 October?

ग्लोबल मैरीटाइम इंडिया समिट (GMIS) 2023 17 से 19 अक्टूबर तक किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Global Maritime India Summit 2023 to be held in New Delhi.

Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS), 2023 is slated for October 17 to October 19 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The meeting, with participation from more than 40 countries, including 21 Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Deputy High Commissioners, Trade Commissioners, and 23 other diplomats, underscored the global interest in the upcoming GMIS 2023.

GMIS 2023 is a premier maritime sector focussed event to bring together pivotal figures from the industry to explore opportunities, understand challenges, and stimulate investment within India's maritime sector.

164. The Uttar Pradesh government will set up the country's largest IT hub in which city of state?

उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार राज्य के किस शहर में देश का सबसे बड़ा आईटी हब स्थापित करेगी?

(a) Ghaziabad / गाज़ियाबाद

(b) Varanasi / वाराणसी

(c) Kanpur / कानपुर

(d) Lucknow / लखनऊ

(e) Noida / नोएडा

Ans. d

Sol. UP government to build country's largest IT Hub in Lucknow

The Uttar Pradesh government will set up the country's largest IT hub in Lucknow.

The IT hub will be located on 40 acres of land in the Nadarganj Industrial Area of Amausi on Kanpur Road.

The hub will be divided into three parts: IT Park, Business Park, and International Incubation Facility Center.

The IT Park will be constructed on 11.47 acres.

About Uttar Pradesh

Capital - Lucknow

Chief Minister – Yogi Adityanath

Governor - Anandiben Patel

165. Who has recently inaugurated various development works worth Rs 1052 crore in Gandhinagar, Gujarat?

हाल ही में गुजरात के गांधीनगर में 1052 करोड़ रुपये के विभिन्न विकास कार्यों का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Amit Shah inaugurates development works worth Rs 1052 cr in Gujarat

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated various development works worth Rs 1052 crore in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The development works were done jointly by the Government of India and the Government of Gujarat.

Amit Shah laid the foundation stone for the widening of 4 lane road from Randheja to Balwa in his Lok Sabha constituency.

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

Amit Shah lays foundation stone for IFFCO Nano Urea Plant

Amit Shah laid foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool

Amit Shah inaugurated the newly established Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC) at CISF Campus Mahipalpur in New Delhi.

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).

166. Which of the following insurance company has recently introduced digital payments via WhatsApp and Unified Payment Interfaces?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बीमा कंपनी ने हाल ही में व्हाट्सएप और यूनिफाइड पेमेंट इंटरफेस के माध्यम से डिजिटल भुगतान शुरू किया है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Tata AIA introduces Industry-FirstPremium payment through WhatsApp

To reinforce its value of 'Consumer Obsession', Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA) has introduced digital payments via WhatsApp and Unified Payment Interfaces.

This industry-first feature provides an instant premium payment facility through WhatsApp and UPI-enabled payment options.

The newly added payment option is first-of-its-kind in the insurance industry. The agile, seamless process allows consumers to pay premiums digitally and receive a quick premium payment confirmation and acknowledgment.

In addition to being easy to use for both tech and non-tech-savvy consumers, it also offers a hassle-free premium payment experience.

WhatsApp and UPI have become household messaging and payment facilities, respectively, in India. The country has close to 500 million WhatsApp users today and more than 300 million UPI users. This clearly indicates the penetration of these new-age platforms. By introducing premium payment through these platforms, Tata AIA is ensuring that it provides its consumers with the ease and convenience of doing a transaction through their preferred modes.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

Airtel Payments Bank launched India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card

AU Small Finance Bank to provide 24x7 video banking service

Postal Life Insurance Launches Direct Incentive Disbursement (DID) for sales staff

Federal Bank launches NR savings accounts named "NRE Eve+" for NRI women

HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with Swiggy

167. What is the rate of inflation based on India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in July 2023?

जुलाई 2023 में भारत के थोक मूल्य सूचकांक (WPI) पर आधारित मुद्रास्फीति की दर क्या है?

- (a) -0.92%
- (b) -3.48%
- (c) -4.12%
- (d) -1.36%
- (e) -1.20%

Ans. d

Sol. Wholesale inflation stays in negative for fourth month at -1.36% in July

The wholesale price-based inflation remained in the negative territory for the fourth straight month in July at (-)1.36 percent on easing prices of fuel, even though food articles turned costlier. The wholesale price index-based inflation saw a 1.36% contraction in July, according to data released by the Commerce and industry ministry.

The wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation rate has been in the negative since April and was (-)4.12 percent in June. In July last year, it was 14.07 percent.

Inflation in food articles skyrocketed 14.25 per cent in July against 1.32 per cent in June.

The RBI last week kept interest rates unchanged at 6.5 per cent for the third straight meeting but signalled tighter policy if food prices drive inflation higher.

Recent WPI-based Wholesale inflation in India

January 2023 – 4.73%

February 2023 – 3.85%

March 2023 – 1.38%

April 2023 – (-)0.92%

May 2023 – (-) 3.48%

June 2023 – (-) 4.12%

July 2023 – (-) 1.36%

168. Which of the following has won Gold Award under Excellence in Government Process Reengineering for Digital Transformation Category-1 by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Complaints?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने प्रशासनिक सुधार और सार्वजनिक शिकायत विभाग द्वारा डिजिटल परिवर्तन श्रेणी -1 के लिए सरकारी प्रक्रिया पुनर्रचना में उत्कृष्टता के तहत स्वर्ण पुरस्कार जीता है?

- (a) Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System
- (b) Next Generation Identification
- (c) National Automated Fingerprint Identification System
- (d) Biodot Global Technology
- (e) Interpretable Fingerprint Identification System

Ans. c

Sol. NAFIS gets Gold Award for fool-proof fingerprint identification system

National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) Team won Gold Award under Excellence in Government Process Reengineering for Digital Transformation Category-1 by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Complaints in Aug 2023.

The award for its excellence in delivering e-governance is a recognition of the dedication the entire NAFIS team has put into creating a fool-proof fingerprint identification system, in pursuit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji's vision of a secure India.

Ministry of Home Affairs communiqué said that NAFIS has created a central database of fingerprints of criminals, which can be accessed by users from all States, Union Territories, and Central Agencies.

This has resulted in a qualitative improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal detection and investigation process.

About NAFIS

NAFIS helps in the quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of a centralized fingerprint database.

It assigns a unique 10-digit National Fingerprint Number (NFN) to each person arrested for a crime.

169. Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' or 'Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas' is observed every year on which day?

विभाजन विभीषिका स्मृति दिवस' हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 August / 14 अगस्त
- (b) 15 August / 15 अगस्त
- (c) 11 August / 11 अगस्त
- (d) 12 August / 12 अगस्त
- (e) 13 August / 13 अगस्त

Ans. a

Sol. 14 August - Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' or 'Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas' is observed on August 14 to remember all those who lost their lives due to partition.

This day was announced by the Prime Minister in 2021 to remember all those who lost their lives due to the partition of the nation and were uprooted from their origins.

The partition caused one of the largest migrations in human history, affecting about 20 million people. Millions of families had to abandon their ancestral villages/towns/cities and were forced to start anew as refugees.

170. World Organ Donation Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व अंगदान दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 August / 14 अगस्त
- (b) 15 August / 15 अगस्त
- (c) 11 August / 11 अगस्त
- (d) 12 August / 12 अगस्त
- (e) 13 August / 13 अगस्त

Ans. e

Sol. 13 August - World Organ Donation Day

World Organ Donation Day is observed every year on 13 August.

Objective - To raise awareness about the importance of and help people understand organ donation.

Theme 2023 - Donate Organs, Save Lives

Organ donation is quite similar to giving someone another chance at life. The first ever successful living donor organ transplant was performed in 1954 in the US. A man named, Ronald Lee Herrick donated his kidney to his identical brother, Richard Lee Herrick.

The doctor who performed this surgery was named Joseph Murray. He won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1990 for successfully carrying out this kidney transplant.

It is an annual event that provides a special opportunity to celebrate and thank the donors who save some valuable lives during need.

171. Bikash Sinha passed away recently at the age of 78. Who was he?

विकास सिन्हा का हाल ही में 78 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Physicist / भौतिक विज्ञानी
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. c

Sol. Renowned Nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha passed away

Renowned nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha passed away at the age of 78.

He was the recipient of Padma Shri in 2001 and Padma Bhusan in 2010 for his contribution to science & technology.

In 1987 he was appointed the director of the Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre. He held the concurrent charge as director of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics till 2009.

The SN Bose Birth Centenary Award of the Indian Science Congress Association in 1994, he was conferred by the West Bengal government the state's highest award 'Bangabibhushan' in 2022 and also the 'Rabindra Smriti Puraskar' in the same year.

172. Which travel company has joined hands with the Ministry of Tourism to showcase 600-plus offbeat destinations?

किस ट्रैवल कंपनी ने 600 से अधिक ऑफबीट गंतव्यों को प्रदर्शित करने के लिए पर्यटन मंत्रालय के साथ हाथ मिलाया है?

- (a) Despegar / डेस्पेगर
- (b) Agoda / अगोडा
- (c) Ola / ओला
- (d) MakeMyTrip / मेकमायट्रिप
- (e) Tripadvisor / ट्रिपएडवाइज़र

Ans. d

Sol. MakeMyTrip partners with Tourism Ministry to showcase India

Online travel company, MakeMyTrip has joined hands with the Ministry of Tourism to showcase 600-plus offbeat destinations.

The online travel firm has launched a microsite, 'Traveller's Map of India'.

The site provides an interactive platform for travellers to discover lesser-known tourism gems that lie within the country's borders based on their preferences.

According to MMT, this microsite has been designed in line with the Government of India's visionary 'DekhoApnaDesh' program.

173. Which of the following district in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has been awarded the "Best Performer District in UT of J&K under PMAY-G"?

केंद्र शासित प्रदेश जम्मू और कश्मीर में निम्नलिखित में से किस जिले को "PMAY-G के तहत केंद्र शासित प्रदेश जम्मू और कश्मीर में सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन करने वाले जिले" से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Jammu / जम्मू
- (b) Samba / सांबा
- (c) Srinagar / श्रीनगर
- (d) Udhampur / उधमपुर
- (e) Kupwara / कुपवाड़ा

Ans. e

Sol. Kupwara bags 'Best Performer District Award' under PMAY-G Convergence

In a remarkable achievement, frontier district Kupwara has been conferred with the prestigious award for the "Best Performer District in UT of J&K under PMAY-G" by Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor J&K UT.

Kupwara district has received the award in recognition of the construction of 4723 PMAY houses out of a target of 4902

Kupwara district has received the award in recognition of construction of 4723 PMAY houses out of a target of 4902 houses for financial year 2022-23 and providing the other basic facilities to the beneficiaries under convergence.

The rural housing programme not only provides a home to the poor but also generates employment for them up to 96 days work under MGNREGA besides LPG connection, water and electricity connections are provided to PMAY beneficiaries under convergence.

PMAY-Gis successfully fulfilled the dream of several poor and vulnerable families having their own Pucca house in frontier Kupwara district.

174. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone for a temple of 14th-century mystic poet and social reformer Sant Ravidas in which state?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने किस राज्य में 14वीं सदी के रहस्यवादी कवि और समाज सुधारक संत रविदास के मंदिर की आधारशिला रखी 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 laid foundation of Sant Ravidas temple in Madhya Pradesh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a temple of 14th-century mystic poet and social reformer Sant Ravidas in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar district.

Sant Ravidas was born at a time when the Mughal dynasty was ruling the country, and he had fought for educating the people at that time.

Sant Ravidas was an Indian mystic poet-saint of the bhakti movement and founder of the Ravidassia religion during the 15th to 16th century.

The temple of Sant Ravidas will be constructed in Sagar at a cost of Rs 100 crore to be provided by the state government.

A Sangrahalay (museum) will also be constructed at the temple premises.

Modi also launched some other development projects in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, including the re-development of the Kota (Rajasthan)-Beena (Madhya Pradesh) railway line.

PM Modi in News

PM Modi launched 'Bhartiya Vastra Evam Shilp Kosh' E-Portal

PM Modi launched "Urea Gold" in Rajasthan

PM Modi inaugurates Semicon India 2023 conclave in Gujarat

PM Modi inaugurates 6 Eklavya Model Residential Schools in Rajasthan

PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate 'Semicon India 2023' in Gandhinagar

175. The 'Graphene-Aurora program' was launched by the MeitY Secretary in Kochi, Kerala. Who is the MeitY Secretary?

केरल के कोच्चि में MeitY सचिव द्वारा 'ग्राफीन-अरोड़ा कार्यक्रम' लॉन्च किया गया। MeitY सचिव कौन हैं?

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) AK Sharma / एके शर्मा
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

Ans. d

Sol. MeitY Secretary AK Sharma launches the 'Graphene-Aurora Program'

The 'Graphene-Aurora program' was launched by the MeitY Secretary Alkesh Kumar Sharma in Kochi, Kerala.

The program will be implemented by Digital University Kerala and has a total budget outlay of Rs 94.85 Crore.

A section 8 company called 'India Graphene Engineering and Innovation Centre (I-GEIC)' will be set up to nurture the emerging Graphene technology ecosystem.

176. Union Minister for Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala has unveiled the 'A-HELP' to empower women programme in Gujarat. What is the full form of "A-HELP" Programme?

केंद्रीय पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री, परषोत्तम रूपाला ने गुजरात में महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने के लिए 'A-HELP' कार्यक्रम का अनावरण किया है। "A-HELP" प्रोग्राम का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Accredited Agent for Health and Excessive of Livestock Production
- (b) Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Premium
- (c) Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Protection
- (d) Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livelihood Production
- (e) Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production

Ans. e

Sol. Parshottam Rupala launches 'A-HELP' Programme in Gujarat

The Union Minister for Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala has unveiled the 'A-HELP' (Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production) programme in Gujarat.

The 'A-HELP' programme aims to empower women by engaging them as trained agents who contribute significantly to disease control, artificial insemination under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM), animal tagging, and livestock insurance.

This endeavour serves as an exemplary integration of women's power, fostering socio-economic progress in line with the vision of the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.

It was launched under the Pashudhan Jagrati Abhiyaan.

177. Which scheme will the government launch with an allocation of ₹13,000 crore to ₹15,000 crore for skilled workers like barbers, goldsmiths, washermen, etc?

सरकार नाई, सुनार, धोबी आदि जैसे कुशल श्रमिकों के लिए ₹13,000 करोड़ से ₹15,000 करोड़ के आवंटन के साथ कौन सी योजना शुरू करेगी?

- (a) Gandhi Scheme
- (b) Ravidas Scheme
- (c) Vishwakarma scheme
- (d) Empowered Scheme
- (e) Kaushal Scheme

Ans. c

Sol. Government to launch Vishwakarma scheme

The government will launch the Vishwakarma scheme, with an allocation of ₹13,000 crores to ₹15,000 crores for skilled workers like barbers, goldsmiths, washer men etc.

The scheme will be launched in September, on the Vishwakarma Jayanti. Vishwakarma Jayanti falls on 17 September 2023.

The remarks during his address to the nation on the occasion of 77th Independence Day from the ramparts of Red Fort in New Delhi.

PM Vishwakarma Scheme aims to improve the quality, scale and reach of products and services of artisans and craftspeople and to integrate them with the domestic and global value chain.

PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman Yojana is initiated especially for people where the central focus remains on those skilled craftsmen from villages and towns who create a living by working with their own hands.

The government will provide holistic institutional support to every artisan. The government will ensure easy loans, skilling, technical support, digital empowerment, brand promotion, marketing and raw material.

This would result in the economic empowerment of such workers, especially those belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Communities, women, transgender and other weaker sections of the society.

178. What is the Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation for July 2023 in India?

भारत में जुलाई 2023 के लिए उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (CPI) आधारित खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति क्या है?

- (a) 7.44%
- (b) 4.81%
- (c) 4.35%
- (d) 4.7%
- (e) 6.52%

Ans. a

Sol. Retail inflation rises to 15-month high of 7.44 percent in July

India's retail inflation surged to 7.44 percent in July on an annual basis as against 4.81 percent in June, showed data released by the Ministry of statistics.

It is the highest reading since May 2022 when the inflation rate stood at 7.79 percent. The consumer food price index (CFPI) rose to 11.51 percent from 4.49 percent in June. Rural inflation stood at 7.63 percent while urban inflation stood at 7.20 percent. The consumer-price index (CPI) based inflation breached the upper limit of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance band of 2-6 percent after staying within for four consecutive months. The inflation rate for vegetables witnessed a sharp increase and rose to 37.34 percent against a contraction of 0.93 percent y-o-y. The inflation levels for food & beverage surged to 10.57 percent from 4.63 percent. For cereals, the inflation rate increased to 13.04 percent from 12.71 percent in June. In its August Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting, the RBI raised its inflation forecast for the current fiscal to 5.4 percent from 5.1 per cent forecast in June policy. Recent CPI-based Retail inflation in India

January 2023 – 6.52%

February 2023 – 6.44%

March 2023 – 5.66%

April 2023 – 4.7%

May 2023 – 4.25%

June 2023 – 4.81%

July 2023 – 7.44%

179. Who has been appointed as the new MD of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)?

भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम (LIC) के नए एमडी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) R Doraiswamy / आर दोरईस्वामी
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. d

Sol. R Doraiswamy appoints as MD of LIC

Centre has appointed R Doraiswamy, Executive Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) as Managing Director of the insurance behemoth.

Doraiswamy will replace Ipe Mini, who is currently an MD of LIC and is due to superannuate at the end of this month.

Doraiswamy has been appointed from the date of assumption of charge of the office on or after 1 September 2023 and up to the date of his superannuation (31 August 2026) or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Currently, LIC has four Managing Directors — Mini Ipe, M Jagannath, Tablesh Pandey, and Sat Pal Bhanoo. The Centre had appointed Bhanoo as MD of LIC last month.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company- Amit Jhingran

Non-executive chairman of Axis Bank - NS Vishwanathan

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

180. President Droupadi Murmu has approved how many Gallantry awards to the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on Independence Day 2023?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने स्वतंत्रता दिवस 2023 पर सशस्त्र बलों और केंद्रीय सशस्त्र पुलिस बलों के कर्मियों को कितने वीरता पुरस्कारों को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 73
- (b) 75
- (c) 76
- (d) 77
- (e) 79

Ans. c

Sol. President Murmu approved 76 Gallantry awards for Armed Forces and CAPF personnel

President Droupadi Murmu has approved 76 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on the eve of Independence Day 2023.

These include four Kirti Chakra (posthumous), 11 Shaurya Chakras (including five posthumous), two Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 52 Sena Medals (Gallantry), three Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and four Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).

The President has also approved 30 mention-in-despatches to the army, including to Army dog Madhu (posthumous), and one to Air Force personnel for their significant contributions in different military operations.

The operations include Operation Rakshak, Operation Snow Leopard, Operation Casualty Evacuation, Operation Mount Chomo, Operation Pangsau Pass, Operation Meghdoot, Operation Orchid, Operation Kalisham Valley, Rescue Operation and Operation Evacuation. President Murmu also approved one President's Tatrakshak Medal (PTM) and five Tatrakshak Medals (TM) to the Indian Coast Guard personnel for their act of conspicuous gallantry, exceptional devotion to duty and distinguished/meritorious service on the occasion of Independence Day 2023.

181. Who among the following has won the first Canadian Open title?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने पहला कैनेडियन ओपन खिताब जीता है?

- (a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
- (b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
- (c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
- (d) Alexander Zverev / अलेक्जेंडर ज्वेरेव
- (e) Jannik Sinner / जननिक सिनर

Ans. e

Sol. Jannik Sinner clinches maiden Canadian Open title

Jannik Sinner broke new ground in Toronto when he captured his maiden ATP Masters 1000 title at the Canadian Open, defeating Alex de Minaur in the summit clash.

He broke the Australian's serve five times to become only the second Italian Masters 1000 champion since the series began in 1990, joining Fabio Fognini (Monte-Carlo 2019).

182. Who is the author of the book titled "Kuch Adhure Shabd"?

"कुछ अधूरे शब्द" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) Aravind Adiga / अरविंद अडिगा
- (e) Ashutosh Agnihotri / आशुतोष अग्निहोत्री

Ans. e

Sol. IAS officer Ashutosh Agnihotri launches his book "Kuch Adhure Shabd"

Ashutosh Agnihotri's book "Kuch Adhure Shabd" is a collection of Hindi poems which is a testament to the simple joys of life.

Agnihotri is a 1999 batch IAS Officer, a prolific writer, and an avid reader.

His love for literature and the written word has led him to write several Hindi and English books, including "Os Ki Thapki"; "Spandan"; "Colours of My Wall: Not with the Same Brush".

Recent Book

Monsoon - Abhay K

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die- Dr. Nazema Maraikayar & Dr. Y.S. Rajan (Tamil to English -Ninaivugalukku Maranamillai & launch by Amit Shah)

Raag Prakash – Dr. Om Prakash Kaul (released by Himachal CM)

As the wheel turns -Ranjit Pratap (released by M Venkaiah Naidu)

A Fool's Journey - Sarika Bhardwaj

183. India celebrated its 77th Independence Day on 15 August 2023. What is the theme of the 77th Independence Day?

भारत ने 15 अगस्त 2023 को अपना 77वां स्वतंत्रता दिवस मनाया। 77वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas
- (b) Jan-Bhagidari
- (c) Support our Troops, Salute our Troops
- (d) Freedom Struggle
- (e) Nation First, Always First

Ans. e

Sol. 15 August 2023 - India's 77th Independence Day

Independence Day is annually celebrated on 15 August, as a national holiday in India commemorating the nation's independence from British rule on 15 August 1947.

The day honors the sacrifices of freedom fighters who fought for the liberation of India.

Theme 2023 – Nation First, Always First

First Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru raised the country's flag over the Lahori Gate of the Red Fort in Delhi on August 15, 1947.

"Jan Gan Man," was declared the national anthem by the Constituent Assembly on January 24, 1950.

184. Which state has become the first Indian state to give free In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) treatment in government hospitals?

कौन सा राज्य सरकारी अस्पतालों में मुफ्त इन विट्रो फर्टिलाइजेशन (आईवीएफ) उपचार देने वाला पहला भारतीय राज्य बन गया है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Goa to give free IVF treatment in govt hospital

Goa has become the first Indian state to offer free in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment.

The inauguration of this service, alongside assisted reproductive technology (ART) and intrauterine insemination (IUI), was done by Chief Minister Pramod Sawant at the Goa Medical College (GMC) in Bambolim.

Depending on the hospital and the kind of IVF treatment, the cost of IVF in India comes between Rs 70,000 to Rs 3 lakh per cycle.

The service is already receiving a good response, with approximately 100 parents registering with GMC to access the IVF facility located within its super-specialty block.

About Goa

Formation – 30 May 1987

Capital – Panaji

Chief Minister – Pramod Sawant

Governor – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

185. The government is planning skill development training for how many women under the 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme, which aims to encourage them to start micro-enterprises.

सरकार 'लखपति दीदी' योजना के तहत कितनी महिलाओं के लिए कौशल विकास प्रशिक्षण की योजना बना रही है, जिसका उद्देश्य उन्हें सूक्ष्म उद्यम शुरू करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना है।

- (a) 1 crore / 1 करोड़
- (b) 20 lakh / 20 लाख
- (c) 2 crore / 2 करोड़
- (d) 20 crore / 20 करोड़
- (e) 20 thousand / 20 हजार

Ans. c

Sol. Govt planning skill training for 2 crore women under 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme

The government is planning skill development training for two crore women under the 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme that aims to encourage them to start micro-enterprises.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his Independence Day speech, said "It is my dream to make two crore lakhpati didis in villages".

The 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme has been in place in some states and now the government is planning to train two crore women under it.

Women would be trained in skills like plumbing, LED bulb making and operating and repairing drones among others.

Prime Minister Modi also said it is now being seen that more than men, women are studying STEM. He further said that the G-20 has also acknowledged India's approach of women-led development.

186. Which IT company has bagged a €€1.5 billion (\$1.64 billion) deal from Liberty Global to build and scale the entertainment and connectivity platforms of the digital communications firm?

किस आईटी कंपनी ने डिजिटल संचार फर्म के मनोरंजन और कनेक्टिविटी प्लेटफॉर्म के निर्माण और पैमाने के लिए लिबर्टी ग्लोबल से €€1.5 बिलियन (\$1.64 बिलियन) का सौदा हासिल किया है?

- (a) Microsoft / माइक्रोसॉफ्ट
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) Infosys / इंफोसिस
- (d) HCL / एचसीएल
- (e) IBM / आईबीएम

Ans. c

Sol. Infosys bags \$1.6 billion deal with telecom firm Liberty Global

Indian IT services company, Infosys has bagged a €€1.5 billion (\$1.64 billion) deal from Liberty Global to build and scale the entertainment and connectivity platforms of the digital communications firm.

The agreement has an initial tenure of five years which can be extended to eight years, which would take the deal value to €€2.3 billion (\$2.5 billion). This is the third big agreement, which Infosys has clinched this year and comes at a time when the company has cut its revenue guidance for the current fiscal amidst tough macroeconomic conditions.

Infosys' deal follows, HCLTech, which last week a bagged a \$2.1- billion contract from Verizon.

Three months back, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)-led consortium also received an order of Rs 15,000 crore (\$1.8 billion) from BSNL, for the deployment of a 4G network across India.

Last month, even L&T Technology Services announced that it has won \$50 million deal in the same vertical.

187. The 4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group and Digital Economy Ministerial meetings will be held in which city from August 16th to 19th?

चौथी G20 डिजिटल इकोनॉमी वर्किंग ग्रुप और डिजिटल इकोनॉमी मंत्रिस्तरीय बैठकें 16 से 19 अगस्त तक किस शहर में आयोजित की जाएंगी?

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

Ans. a

Sol. G20 Digital Economy Working Group meetings begin in Bengaluru

The 4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group and Digital Economy Ministerial meetings will be held in Bengaluru from August 16th to 19th. During the deliberations under the G20 India Presidency, various issues relating to digital information, service delivery to citizens and growth of the digital economy will be discussed.

There would be the Digital Innovation Alliance summit on August 17 and 18th to recognize and support innovators from various G20 member countries and Guest countries. G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

3rd G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting - Kolkata, West Bengal (9 – 10 August 2023)

Think20 Secretariat Summit - Mysuru, Karnataka (31 July - 2 August 2023)

G20 Empower Summit - Gandhinagar, Gujarat (1 - 2 August 2023)

G20 Green & Sustainable Growth Agenda for Global Economy Meeting - New Delhi (28 - 29 July 2023)

188. The Reserve Bank has recently imposed monetary penalty on how many cooperative banks for deficiencies in regulatory compliance?

रिजर्व बैंक ने हाल ही में नियामक अनुपालन में कमियों के लिए कितने सहकारी बैंकों पर मौद्रिक जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 5
- (d) 6
- (e) 8

Ans. b

Sol. RBI imposes monetary penalty on four co-operative banks for violating rules

The Reserve Bank has imposed monetary penalties on four co-operative banks for deficiencies in regulatory compliance.

These banks are -- Baroda Gujarat Gramin Bank, Vadodara, The Aska Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Bally Cooperative Bank Ltd., Howrah and The Nabapalli Co-operative Bank Ltd., West Bengal.

RBI imposed a penalty of Rs 2.50 lakh on Nabapalli Co-operative Bank, West Bengal and Rs 1 lakh on Bally Co-operative Bank, West Bengal.

The penalty on Aska Cooperative Bank, Aska (Odisha) was Rs 50,000 and on Baroda Gujarat Gramin Bank, Vadodara (Gujarat) was Rs 5 lakh.

The central bank said that the penalties were due to deficiencies in regulatory compliance by the banks.

189. According to Soumya Kanti Ghoshon, Group Chief Economic Adviser of State Bank of India (SBI), India is likely to become the third largest economy by which year?

भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (एसबीआई) समूह के मुख्य आर्थिक सलाहकार सौम्य कांति घोषोन के अनुसार, भारत के किस वर्ष तक तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की संभावना है?

- (a) 2027
- (b) 2028
- (c) 2029
- (d) 2032
- (e) 2024

Ans. a

Sol. India to become 3rd largest economy by 2027: SBI chief economist

The Group Chief Economic Advisor at the State Bank of India (SBI), Soumya Kanti Ghoshon has reiterated that India is likely to become the third-largest economy by 2027.

Indian economy is currently ranked fifth and is behind the US, China, Japan, and Germany.

In 2014, India was the 10th largest economy. In 2022, India became the fifth-largest economy overtaking the UK. And most likely in the next couple of years, by 2027, India will become the third largest economy, just after US and China.

India to become a developed country by 2047. And that is actually a true reflection of unity in diversity. And that is possibly the best gift that India could get in its hundred years of independence.

190. Anwarul Haq Kakkar has recently been sworn in as the caretaker Prime Minister of which country?

अनवारुल हक कक्कड़ ने हाल ही में किस देश के कार्यवाहक प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में शपथ ली है?

- (a) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. d

Sol. Anwarul Haq Kakar sworn in as Pakistan's Caretaker Prime Minister

Anwarul Haq Kakar was sworn in as Pakistan's caretaker prime minister to head a neutral political set-up to run the cash-strapped country and conduct the next general elections.

President Arif Alvi administered the oath to 52-year-old Kakar at a simple ceremony held at the President House, attended by outgoing prime minister Shehbaz Sharif and several top leaders.

He became the 8th interim prime minister of Pakistan.

Kakar formally resigned from the Senate and the Balochistan Awami Party (BAP), solidifying his commitment to the neutrality demanded by his current position.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

PM of Greece - Kyriakos Mitsotakis (2nd term)

PM of Finland - Petteri Orpo (replace Sanna Marin)

President of Latvia - Edgars Rinkevics

President of Turkey - Recep Tayyip Erdogan (re-elected)

President of Nigeria - Bola Ahmed Tinubu

President of Paraguay - Santiago Peña

191. How many Police personnel have been awarded Police Medals on the occasion of the 77th Independence Day?

77वें स्वतंत्रता दिवस के अवसर पर कितने पुलिस कर्मियों को पुलिस पदक से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) 950
- (b) 854
- (c) 754
- (d) 954
- (e) 945

Ans. d

Sol. 954 Police personnel awarded Police Medals on Independence Day

A total of 954 Police personnel has been awarded Police Medals on the occasion of Independence Day.

The President's Police Medal for Gallantry has been awarded to CRPF personnel and the Police Medal for Gallantry has been awarded to 229 personnel.

President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service has been awarded to 82 and the Police Medal for Meritorious Service to 642 personnel.

125 personnel from Left Wing Extremism affected areas, 71 personnel from Jammu and Kashmir region and 11 personnel from North East region are being awarded for their gallant action.

Among the majority of the 230 Gallantry Awards, 125 personnel from Left Wing Extremism affected areas, 71 personnel from Jammu & Kashmir region and 11 personnel from North East region are being awarded for their gallant action.

Among the personnel receiving Gallantry Awards, 28 are from CRPF, 33 are from Maharashtra, 55 are from J&K Police, 24 are from Chhattisgarh, 22 are from Telangana and 18 are from Andhra Pradesh the remaining from the other States/UTs and CAPFs.

192. How many personnel have been awarded Fire Service Medals on the occasion of Independence Day 2023?

स्वतंत्रता दिवस 2023 के अवसर पर कितने कर्मियों को अग्निशमन सेवा पदक से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) 49
- (b) 41
- (c) 53
- (d) 59
- (e) 75

Ans. c

Sol. 53 personnel awarded Fire Service Medals on Independence Day 2023

A total of 53 personnel has been awarded Fire Service Medals on the occasion of Independence Day 2023.

Out of these, President's Fire Service Medal for Gallantry is awarded to 03 personnel and Fire Service Medal for Gallantry is awarded to 01 personnel for their respective acts of valour and gallantry.

President's Fire Service Medal for Distinguished Service is awarded to 8 personnel and Fire Service Medal for Meritorious Service is awarded to 41 personnel for their respective distinguished and meritorious records of services.

In addition, 48 personnel/volunteers are also awarded Home Guards & Civil Defence Medals on the occasion of Independence Day, 2023.

193. Fast bowler Steven Finn has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. Steven Finn played for which of the following National Cricket team?

तेज गेंदबाज स्टीवन फिन ने क्रिकेट के सभी प्रारूपों से संन्यास की घोषणा कर दी है। स्टीवन फिन निम्नलिखित में से किस राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट टीम के लिए खेले है?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. a

Sol. England pacer Steven Finn announces retirement from all forms of Cricket

England fast bowler Steven Finn has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.

He suffered a knee injury that kept him out of action for most of 2023 and led to him calling time on his 18-year career.

Finn played 36 Tests, 69 ODIs and 21 T20Is after making his international debut in 2010 against Bangladesh.

He showed his wares early in his career, returning 14 wickets in England's win in the men's Ashes of 2010-11.

He also picked up 12 wickets - the second-most for England - in the 2015 Ashes that they won. Overall, he finished with 125 wickets in Tests, 102 in ODIs and 27 in T20Is.

Recently Retired Players

Alex Hales - International Cricket - England

Manoj Tiwary - All forms of cricket - India

Diego Godin - Professional Football - Uruguay

Stuart Broad - International Cricket - England

Lahiru Thirimanne- International Cricket - Sri Lanka

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



194. All-rounder Chris Woakes was named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for July 2023. He is from which country?

ऑलराउंडर क्रिस वोक्स को जुलाई 2023 के लिए ICC मेन्स प्लेयर ऑफ द मंथ नामित किया गया। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. a

Sol. Woakes named ICC Men's Player of the Month for July 2023

England all-rounder Chris Woakes was named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for July 2023.

The Englishman beat compatriot Zak Crawley and Netherlands' Bas de Leede to claim the honour.

He bagged the Player-of-the-Match at the Oval and was also named the Player-of-the-Series for his 19 wickets in three matches at an average of 18.15.

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)

June 2023 - Wanindu Hasaranga (Sri Lanka)

195. Recently, who amongst the following has won the ICC Women's Players of the Month Award for July 2023?

हाल ही में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने जुलाई 2023 के लिए ICC महिला प्लेयर्स ऑफ़ द मंथ अवार्ड जीता है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Harmanpreet Kaur / हरमनप्रीत कौर
- (c) Ashleigh Gardner / एशले गार्डनर
- (d) Thipatcha Putthawong / थिपाचा पुथावोंग
- (e) Grace Scrivens / ग्रेस स्क्रिवेन्स /

Ans. c

Sol. Ashleigh Gardner becomes 1st Australian to win consecutive ICC awards

Ashleigh Gardner of Australia has achieved a historic feat by becoming the first Australian cricketer to secure the ICC Player of the Month Award in back-to-back months. Ashleigh Gardner has become the first-ever Australian cricketer to win the ICC Player of the Month award in consecutive months. For her outstanding performances in the month of July, Gardner emerged victorious in the ICC POTM award.

This victory marks the fourth occasion that she has clinched this prestigious monthly accolade, surpassing fellow all-rounders Ellyse Perry and Nat Sciver-Brunt in the race for the title. Gardner played a pivotal role in both batting and bowling during the T20I leg of the Ashes series. Although she went without any wickets in the first and last matches, she contributed with the bat, scoring 31 and 32 runs. In the second T20I, she showcased her bowling prowess by capturing two wickets.

This marked the fourth time Gardner has won the coveted monthly award.

ICC Women's Player of the Month

November 2022 - Sidra Ameen (Pakistan)

December 2022 - Ashleigh Gardner (Australia)

January 2023 - Grace Scrivens (England)

February 2023 - Ashleigh Gardner (Australia)

March 2023 - Henriette Ishimwe (Rawanda)

April 2023 - Naruamol Chaiwai (Thailand)

May 2023 - Thipatcha Putthawong (Thiland)

June 2023 - Ashleigh Gardner (Australia)



196. Bennington Battle Day is observed annually on which day?

बेनिंगटन बैटल डे प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 August / 14 अगस्त
- (b) 15 August / 15 अगस्त
- (c) 16 August / 16 अगस्त
- (d) 17 August / 17 अगस्त
- (e) 18 August / 18 अगस्त

Ans. c

Sol. 16 August- Bennington Battle Day

Bennington Battle Day is observed annually on August 16, and stands as a revered state holiday in Vermont.

This commemorative day honors the valor and determination displayed by American and Vermont forces during the Revolutionary War's Battle of Bennington in 1777.

The Battle of Bennington held substantial significance, marking a turning point in the Revolutionary War.

This pivotal encounter proved instrumental in securing Vermont for the American cause and lifting spirits dampened by a series of British successes. Furthermore, the battle's outcome resulted in the capture of vital supplies crucially needed by the British.

The origins of Bennington Battle Day can be traced back to 1778 when the Vermont General Assembly passed a resolution to memorialize the valorous events of the battle. The inaugural formal celebration of Bennington Battle Day took place in 1780.

197. 'Navroz' is the new year of which of the following community?

'नवरोज़' निम्नलिखित में से किस समुदाय का नया वर्ष है?

- (a) Parsi / पारसी
- (b) Gujarati / गुजराती
- (c) Marathi / मराठी
- (d) Jainism / जैन
- (e) Christian / ईसाई

Ans. a

Sol. 16 August 2023 - Parsi New Year or Navroz

The Parsi New Year, also known as the festival of Navroz or Nowruz, falls between July and August in India.

In 2023, It has observed in India on 16 Aug. This day marks the beginning of the Zoroastrian calendar.

Navroz is a festival that marks the beginning of spring and the renewal of nature.

Derived from the Persian words 'Nav' and 'Roz' which literally translates to 'new day', the tradition of celebrating Parsi New Year is believed to have been observed by Iranians and Zoroastrians for the past 3,000 years.

198. Hari Narke passed away recently at the age of 70. Who was he?

हरि नारके का हाल ही में 70 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Author / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Theatre artist / थिएटर कलाकार
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. a

Sol. Renowned author Hari Narke passes away in Mumbai

Renowned author and vice-president of Samata Parishad, Hari Narke passed away at the age of 70 in Mumbai.

Narke was the professor of Mahatma Phule chair at Savitribai Phule Pune University and a former member of the Maharashtra Backward Class Commission.

He was also a member of the Rangnath Pathare committee which was formed to collect evidence to prove Marathi as a classical language.

**199. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is organizing Youth 20 Summit 2023 from 17 - 20 of August in which city?**  
**युवा मामले और खेल मंत्रालय 17 से 20 अगस्त तक किस शहर में यूथ 20 शिखर सम्मेलन 2023 का आयोजन कर रहा है?**

- (a) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Ministry of Youth Affairs organize Youth 20 Summit in Varanasi

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is organizing Youth 20 Summit-2023 from the 17th to the 20th of August in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

More than 100 delegates from G20 countries, Guest countries, and International Organizations will discuss five identified themes of Y20.

These themes include Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation and 21st Century Skills, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War, and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

The Y20 Summit will bring together youth experts, decision-makers and youth representatives from G20 countries to negotiate, finalize and sign the Y20 Communiqué created from the conclusions of the discussions conducted during past few months.

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

- **4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group Meetings** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (16 - 19 August 2023)
- **3rd G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** - Kolkata, West Bengal (9 – 10 August 2023)
- **Think20 Secretariat Summit** - Mysuru, Karnataka (31 July - 2 August 2023)
- **G20 Empower Summit** - Gandhinagar, Gujarat (1 - 2 August 2023)
- **G20 Green & Sustainable Growth Agenda for Global Economy Meeting** - New Delhi (28 - 29 July 2023)

**200. G20 Film Festival begins in New Delhi. Who has inaugurated this Film Festival?**

**जी20 फिल्म महोत्सव नई दिल्ली में शुरू हुआ। इस फिल्म महोत्सव का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?**

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Amitabh Kant / अमिताभ कांत
- (e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** G20 Film Festival begins in New Delhi

The G20 Film Festival begins in New Delhi. The event will continue till 2nd September

Veteran actor Victor Banerjee and Amitabh Kant (India's G20 Sherpa) have inaugurated the G20 Film Festival in New Delhi.

The festival aims to celebrate and showcase a vibrant and collaborative partnership existing amongst the G20 and invited countries in the field of cinema.

The festival is organized by the India International Centre (IIC) and the G20 Secretariat of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali" will be the opening film.

**201. Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has announced a plan to expand the Supreme Court with how many new additional courts?**

**भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश डी.वाई. चंद्रचूड़ ने कितनी नई अतिरिक्त अदालतों के साथ सुप्रीम कोर्ट का विस्तार करने की योजना की घोषणा की है?**

- (a) 11
- (b) 17
- (c) 22
- (d) 27
- (e) 51

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** CJI announces plan to expand Supreme Court

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has announced a plan to expand the Supreme Court with 27 additional courts and 51 judges' chambers. Currently, the Supreme Court has 17 courtrooms and two registrar courts. Its judicial strength is 32.

In his address at the 76th Independence Day celebrations at the Supreme Court lawns, Chief Justice Chandrachud said an "overhaul" of the court infrastructure was necessary on a priority basis to make courts more accessible and inclusive.

The top judge said the emphasis of the new project would be on modernizing the judicial infrastructure.

We plan to expand the Supreme Court by constructing a new building to accommodate 27 additional courts, 51 judges' chambers, 4 Registrar Court Rooms, 16 Registrar Chambers, and other requisite facilities for lawyers and litigants. This expansion is proposed in two phases. In the first stage, the court museum and annexe building would be demolished to construct a new building with 15 courtrooms, judges' chambers, Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) library, offices for the SCBA and Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAoRA) office-bearers, canteen, women lawyers bar room and other facilities.

In the next phase, some of the portion of the existing court complex would be demolished for the construction of the second part of the new building to accommodate 12 courtrooms, judges' chambers, registrar courts, and lounges for SCBA and SCAoRA.

The new building will reflect the constitutional aspirations, beliefs, and priorities of the Indian people, in addition to providing a space which facilitates access to justice. Phase III of the e-Courts project seeks to revolutionize the working of courts in India by inter-linking of all courts across the country, setting up the infrastructure of paperless court, digitization of court records, and setting up advanced e-sewa kendras in all court complexes.

**202. The Union Cabinet has approved the PM-eBus Seva initiative worth how many rupees to increase the use of electric buses in 169 cities?**

**केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 169 शहरों में इलेक्ट्रिक बसों के उपयोग को बढ़ाने के लिए कितने रुपये की PM-eBus सेवा पहल को मंजूरी दे दी है?**

- (a) 57,613 crore
- (b) 47,613 crore
- (c) 37,613 crore
- (d) 67,613 crore
- (e) 57,633 crore

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Cabinet allows governments to spend Rs 57,613cr for 10,000 new e-buses

The Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Rs 57,613 crore PM-eBus Sewa initiative to augment the use of electric buses in 169 cities.

The scheme will augment city bus operations, under which priority will be given to cities having no organized bus service.

Out of the Rs 57,613 crore outlined for the scheme, support of Rs 20,000 crore will be provided by the Centre.

The scheme will cover cities with 300,000 and above population, according to Census 2011.

These include all the capital cities of Union Territories (UTs), northeastern and hill states. The e-buses will be provided under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode for 10 years.

A total of 181 cities will also be supported for the development of charging infrastructure under the Green Urban Mobility Initiatives.

The move aims to help the Centre's plan to deploy 50,000 e-buses under the National Electric Bus Program and achieve 40 percent e-bus penetration by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2070.

**203. Union Cabinet has approved how many multi-tracking projects targeted at Indian railways with an outlay of Rs 32, 500 crore?**

**केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 32,500 करोड़ रुपये के परिव्यय के साथ भारतीय रेलवे पर लक्षित कितनी मल्टी-ट्रैकिंग परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Cabinet approves 7 projects for Indian railways

The Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved seven multi-tracking projects targeted at Indian railways with an outlay of Rs 32, 500 crore. The projects will be built completely on Engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) mode, and will add 2,339 kilometres to the existing network of Indian Railways.

The projects will receive 100 percent funding from the central government. They will cover 35 districts across Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

The projects will provide employment of 7.06 crore person-days to the people of the selected states.

The government is also planning to introduce a production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for train component makers as part of its efforts to attract foreign manufacturing firms and reduce dependence on imports, people aware of the matter said

The contours of the PLI scheme will be worked out with the help of a consultancy firm, which will be selected through a bidding process this month. Under the PLI programme, the government offers output-linked incentives for products that are usually imported. The PLI scheme being considered for the railways is in line with the government's plan of having only two types of passenger coaches in Indian Railways--Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) and Vande Bharat--down from 28 at present.

The import component in LHB coaches, introduced in 1999, is around 1.5%, but in the Vande Bharat trains it is estimated to be about 15%.

This PLI programme will incentivize setting up of new manufacturing units, or expanding existing ones to supply coach and engine parts that are otherwise imported.

The last contract was awarded in April this year to China's TZ (Taizhong) Hong Kong International Ltd. for 33,000 LHB wheels, among other parts. Aurangabad-based Bonatrans India, too, had won an order but this was importing black forged axles from Railteco, China, and then machining in India.

To cut some of this import dependence, the railways recently awarded a procurement order for 1.54 million forged wheels that are manufactured in the country.

The demand for Vande Bharat and LHB components is going to increase manifold in the country. There will be 4,500 VB trains running in the country by 2047.

**204. Which state government has launched the Annapurna Food Packet Scheme, which aims to distribute food packets free of cost to over 10.4 million families every month?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने अन्नपूर्णा फूड पैकेट योजना शुरू की है, जिसका उद्देश्य हर महीने 10.4 मिलियन से अधिक परिवारों को मुफ्त में भोजन पैकेट वितरित करना है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Rajasthan CM launches free food packet scheme

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has launched the state government's Annapurna Food Packet Scheme which seeks to distribute food packets to more than 10.4 million families for free every month.

The scheme is part of the ₹19,000 crore 'Inflation Relief Package', which was announced by the chief minister in February during the state budget for 2023-24 to provide relief to the public from rising prices.

Under the scheme, each food packet will contain one kilogram each of chana dal, sugar, salt, one litre soybean refined edible oil, 100 gm each of chilli powder and coriander powder, and 50 gm of turmeric.

The chief minister also urged the Centre to regularly implement the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana – providing 5kg free dry rations to 800 million poor every month – instead of extending it for six months each time.

#### **About Rajasthan**

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

**205. What is the name of India's first long-range revolver?**

**भारत की पहली लंबी दूरी की रिवाल्वर का क्या नाम है?**

- (a) Shakti / शक्ति
- (b) Agni / अग्नि
- (c) Dhurv / ध्रुव
- (d) Vinashak / विनाशक
- (e) Prabal / प्रबल

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** India's first long-range revolver "Prabal" launched  
India's first long-range revolver "Prabal" has been launched.

The revolver is manufactured by the state-owned enterprise Advanced Weapons and Equipment India (AWEIL), based in Kanpur. Distinguished by its .32 bore, the Prabal revolver boasts an impressive firing range of up to 50 meters, more than twice the reach of other revolvers in India

The noteworthy feature of Prabal is its side-swing cylinder, marking a significant advancement in revolver design. Moreover, the prevailing market revolvers have a limited range of only up to 20 meters. In contrast, Prabal excels with a range of 50 meters. Weighing merely 700 grams (excluding cartridges), it boasts a barrel length of 76 mm and an overall length of 177.6 mm.

**About AWEIL**

- AWEIL, stationed in Kanpur's Armapur, stands as a government-owned enterprise specializing in the production of defense equipment.
- Comprising eight former factories of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), the company's primary focus lies in the manufacturing of small arms and artillery for the Indian armed forces, international militaries, and domestic civilian usage.
- Established in 2021 as part of OFB's restructuring and corporatization, AWEIL operates as one of the seven distinct Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) born from this transformation.

**206. The Ministry of Ayush and the World Health Organization (WHO) has organized a first-of-its-kind global summit on Traditional Medicine in which city?**

आयुष मंत्रालय और विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (डब्ल्यूएचओ) ने किस शहर में पारंपरिक चिकित्सा पर अपनी तरह का पहला वैश्विक शिखर सम्मेलन आयोजित किया है

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Gandhi Nagar / गांधी नगर

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** WHO organizes first-of-its-kind global summit on Traditional Medicine

The Ministry of Ayush and the World Health Organization (WHO) has organized a first-of-its-kind global summit on Traditional Medicine in Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat.

Director-General of WHO, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has inaugurated the event in the presence of Minister of Health Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal.

The summit will serve as a platform for experts and practitioners to delve into the latest scientific advancements and evidence-based knowledge in the sector, with the ultimate goal of ensuring health and well-being for all.

In 2022, WHO with the support of the Government of India, established the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine.

**207. National Health Authority (NHA) has collaborated with which of the following to promote digital health integration in insurance?**

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण (एनएचए) ने बीमा में डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य एकीकरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ सहयोग किया है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** NHA and IRDAI collaborate to boost digital health integration in insurance

The National Health Authority (NHA) and IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) jointly organized an exclusive three-day Accelerator Workshop.

Objective - To help insurance companies complete their Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) integration and to facilitate adoption of Health Claims Exchange (HCX) specifications.

The workshop was organized in New Delhi and saw participation from over 150 professionals representing 29 insurance companies and 16 TPAs. The IRDAI issued a circular in June 2023 advising all insurance companies to start capturing the ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) number of all of the persons seeking insurance cover and also to obtain their consent for sharing medical records with insurers/TPAs through ABHA.

The ABHA number would help identify the insured in a digital environment and facilitate seamless healthcare and insurance service delivery.

#### **Recent MoU in Banking Sector**

- IIITD-IC partners with YES Bank to scale up Indian startups
- Bajaj Finance partnered with ICICI Lombard to offer insurance plan
- Bandhan Bank ties up with Odisha govt to strengthen Odisha Tourism Development Corporation
- Union Bank partners with IBM to co-create Digital Business platform
- HDFC Bank partners with Dvara KGFS for microloans

**208. Which of the following will launch a pilot project for Public Tech Platform (PTP) for frictionless credit?**

निम्नलिखित में से कौन घर्षण रहित क्रेडिट के लिए पब्लिक टेक प्लेटफॉर्म (पीटीपी) के लिए पायलट प्रोजेक्ट लॉन्च करेगा?

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** RBI to start pilot Project on PTP for frictionless creditThe Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will launch the pilot project for Public Tech Platform (PTP) for frictionless credit.The same will be done via the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the RBI.

The platform will enable the delivery of frictionless credit by facilitating a seamless flow of required digital information to lenders

**How will the platform work?**

- The end-to-end digital platform will have an open architecture, open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and standards, to which all financial sector players will be able to connect seamlessly in a 'plug and play' model".
- During the pilot, the platform will focus on products such as Kisan Credit Card loans up to Rs 1.6 lakh per borrower, Dairy Loans, MSME loans (without collateral), personal loans and home loans through participating banks.
- The platform will also enable linkage with services such as Aadhaar e-KYC, land records from onboarded State Governments (Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra), Satellite data, PAN Validation, Transliteration, Aadhaar e-signing, account aggregation by Account Aggregators (AAs), milk pouring data from select dairy co-operatives, house/property search data etc.

**About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**

- **Founded** - 1 April 1935
- **RBI Nationalized** - 1 January 1949
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **RBI set up** - Hilton Young Commission
- **1st Governor** - Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- **1st Indian Governor** - CD Deshmukh
- **25th Governor** - Shaktikanta Das

**209. Alex Chriss has been appointed as the new CEO of which of the following company?**

**एलेक्स क्रिस को निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी का नया सीईओ नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Netflix / नेटफ्लिक्स
- (b) Walmart / वॉल-मार्ट
- (c) PayPal / पेपैल
- (d) Yahoo / याहू
- (e) Capital One / कैपिटलवन

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Alex Chriss appoints as CEO of PayPal

Alex Chriss has been appointed as the new CEO of PayPal.

He will replace its longest-serving chief executive officer Dan Schulman.

He currently serves as the Executive Vice President and General Manager of Intuit's Small Business and Self-Employed Group,

Schulman became PayPal's CEO after the split from eBay in 2015, and he notified the company of his decision to retire at the end of December last year.

#### **Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- **MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company**- Amit Jhingran
- **Non-executive chairman of Axis Bank** - NS Vishwanathan
- **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

**210. Indonesia celebrates its Independence Day every year on 17 August. This year it celebrated its 78th Independence Day. On 17 August 1945, Indonesia officially declared independence from the rule of which country?**

इंडोनेशिया हर साल 17 अगस्त को अपना स्वतंत्रता दिवस मनाता है। इस साल इसने अपना 78वां स्वतंत्रता दिवस मनाया। 17 अगस्त 1945 को इंडोनेशिया ने आधिकारिक तौर पर किस देश के शासन से स्वतंत्रता की घोषणा की थी?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) USSR / यूएसएसआर
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Dutch / डच
- (e) Britain / ब्रिटेन

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 17 August 2023 - Indonesia's 78th Independence Day

Indonesia celebrates its Independence Day every year on August 17. this year celebrates its 78th Independence Day.

Indonesia officially declared independence from Dutch rule on 17 August 1945.

The Indonesian independence movement officially began in May 1908, commemorated as the "Day of National Awakening".

The early 1910s and 1920s saw the establishment of several political parties like the Indonesian National Party (PNI), Sarekat Islam, and the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) and movements that supported Indonesian independence like Budi Utomo

The theme of this year's Independence Day is "Terus Melaju Untuk Indonesia Maju", which stands for "Striving to Progress Indonesia".

The theme embodies the spirit of collaboration and togetherness to accelerate Indonesia's growth and maintain local wisdom.

Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country.

**211. Chingam is the first day of the new year of which traditional calendar used in Kerala?**

**चिंगम केरल में इस्तेमाल होने वाले किस पारंपरिक कैलेंडर के नए साल का पहला दिन है?**

- (a) Tamil calendar / तमिल कैलेंडर
- (b) Telugu calendar / तेलुगु कैलेंडर
- (c) Malayalam calendar / मलयालम कैलेंडर
- (d) Odia calendar / उड़िया कैलेंडर
- (e) Meitei calendar / मैतेई कैलेंडर

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 17 August 2023 - Malayalam New Year Chingam

Malayalam New Year Chingam was observed on 17th August 2023. In 2023, it's being celebrated on August 17.

Chingam 1 is the first day of the new year of the traditional Malayalam calendar used in Kerala.

Chingam 1 is also known as Chingam Month or Chingam Masam and it's followed by the Onam festival.

The Malayam Calendar is based on the solar calendar system and every year, the date of Chingam 1 varies.

Chingam 1 marks the beginning of the harvest season in Kerala and is considered an auspicious day.

**212. Kandlakunta Alaha Singaracharyulu passed away recently. Who was he?**

**कंडलकुंटा अलाहा सिंगाराचार्युलु का हाल ही में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Telugu, Sanskrit scholar Kandlakunta Alaha Singaracharyulu passed away  
Eminent writer and academician Kandlakunta Alaha Singaracharyulu passed away in Hyderabad.

He was known for his extensive literary works in Telugu and Sanskrit languages.

He wrote more than 15 books on Telugu and Sanskrit languages including translations, grammar, and speeches.

He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2021 for his contributions to the field of Sanskrit literature and education.

**213. The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of the Digital India scheme for a period of five years till 2025-26 with an outlay of how much rupees?**

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने कितने रुपये के परिव्यय के साथ 2025-26 तक पांच साल की अवधि के लिए डिजिटल इंडिया योजना के विस्तार को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) 14,913 crore
- (b) 14,923 crore
- (c) 4,903 crore
- (d) 24,903 crore
- (e) 14,903 crore

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Cabinet approves outlay of Rs 14,903 crore to expand Digital India

The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of the Digital India scheme for a period of five years till 2025-26 with an outlay of Rs 14,903 crore.

This is a five-year outlay starting from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The Digital India scheme is an umbrella programme launched on 1 July 2015 and covers plans such as Aadhaar for all, country-wide rural broadband connectivity, common service centres, Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), Aadhaar-enabled payments systems and MyGov.

Under the expanded scheme approved, the government will re-skill and upskill 625,000 information technology professionals under the FutureSkills Prime Programme, apart from training about 265,000 people in information security under the information security and education awareness phase programme.

The government will also use Digital India funds under to expand the scope of the Bhashini programme to all 22 languages under Schedule 8 of the Constitution. Currently, Bhashini, an artificial intelligence-enabled multi-language translation tool is available in 10 Indian languages.

Apart from the 18 supercomputers already deployed under the National Supercomputer Mission, the government will add another nine supercomputers. The government also aims to support 1,200 startups in tier-2 and tier-3 towns.

**214. Based on the FY23 revised budget estimates, which state secured the top position as the best state in overall fiscal health in a report conducted by a foreign brokerage firm?**

**FY23 के संशोधित बजट अनुमानों के आधार पर, एक विदेशी ब्रोकरेज फर्म द्वारा आयोजित रिपोर्ट में किस राज्य ने समग्र वित्तीय स्वास्थ्य में सर्वश्रेष्ठ राज्य के रूप में शीर्ष स्थान हासिल किया?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Maharashtra scored top position in fiscal health report

Based on the FY23 revised budget estimates Maharashtra secured the top position as the best state in overall fiscal health in a report conducted by a foreign brokerage firm.

Chhattisgarh, one of the poorest states in the country, is in 2nd position followed by Telangana and Jharkhand, while the bottom 3 are Bengal, Punjab, and Kerala

In contrast, Bengal fares the worst, followed by Punjab, Bihar, Rajasthan and UP, Kerala moving out of the worst five; while Andhra' ranking has dropped to 11th in FY23 from eighth in FY22, and Gujarat has slipped to the seventh rank from fifth.

The report on the fiscal health of the key 17 states is based on the four key fiscal parameters--fiscal deficit; own tax revenue, state debt levels, all as a percentage of their individual gross state domestic product; and finally the interest payment to revenue receipts.

Based on these four parameters, Punjab, Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan and Kerala, are and will remain the most vulnerable to debt sustainability risks given their weak fiscal and debt metrics even prior to the pandemic, says the report, adding a June 2022 report by the Reserve Bank had also warned these states.

**215. Which state government has launched its flagship scheme "Gramin Mitra" to provide doorstep delivery of government services across the state and promote digital empowerment in rural areas?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य भर में सरकारी सेवाओं की डोरस्टेप डिलीवरी प्रदान करने और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में डिजिटल सशक्तिकरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अपनी प्रमुख योजना "ग्रामीण मित्र" शुरू की है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Goa government launched 'Gramin Mitra' scheme

The government of Goa has launched its flagship scheme "Gramin Mitra" to provide doorstep delivery of government services across the state and promote digital empowerment in rural areas.

The scheme will bridge the digital divide and promote digital empowerment in the rural parts of the state.

The programme aims to empower rural communities with access to information and opportunities that can transform their lives and drive socioeconomic growth.

Under the initiative, people can request public services by simply calling the dedicated call centre number, which operates from 8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week.

The program will help us accelerate the delivery of e-governance services to rural areas across the state.

#### **About Goa**

- **Formation** – 30 May 1987
- **Capital** – Panaji
- **Chief Minister** – Pramod Sawant
- **Governor** – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

**216. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has come out with a new mobile application 'SAMUDRA' offering comprehensive information on all ocean-related services. What is the meaning of "S" in "SAMUDRA"?**  
**भारतीय राष्ट्रीय महासागर सूचना सेवा केंद्र (INCOIS) एक नया मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन 'SAMUDRA' लेकर आया है जो समुद्र से संबंधित सभी सेवाओं पर व्यापक जानकारी प्रदान करता है। "SAMUDRA" में "S" का क्या अर्थ है?**

- (a) Smart
- (b) Sea
- (c) Samudra
- (d) Safety
- (e) Seafarers

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** INCOIS launches 'SAMUDRA' mobile app for seafarers

Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), has come out with a new mobile application 'SAMUDRA' offering comprehensive information on all ocean-related services, useful for both seafarers and the fishing community.

'SAMUDRA' stands for Smart Access to Marine Users for Ocean Data Resources and Advisories.

SAMUDRA mobile app is a cutting-edge tool helping users to navigate the marine domain with confidence on their safety, and profitable fishing operations.

The mobile app also empowers users with real-time updates and critical alerts on oceanic disasters such as tsunamis, storm surges, high waves, and swell surge alerts, for individuals and communities to stay informed and take necessary precautions towards the protection of lives and property.

**217. Which district of Uttar Pradesh has become the first district in the state to adopt e-office?**

**उत्तर प्रदेश का कौन सा जिला ई-ऑफिस अपनाने वाला राज्य का पहला जिला बन गया है?**

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** UP's first e-office system launched in Kannauj

UP's Kannauj has become the first district in the state to adopt e-office - the new digital gateway that cuts on manual handling of files and documents.

The e-office is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance Plan.

E-office is a workflow-based system that extends features of existing manual handling of files in addition to the more efficient electronic system.

The efficiency of e-office not only helps departments in taking quick decisions but also makes them paperless.

**About Uttar Pradesh**

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

**218. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 40.5 million loan for integrated early childhood development and maternal mental health in which state?**

एशियाई विकास बैंक (एडीबी) ने किस राज्य में एकीकृत प्रारंभिक बचपन विकास और मातृ मानसिक स्वास्थ्य के लिए 40.5 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर के ऋण को मंजूरी दी है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** ADB approves USD 40.5 mn loan for childhood development in Meghalaya

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 40.5 million loan for integrated early childhood development and maternal mental health in the northeastern state of Meghalaya.

The Meghalaya government is contributing USD 15.27 million to the project.

The project is expected to strengthen home-based childcare (children 0-1.5 years) and center-based childcare (1.5-6 years) through daycare (Anganwadi) centers in Meghalaya.

The project aims to improve access to nurturing care, including a component of maternal mental health care and group-based parenting programs to enable the inclusion of fathers in caregiving.

ADB's assistance will also improve nutrient adequacy by adding eggs to the diet of pregnant and lactating women and children 0.5-6 years of age.

ADB is committed to supporting the state government's efforts to mainstream (early childhood development) ECD and in adopting this innovative project design that can be scaled up across the country.

#### **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 (Niue)

#### **Recent Loan Approved by ADB**

- India, ADB signed USD 200 million loan deal **to enhance urban services** in Rajasthan.
- India, ADB signed USD 130 million loan MoU **to boost horticulture** in Himachal Pradesh
- India, ADB signed USD 295 million loan pact **to upgrade the state highways in Bihar**
- India, ADB signed USD 200 million loan deal **to enhance urban services** in Rajasthan

**219. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Power Finance Corporation (PFC)?**

**पावर फाइनेंस कॉर्पोरेशन (पीएफसी) के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Parminder Chopra / परमिंदर चोपड़ा
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Parminder Chopra appoints as CEO of Power Finance Corporation

Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC) has appointed Parminder Chopra as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), becoming the first woman to lead the company.

Previously, she was holding the additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) since 1 June 2023 and was Director (Finance) PFC since 1 July 2020.

With over 35 years of experience in power and finance, Chopra led India's largest NBFC to the highest net profit, highest net worth and lowest NPA levels during her time as Director.

She headed key finance functions like resource mobilization (domestic & international markets), banking, treasury, asset liability management and stressed asset resolution

Parminder Chopra was conferred with the 'Icon of the Year' and 'Finance Leader of the Year' award for making significant contributions to the realms of business, finance, society, and the nation.

**Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- **MD of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** - R Doraiswamy (replace Mini Ipe)
- **MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company**- Amit Jhingran
- **Non-executive chairman of Axis Bank** - NS Vishwanathan
- **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)

**220. Which bank has recently introduced the Jeevan Dhara saving bank account for pensioners?**

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने पेंशनभोगियों के लिए जीवन धारा बचत बैंक खाता शुरू 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) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Canara Bank introduced Canara Jeevan Dhara savings bank account

Canara Bank has introduced Canara Jeevan Dhara, a special savings bank account for pensioners, and prospective pensioners.

All the employees who retired on a voluntary basis or normal retirements are also eligible.

The primary benefit of this account for senior citizens is that it is a zero-balance savings account. With this savings account, senior citizens do not have to maintain a minimum balance and there are no maintenance charges.

The bank offers two variants depending on the pension credit. Diamonds account is for up to Rs 50,000 and Platinum account is for above Rs 50,000. The interest rate on Jeevan Dhara savings account will be same as regular savings account which ranges from 2.90% to 4% depending on the balance in the account.

#### **About Canara Bank**

- Founded - 1906
- Headquarters- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- MD & CEO - K Satyanarayana Raju
- Tagline - Together with Can

#### **Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector**

- Tata AIA introduces Industry-**First Premium payment** through WhatsApp
- Airtel Payments Bank launched **India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card**
- AU Small Finance Bank to provide **24x7 video banking service**
- Postal Life Insurance Launches **Direct Incentive Disbursement (DID)** for sales staff
- Federal Bank launches NR savings accounts named "**NRE Eve+**" for NRI women

**221. Stockbroking startup, Zerodha has received final approval from the market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch its asset management business. Where is the headquarters of SEBI?**

स्टॉकब्रोकिंग स्टार्टअप ज़ेरोधा को अपना परिसंपत्ति प्रबंधन व्यवसाय शुरू करने के लिए बाजार नियामक भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) से अंतिम मंजूरी मिल गई है। सेबी का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Zerodha gets final nod from Sebi to launch mutual fund business

Stockbroking startup Zerodha has received the final approval from the market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch its asset management business.

It is launching the asset management company in partnership with Smallcase, which was incubated within Zerodha's in-house corporate fund Rainmatter.

Zerodha started its journey in 2010 as a 'Rs 20 per order broker' and gained popularity as a no-frills, low-cost player among traders.

CEO of Zerodha - Nithin Kamath

**About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**

- **Founded** - 12 April 1988
- **Act** - 1992
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai
- **Chairman** - Madhabi Puri Buch
- **SEBI Set up** - Uday Kotak committee

**222. How many Indian youths have been named among the International Young Eco-Hero Award 2023 to tackle the world's most pressing environmental challenges?**

दुनिया की सबसे गंभीर पर्यावरणीय चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए कितने भारतीय युवाओं को इंटरनेशनल यंग इको-हीरो अवार्ड 2023 में नामित किया गया है?

- (a) 3
- (b) 5
- (c) 9
- (d) 8
- (e) 7

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Five Indian youths named among International Young Eco-Hero award 2023

Five youths from India have been named among 17 teen environmental activists from across the globe to receive the 2023 International Young Eco-Hero Award who have taken initiatives to tackle the world's most pressing environmental challenges. The young eco-warriors who were recognized for their efforts by the US-based non-profit organization, "Action For Nature", are Eiha Dixit, Manya Harsha, Nirvaan Somany, Mannat Kaur, and Karnav Rastogi.

The International Young Eco-Hero Awards programme recognizes and encourages children and teens from ages 8 to 16 who have taken action towards solving the most critical environmental issues.

The awardees are eco-conscious youth who took crucial steps to solve tough environmental problems.

Winners of the International Young Eco-Hero Award are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education.

For the past 20 years, "Action For Nature" has recognized 339 Eco-Heroes from 27 countries and 32 US states, a media release on Tuesday said.

Dixit, who won first place in this year's competition has been growing saplings to protect the environment since she was 4.

Manya Harsha who won second place in the 8–12-year-old category has embarked on a mission to raise awareness about environmental issues and climate action

**223. Who has been awarded Harvard University's coveted George Ledlie Prize 2023?**

**हार्वर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी के प्रतिष्ठित जॉर्ज लेडली पुरस्कार 2023 से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?**

- (a) Subby Subramaniam / सुब्बी सुब्रमण्यम
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Shohini Sinha / शोहिनी सिन्हा
- (e) Raj Chetty / राज शेटी

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Indian-American Economist Raj Chetty awarded top Harvard University Prize

Indian-American economist Raj Chetty has been awarded Harvard University's coveted George Ledlie Prize 2023 for wielding big data to break myths about who achieves the American Dream.

Along with Chetty, Biologist Michael Springer, professor of systems biology at Harvard Medical School, who created a better, faster COVID test system to help deal with the spread of COVID, was also honoured with the coveted Harvard University's George Ledlie Prize

Chetty, Professor of Economics at Harvard University is also director of Opportunity Insights, a group of economists based at Harvard who study inequality

The award is given every two years to a member of the Harvard community who has made the most valuable contribution to science or in any way for the benefit of mankind.

**Recent Awards**

- **Lifetime Achievement Award at RICS South Asia Awards** - Subhash Runwal
- **Global Leader Award 2023** - Jayesh Saini
- **Diversity in Cinema Award at Indian Film Festival of Melbourne** - Mrunal Thakur
- **Global Visionary Entrepreneur Award** - Deepak Shenoy (MD of Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd)
- **Best Managed Pharmaceutical Sustainable Organizations Award 2023**- Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd

**224. Who has launched 'Vindhyagiri', an advanced stealth frigate, at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd's (GRSE) facility on the banks of Hooghly River, Kolkata?**

कोलकाता के हुगली नदी के तट पर गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एंड इंजीनियर्स लिमिटेड (जीआरएसई) सुविधा में एक उन्नत स्टील्थ फ्रिगेट 'विंध्यगिरी' किसने लॉन्च किया है?

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** President launches advanced frigate Vindhyagiri in Kolkata

President Droupadi Murmu has launched 'Vindhyagiri', an advanced stealth frigate, at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd's (GRSE) facility on the banks of Hooghly River, Kolkata

This is the sixth of seven ships built under 'Project 17 Alpha' for the Navy. The first five ships of the project were launched between 2019 and 2022. This is the third and last stealth frigate that the Kolkata-based warship maker was contracted to build for the Navy under the project. 75 percent of orders for equipment and systems of P17A ships are from indigenous firms, including micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). P17A ships are guided missile frigates, each of which is 149 metres long, with the displacement of approximately 6,670 tonnes and a speed of 28 knots. These are capable of neutralizing threats in all three dimensions of air, surface, and sub-surface. Earlier in the day, the president launched 'My Bengal, Addiction Free Bengal' campaign under the 'Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan' organized by Brahma Kumaris at the Raj Bhavan.

**President Murmu in News**

- President Murmu inaugurated unique 'Festival of Libraries 2023' in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- President Murmu inaugurates new Jharkhand High Court building
- President Droupadi Murmu presented the President's Colour to INS Dronacharya in Kochi
- President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference in Bhopal.

**225. The government has approved how much rupees deal to manufacture fleet support vessels (FSVs) which are urgently required by the Indian Navy?**

**सरकार ने भारतीय नौसेना को तत्काल आवश्यक बेड़े समर्थन जहाजों (एफएसवी) के निर्माण के लिए कितने रुपये के सौदे को मंजूरी दे दी है?**

- (a) 10,000 crore
- (b) 25,000 crore
- (c) 50,000 crore
- (d) 2,000 crore
- (e) 20,000 crore

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Government approved Rs 20000 crore deal to build five warships

The government has approved a Rs 20,000 crore deal to manufacture fleet support vessels (FSVs) which are urgently required by the Indian Navy.

Vizag-based Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) will manufacture five of the 45,000-tonne warships, the largest ship of its class being built at the defence ministry-owned yard.

The Indian FSV project was initially given a go-ahead in 2016 after the Indian Navy projected a requirement for ships that could carry fuel and other supplies for warships at sea.

The ships are needed to support warships on long-range patrol and can carry a variety of equipment, such as fuel, ammunition, and food supplies. They will be able to support ships of all classes, including the two Indian aircraft carriers.

**226. 2021 Asian Wrestling Championships bronze medalist and Olympian, Seema Bisla has been handed a year-long ban for whereabouts failure by the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) of the NADA. Where is the headquarters of NADA?**

**2021 एशियाई कुश्ती चैंपियनशिप की कांस्य पदक विजेता और ओलंपियन, सीमा बिस्ला पर NADA के डोपिंग रोधी अनुशासनात्मक पैनल (ADDP) द्वारा ठिकाने की विफलता के लिए एक साल का प्रतिबंध लगाया गया है। NADA का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?**

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Seema Bisla handed 1-year ban for whereabouts failure

2021 Asian Wrestling Championships bronze medalist and Olympian, Seema Bisla has been handed a year-long ban for whereabouts failure by the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) of the NADA.

The athlete's ban began on May 12 of this year, according to the most recent list of athletes sanctioned by the AD DP.

Seema Bisla was a part of the NADA's Registered Testing Pool from April to June of 2024.

Seema had won a bronze in women's freestyle 50kg class in the 2021 Asian Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

#### **About National Anti-Doping Agency**

- Founded - 24 November 2005
- Headquarters - New Delhi, India
- Chairman - Minister of Sports (India)
- Affiliations - Indian Olympic Committee

**227. Which IT services company has launched a centre of excellence on generative artificial intelligence in partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT Delhi)?**

किस आईटी सेवा कंपनी ने भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, दिल्ली (आईआईटी दिल्ली) के साथ साझेदारी में जनरेटिव आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस पर उत्कृष्टता केंद्र लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Tata Consultancy Services / टाटा कंसल्टेंसी सर्विसेज
- (b) IBM / आईबीएम
- (c) Wipro / विप्रो
- (d) HCL Tech एचसीएल टेक
- (e) Infosys / इंफोसिस

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Wipro launches center of excellence on generative AI at IIT Delhi

Indian IT services company Wipro has launched a centre of excellence on generative artificial intelligence in partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT Delhi).

This centre has been set up on the premises of the Yardi School of Artificial Intelligence at IIT Delhi, and this Centre of Excellence (CoE) will support applied research in generative AI.

The aim of this centre is to encourage and better the research and development capabilities in several emerging areas such as generative AI and then connect the candidates with a talent pool.

Wipro CoE teams will jointly work on building innovative solutions using AI, Machine Learning (ML), and other technologies.

**228. Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated India's first medical technology expo 'India MedTech Expo 2023' in which city?**

**केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने किस शहर में भारत के पहले चिकित्सा प्रौद्योगिकी एक्सपो 'इंडिया मेडटेक एक्सपो 2023' का उद्घाटन किया है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Union Health Minister inaugurated India MedTech Expo 2023

Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated India's first medical technology expo, 'India MedTech Expo 2023', in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The inaugural event was organized on the sidelines of the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting.

India has been recognized as the 'Pharmacy of the World'. It is now time for India to take the lead in the medical devices sector and become the leader in the manufacturing of affordable, innovative, and quality Medical Devices.

The "MedTech Expo 2023 draws inspiration from PM Modi's vision of making India Aatmanirbhar.

The Expo is set to become an unparalleled and comprehensive platform for demonstrating the capabilities and promise of the Indian Medical Devices ecosystem.

Gujarat's pharmaceutical industry ranks number one in India with a 33% share in drug manufacturing and 28% share of drug exports.

**229. Which country has signed an agreement with the Indian government for sharing the India Stack?**

**किस देश ने भारत स्टैक साझा करने के लिए भारत सरकार के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** India signs MoU with Trinidad and Tobago on sharing INDIA STACK

Trinidad and Tobago has signed an agreement with the Indian government for sharing the India Stack, which is a collection of open application programming interfaces and digital public goods for identity.

The agreement was signed in the presence of officials from the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), the National E-Governance Division, and the Ministry of External Affairs. The two nations agreed to cooperate for digital transformation through capacity building, training programmes, exchange of best practices, exchange of knowledge between public officials and experts, and development of pilot or demo solutions.

With the help of India Stack, these countries can climb up the digitalization ladder rapidly and transform their economies and governance. India has also signed pacts with Armenia, Sierra Leone, Suriname, and Antigua and Barbuda to share India Stack, while Mauritius and Saudi Arabia are at an advanced stage of finalizing cooperation on the same.

A similar agreement was signed with Papua New Guinea also last month, while the UPI -- part of India Stack -- has been accepted in France, UAE, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

**Recently India signed MoUs with others countries**

- India and Laos sign MOUs for five quick impact projects in education, health, water facility, and IT.
- 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

**230. In which city did Power Minister, RK Singh dedicate to the nation the 660 MW unit of NTPC's Super Thermal Power Project?**

**बिजली मंत्री आरके सिंह ने किस शहर में एनटीपीसी की सुपर थर्मल पावर परियोजना की 660 मेगावाट की इकाई राष्ट्र को समर्पित की है?**

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Union Power Minister to dedicate NTPC's 660 MW Power Project in Barh

Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy RK Singh has dedicated to the nation a 660 MW unit of NTPC's Barh Super Thermal Power Project in Barh, Bihar.

The 660 MW unit being inaugurated is Unit 2 of Stage I of the project. The commissioning of this unit would be another milestone in the government's endeavour to provide reliable and affordable power to the nation.

The Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy also lay the foundation stone for the extension of POWERGRID's (Power Grid Corporation of India Limited) 400/132 kV Lakhisarai Sub-station.

As part of the project, 220 kV GIS will be constructed in existing sub-station premises along with the installation of two transformers of 500 MVA capacity. The extension of the substation at Lakhisarai will lead to improved power availability in Lakhisarai, Sheikhpura, Munger and Jamui districts and will also ease supply of power to meet future energy demand.

**About Bihar**

- **Capital** – Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar
- **Governor** – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

**231. Match the following-**

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>(i) 1st G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting</b>   | <b>(A) Bangalore</b> |
| <b>(ii) 2nd G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting</b>  | <b>(B) Jaipur</b>    |
| <b>(iii) 3rd G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting</b> | <b>(C) Mumbai</b>    |
| <b>(iv) 4th G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting</b>  | <b>(D) Kevadia</b>   |

- (a) i (C) – ii (B) – iii (A) – iv (D)  
(b) i (A) – ii (B) – iii (C) – iv (D)  
(c) i (B) – ii (C) – iii (A) – iv (D)  
(d) i (D) – ii (A) – iii (B) – iv (C)  
(e) i (C) – ii (A) – iii (D) – iv (B)

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 4th G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting to begin in Jaipur

The G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting will be held in Jaipur on 24 and 25 of August.

The meeting will be preceded by the 4th and last Trade and Investment Working Group meeting under India's G20 Presidency which will take place on the 21st and 22nd of this month in Jaipur.

Both meetings will be attended by more than 300 delegates, including trade ministers and secretaries and heads of delegations from G20 member countries, invitee countries, regional groupings, and international organizations.

The deliberations will focus on building consensus on global trade and investment-related issues, along with accomplishing action-oriented proposals put forward by the Indian Presidency.

The first three Trade and Investment Working Group meetings were held in Mumbai, Bangalore, and Kevadia.

During the 1st and 2nd Trade and Investment Working Group meetings, five Priority issues, namely Trade for Growth and Prosperity, Resilient Trade and Global Value Chains, Integrating Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in World Trade, Logistics for Trade and World Trade Organization Reforms were extensively discussed among the G20 member and invitee countries.

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

- **G20 Film Festival** - New Delhi (Opening film - Satyajit Ray's "Pathar Panchali")
- **Youth 20 Summit** - Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (17 - 20 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group Meetings** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (16 - 19 August 2023)
- **3rd G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** - Kolkata, West Bengal (9 – 10 August 2023)
- **Think20 Secretariat Summit** - Mysuru, Karnataka (31 July - 2 August 2023)

**232. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has planted the 4 Croreth tree under the All-India Tree Plantation Campaign of the Ministry of Home Affairs in which city?**

**केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने गृह मंत्रालय के अखिल भारतीय वृक्षारोपण अभियान के तहत किस शहर में 4 करोड़वां पेड़ लगाया है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Amit Shah plants 4 croreth tree at CRPF Group Center in Greater Noida

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah has planted the 4 Croreth tree under the All-India Tree Plantation Campaign of the Ministry of Home Affairs at the CRPF Group Center in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

Amit Shah also inaugurated 15 newly constructed buildings, built at a cost of Rs 165 crores, across 8 different campuses of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

The campaign is an initiative of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) to plant 5 crore trees by Dec 2023.

#### **Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah**

- Amit Shah inaugurates development works worth Rs 1052 cr in Gujarat
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone for IFFCO Nano Urea Plant
- Amit Shah laid foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool
- Amit Shah inaugurated the newly established Aviation Security Control Centre (ASCC) at CISF Campus Mahipalpur in New Delhi.
- Amit Shah inaugurated mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs

**233. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has inaugurated the ninth Commonwealth Parliament Association (CPA) India Region Conference in which city?**

**लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला ने किस शहर में नौवें राष्ट्रमंडल संसद संघ (सीपीए) भारत क्षेत्र सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया है?**

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** LS Speaker inaugurates 9th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has inaugurated the ninth Commonwealth Parliament Association (CPA) India Region Conference at Udaipur.

The theme of the two-day Conference is "Strengthening Democracy and Good Governance in Digital Age".

One of the topics is how to make public representatives more effective or efficient in encouraging good governance through digital empowerment

The Conference concludes with the valedictory address of Vice-President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha Jagdeep Dhankhar.

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**234. Which state government has launched the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Road Scheme which aims to enhance road connectivity in tribal areas of the 17 districts of the state?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने भगवान बिरसा मुंडा सड़क योजना शुरू की है जिसका उद्देश्य राज्य के 17 जिलों के आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में सड़क संपर्क बढ़ाना है?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (d) Jharkhand / झारखंड
- (e) Telangana / तेलंगाना

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Maharashtra government launched Bhagwan Birsa Munda Road Scheme

Maharashtra government has launched the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Road Scheme which aims to enhance road connectivity in tribal areas of the 17 districts of the state.

The scheme aims to connect remote tribal areas to the main roads.

Maharashtra cabinet also decided to repeal the 45-year-old Maharashtra Casinos (Control and Tax) Act, 1976, announcing that the state will not have casinos in the future.

The State Cabinet has decided to give special rations during the upcoming Ganeshotsav and Diwali festivals under the Antyodaya scheme.

#### **About Maharashtra**

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

**235. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a centralized web portal "UDGAM" to help citizens search for their unclaimed deposits. What is the full form of UDGAM?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने नागरिकों को उनकी लावारिस जमा राशि खोजने में मदद करने के लिए एक केंद्रीकृत वेब पोर्टल "UDGAM" लॉन्च किया है। UDGAM का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?**

- (a) Unclear Deposits Gateway to Access inforMation
- (b) Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Account inforMation
- (c) Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Allied inforMation
- (d) Unclear Deposits Gateway to Account inforMation
- (e) Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Access inforMation

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** RBI launched UDGAM portal to track unclaimed deposits

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a centralized web portal to help citizens search for their unclaimed deposits known as UDGAM.

UDGAM stands for Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Access inforMation.

The portal has been developed by the central bank for the public to help them search for their unclaimed deposits across multiple banks at one place.

**How will the UDGAM portal work?**

- The launch of the web portal will help users identify their unclaimed deposits/accounts and enable them to either claim the deposit amount or make their deposit accounts operative at their respective banks.
- Reserve Bank Information Technology Pvt Ltd (ReBIT), Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS) and participating banks have collaborated on developing the portal.
- Users would be able to access the details of their unclaimed deposits in respect of seven banks presently available on the portal.
- These banks are the State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, South Indian Bank, Central Bank of India, Dhanlaxmi Bank, DBS Bank India, CitiBank N.A.
- The RBI said the search facility for the remaining banks on the portal would be made available in a phased manner by October 15, 2023.

**Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector**

- Canara Bank introduced **Canara Jeevan Dhara savings bank account** for pensioners.
- Tata AIA introduces Industry-**FirstPremium payment** through WhatsApp
- Airtel Payments Bank launched **India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card**
- AU Small Finance Bank to provide **24x7 video banking service**
- Postal Life Insurance Launches **Direct Incentive Disbursement (DID)** for sales staff

**236. PR Seshadri has been appointed as new MD and CEO of which of the following bank?**

**पीआर शेषाद्रि को निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक का नया एमडी और सीईओ 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. a**

**Sol.** PR Seshadri appoints as MD and CEO of South Indian Bank

The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of PR Seshadri as Managing Director & CEO of the South Indian Bank for a period of three years with effect from 1 October 2023.

He is currently mentoring businesses both at an operating level as well as at the board level at various companies.

He has served, amongst other positions, as managing director & CEO of Karur Vysya Bank, managing director & regional sales and distribution head of Citibank N.A.

Seshadri is an accomplished banker with experiences spanning multiple businesses, functional lines, and geographies.

He has significant experience in enterprise-level management and in the management of all key commercial banking business lines and he has substantial experience in successfully managing investors, boards, and regulatory relationships in multiple geographies.

#### **Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- **CEO of Power Finance Corporation (PFC)** - Parminder Chopra
- **MD of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** - R Doraiswamy (replace Mini Ipe)
- **MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company**- Amit Jhingran
- **Non-executive chairman of Axis Bank** - NS Vishwanathan
- **MD & CEO of SBI Cards & Payment Services** - Abhijit Chakravorty (replace Rama Mohan Rao Amara)

#### **About South Indian Bank**

- Founded - 1929
- Headquarters - Thrissur, Kerala
- Chairman - Salim Gangadharan
- MD & CEO - Murali Ramakrishnan
- Tagline - Experience Next Generation Banking.

**237. India's first 3D-printed post office built with a robotic printer using 3D printing technology has been opened in which city?**

**3डी प्रिंटिंग तकनीक का उपयोग करके रोबोटिक प्रिंटर से निर्मित भारत का पहला 3डी-प्रिंटेड डाकघर किस शहर में खोला गया है?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** India's 1st state-of-the-art 3D-Printed post office opens in Bengaluru

India's first 3D-printed post office built with a robotic printer using 3D printing technology that deposits concrete layer-by-layer in accordance with computerized 3D model drawing input was inaugurated in Bengaluru.

The entire construction activity was completed in a period of 45 days as compared to about six to eight months taken by the conventional method.

Cost and time savings make 3D-concrete printing technology a viable alternative to conventional building practices.

The post office building was constructed by construction company Larsen & Toubro Limited while IIT Madras provided technical guidance.

**238. Who won the gold medal in the women's 76kg freestyle at the U20 World Wrestling Championships 2023 in Jordan?**

**जॉर्डन में U20 विश्व कुश्ती चैंपियनशिप 2023 में महिलाओं की 76 किग्रा फ्रीस्टाइल में किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?**

- (a) Priya Malik / प्रिया मलिक
- (b) Anshu Malik /अंशु मलिक
- (c) Sonam Malik /सोनम मलिक
- (d) Sakshi Malik /साक्षी मलिक
- (e) Anshika Malik / अंशिका मलिक

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Priya Malik wins Gold medal at Under20 World Wrestling Championships

Indian grappler Priya Malik won a Gold medal at the 2023 U20 World Wrestling Championships in Jordan.

Priya became just the second woman wrestler from India to be crowned U20 world championship. Antim Panghal had been the first woman from India to win a junior world title in wrestling at last year's edition.

Priya Mallik beat Laura Celine Kuehn of Germany by 5-0 in the women's 76kg freestyle wrestling final.

Priya has now won both the U17 2021 and 2022 and U20 world titles in her short but promising career.

**239. World Photography Day is celebrated every year on which day?**

**विश्व फोटोग्राफी दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 20 August / 20 अगस्त
- (b) 23 August / 23 अगस्त
- (c) 22 August / 22 अगस्त
- (d) 19 August / 19 अगस्त
- (e) 21 August / 21 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 19 August - World Photography Day

World Photography Day is celebrated every year on 19 August.

The day is recognized to create awareness among people about the art, science, and craft of photography on a global level.

Theme 2023 - LANDSCAPES

The history of World Photography Day dates back to 1837, when Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicephore Niepce developed the Daguerreotype, the first-ever photographic process.

The patent of this invention was acquired by the French Government with an intention to offer it as a gift, "free to the world."

The public announcement regarding the same was made on 19 August, and that is why the World Photography is celebrated on 19 August every year.

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**240. World Humanitarian Day is observed every year on 19 August. What is the theme of World Humanitarian Day 2023?**

**विश्व मानवतावादी दिवस हर साल 19 अगस्त को मनाया जाता है। विश्व मानवतावादी दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) It takes a village
- (b) Women Humanitarians
- (c) Inspiring the World's Humanity
- (d) No matter what
- (e) One Humanity

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 19 August - World Humanitarian Day

World Humanitarian Day is observed every year on 19 August in a bid to save and protect lives around the world.

The occasion is observed to recognize the work done by humanitarians around the world by venturing into disaster-stricken regions and onto the front lines to save and protect people's lives.

Theme 2023 - No matter what

In 2008, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 19 August as World Humanitarian Day to honour the memory of those who lost their lives in the Baghdad bombings.

The 19 August 2003 attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, killed two humanitarian workers, including the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello.

**241. Dr. V S Arunachalam passed away recently at the age of 87 in California. He was the former Director General of which organization?**

**डॉ. वी.एस. अरुणाचलम का हाल ही में कैलिफोर्निया में 87 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस संगठन के पूर्व महानिदेशक थे?**

- (a) ISRO
- (b) DRDO
- (c) L&T
- (d) UPSC
- (e) BARC

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Former DRDO Director General Dr V.S. Arunachalam passes away

Dr V S Arunachalam, founder chairman of Bengaluru-based think tank Center for Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), passed away at the age of 87 in California.

Arunachalam helmed the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and was the Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister from 1982-92.

He was conferred the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (1980), Padma Bhushan (1985), and Padma Vibhushan (1990) for his contribution to engineering science and technology

In 2015, Arunachalam was awarded DRDO's Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution to the field of scientific research and technology

His distinguished career spanned across Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), National Aeronautical Laboratory, and Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory.

In 2005 he founded the CSTEP to enrich policymaking with innovative approaches using science and technology for a sustainable, secure and inclusive society.

**242. NLC India has inked a pact to supply 300 MW of solar power for 25 years to which state's Urja Vikas Nigam under the CPSU scheme?**

एनएलसी इंडिया ने सीपीएसयू योजना के तहत किस राज्य के ऊर्जा विकास निगम को 25 वर्षों के लिए 300 मेगावाट सौर ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति करने के लिए समझौता किया है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** NLC India inks pact to supply 300 MW solar power to Rajasthan

State-owned NLC India (NLCIL) has inked a pact to supply 300 MW of solar power for 25 years to Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam under the CPSU scheme.

NLCIL is presently having 1,421 MW of Renewable Energy Capacity.

As per its corporate plan, it contemplates establishing 6,031 MW capacity by 2030.

The company has secured 510 MW solar project capacity in the CPSU Scheme Phase-II Tranche-III, floated by Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) through competitive bidding.

The 300 MW solar project capacity is under execution at Barsingsar, Bikaner District, Rajasthan.

#### **About Rajasthan**

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

**243. The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has partnered with which institute for a faculty development programme on artificial intelligence (AI) and data science?**

**अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई) ने कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (एआई) और डेटा विज्ञान पर संकाय विकास कार्यक्रम के लिए किस संस्थान के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) Indian Institute of Science – Bengaluru / भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान - बेंगलुरु
- (b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली
- (c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास
- (d) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research / टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फंडामेंटल रिसर्च
- (e) Jio Institute / जियो इंस्टीट्यूट

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** AICTE partnered with Jio Institute for faculty development programme

The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has partnered with Jio Institute for a faculty development programme on artificial intelligence (AI) and data science.

The partnership aims to upskill and reskill faculty members from AICTE-approved institutions. It will also explore emerging opportunities within the technological landscape.

The collaborative initiative aims to empower academic leaders and senior faculty members with a deep understanding of AI and data science while also emphasizing the ethical considerations of utilizing AI tools for immersive learning.

**Recent MoU**

- BHEL signs MoU with Greenstat to explore opportunities in Hydrogen value chain
- Voyager Space signed MoU with New Space India Limited (NSIL) to foster collaboration in spacecraft launch
- 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

**244. Which state government has approved nine industrial projects worth Rs 873.57 crore which will create employment opportunities for 251,600 people in the state?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने 873.57 करोड़ रुपये की नौ औद्योगिक परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी है जिससे राज्य में 251,600 लोगों के लिए रोजगार के अवसर पैदा होंगे?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Odisha government approves 9 industrial Projects worth Rs 873 crore

The Odisha government has approved nine industrial projects worth Rs 873.57 crore which will create employment opportunities for 251,600 people in the state.

The projects include Petronet LNG Limited's Compressed Bio Gas and Fermented Organic Manure plant.

With an annual capacity of 33,065 MT, this project promises a dual advantage of chemical production and renewable energy, Located in Deogarh, this initiative is set to transform the landscape.

Pearl Precision Products Pvt Ltd joins the ranks with their plan for a cutting-edge Plastic Faucet, Water Tank, Pipes, and Fittings manufacturing unit. This project will be coming up in Paradeep Plastic Park, Jagatsinghpur.

**About Odisha**

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

**245. Which state government will host the first-ever Pro Govinda League in the state?**

**कौन सी राज्य सरकार राज्य में पहली बार प्रो गोविंदा लीग की मेजबानी करेगी?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Maha government to organize "Pro Govinda" League on Janmashtami

The Maharashtra government will host the first-ever Pro Govinda League in Mumbai.

The Pro Govinda League would be held on 31 August on the lines of the Pro Kabaddi League.

The Pro Govinda League would be held at the National Sports Club of India at Worli in Mumbai.

Around 50,000 Govindas, including 3,500 from Mumbai, would be participating in the event.

The first prize comprises a whopping Rs 11 lakh, second Rs 7 lakh, third Rs 5 lakh, and fourth Rs 3 lakh

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde recognized Dahi-Handi as a sport in Maharashtra in 2022 on the occasion of Janmashtami.

**About Maharashtra**

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Deputy Chief Minsiter** - Devendra Fadnavis & Ajit Pawar
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

**246. Which of the following bank has launched its state-of-the-art mobile banking app 'iris' to offer digital banking solutions in India?**

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने भारत में डिजिटल बैंकिंग समाधान पेश करने के लिए अपना अत्याधुनिक मोबाइल बैंकिंग ऐप 'आईरिस' लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** YES BANK launched 'iris' to offer digital banking solutions in India

Private lender YES Bank has launched its state-of-the-art mobile banking app 'iris' by YES Bank.

The iris app has a sleek and intuitive user interface that aims to offer a simplified banking experience for users of all age groups, and backgrounds. Designed to cater to both existing and new customers, the app offers access over 100 features and services in just a few clicks on a single platform.

It also ensures utmost safety of the customers' financial data by incorporating best-in-class safety features like - Biometric Authentication, Sim-Binding as well as a 2-factor Verification

#### **About Yes Bank**

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

#### **Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- RBI launched **UDGAM portal** to track unclaimed deposits
- Canara Bank introduced **Canara Jeevan Dhara savings bank account** for pensioners.
- Tata AIA introduces Industry-**First Premium Payment** through WhatsApp
- Airtel Payments Bank launched **India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card**
- AU Small Finance Bank to provide **24x7 video banking service**

**247. Which bank has set up 10 startup cells across different centres in the country to serve its specialized banking requirements?**

**किस बैंक ने अपनी विशिष्ट बैंकिंग आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए देश के विभिन्न केंद्रों में 10 स्टार्टअप सेल स्थापित 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. d**

**Sol.** Indian Bank opens specialised startup cells in 10 cities

Public sector Indian Bank has set up 10 startup cells across different centres in the country to serve its specialized banking requirements.

The startup cells have been set up in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Coimbatore, Chennai, New Delhi, Gurgaon, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kanpur and Mumbai.

It includes offering payment gateways, corporate credit cards and credit facilities apart from the existing products of the bank.

The launch of the startup cells is a major milestone in Indian Bank's journey to support the growth of the startup ecosystem in India.

The startup cell branches would have dedicated relationship managers, who would partner with them and build lifecycle engagement with the start-ups.

Indian Bank has also launched 'IND SPRINGBOARD' -- a customised loan product for startups to address their unique financial challenges.

#### **About Indian Bank**

- **Founded** - 1907
- **Headquarters** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- **MD & CEO** - Shanti Lal Jain
- **Tagline** - Your Own Bank

**248. Which bank has partners with the RBI innovation hub to launch KCCs and MSME loans?**

केसीसी और एमएसएमई ऋण लॉन्च करने के लिए किस बैंक ने आरबीआई इनोवेशन हब के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Axis Bank partners with RBI innovation hub to launch KCCs and MSME loans

Private lender Axis Bank has launched two lending products powered by the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit (PTPFC), introduced by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH).

RBIH is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Axis Bank will offer Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and unsecured micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) loans to customers powered by the platform.

Both products will be offered in a completely digital manner and require no submission of documents by customers.

As a pilot, Kisan Credit Cards will be offered in Madhya Pradesh and will be available to customers for up to Rs 1,60,000 to start with.

MSME loans will be available across the country and will offer loans up to Rs 10 lakh to customers.

As part of the pilot, Axis Bank will leverage the PTPFC to access customer data. These include PAN validation, Aadhaar eKYC, account aggregator data, verification of land records and penny drop service to validate bank accounts.

#### **Recent MoU in Banking Sector**

- NHA and IRDAI collaborate to boost digital health integration in insurance
- IIITD-IC partners with YES Bank to scale up Indian startups
- Bajaj Finance partnered with ICICI Lombard to offer insurance plan
- Bandhan Bank ties up with Odisha govt to strengthen Odisha Tourism Development Corporation
- Union Bank partners with IBM to co-create Digital Business platform
- HDFC Bank partners with Dvara KGFS for microloans

**249. Who has been appointed as the new brand ambassador of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)?**

**भारत पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (बीपीसीएल) का नया ब्रांड एंबेसडर किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ravi Shastri / रवि शास्त्री
- (b) Harmanpreet Kaur / हरमनप्रीत कौर
- (c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
- (d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी
- (e) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** BPCL announced Rahul Dravid as brand ambassador

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), the second-largest Indian oil marketing company (OMC), has announced Rahul Dravid as its latest brand ambassador. Rahul Dravid's remarkable sportsmanship, role model status, integrity, dependability, and trustworthiness perfectly reflect the values we stand for and make him the perfect fit for brand BPCL.

Rahul Dravid will represent BPCL's Pure for Sure initiative and its range of MAK lubricants.

CMD of BPCL - G. Krishnakumar

**Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Shraddha Kapoor - Asics India Private Limited (a sports gear company)
- Rashmika Mandanna - Printer company Epson India
- Smriti Mandhana - Wrangler brand
- Hrithik Roshan - Zebronic TV
- Sachin Tendulkar - Smile Ambassador by Maharashtra government
- Sourav Ganguly - Tripura Tourism
- Virat Kohli - Duroflex (mattress and sleep products maker)
- Alia Bhatt - Gucci's First Indian Global Ambassador
- Ayushmann Khurrana - Wakefit (Manufacturer of mattresses)
- Rishabh Pant - Star Sports Believe Ambassadors

**250. Kamlesh Varshney and Amarjeet Singh have been appointed as whole-time members of which of the following recently?**

कमलेश वार्ष्णेय और अमरजीत सिंह को हाल ही में निम्नलिखित में से किसका पूर्णकालिक सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) NABARD / नाबार्ड
- (b) RBI / आरबीआई
- (c) EXIM Bank / एक्ज़िम बैंक
- (d) SEBI / सेबी
- (e) SIDBI / सिडबी

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Kamlesh Varshney, Amarjeet Singh appointed SEBI whole-time members

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Kamlesh Varshney and Amarjeet Singh as SEBI Whole-Time Members.

While Varshney, a 1990-batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service, is a joint secretary at the revenue department in the Finance Ministry.

While Singh is an executive director at the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Both Varshney and Singh have been appointed for three years from the date of assumption of charge or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

At SEBI, Varshney and Singh will fill in the vacancies created by the retirement of S K Mohanty and Ananta Barua.

#### **About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**

- **Founded** - 12 April 1988
- **Act** - 1992
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai
- **Chairman** - Madhabi Puri Buch
- **SEBI Set up** - Uday Kotak committee

#### **Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- **MD and CEO of South Indian Bank** - PR Seshadri
- **CEO of Power Finance Corporation (PFC)** - Parminder Chopra
- **MD of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** - R Doraiswamy (replace Mini Ipe)
- **MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company**- Amit Jhingran
- **Non-executive chairman of Axis Bank** - NS Vishwanathan

**251. Executive Vice President of which company Sandeep Navlakhe resigned from the key post in the company recently?**

**हाल ही में किस कंपनी के कार्यकारी उपाध्यक्ष संदीप नवलखे ने कंपनी के प्रमुख पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया है?**

- (a) ReNew Power / रिन्यू पावर
- (b) Tata Projects / टाटा प्रोजेक्ट्स
- (c) JSW Energy / जेएसडब्ल्यू एनर्जी
- (d) NTPC Limited / एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड
- (e) Torrent Power / टोरेंट पावर

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Sandeep Navlakhe resigns as Tata Projects executive VP

Tata Projects Executive Vice President Sandeep Navlakhe, who played a crucial role in the construction of the new Parliament, has resigned from the key post in the company.

He has been responsible for buildings, factories, and airports business unit at the company.

A BITS Pilani alumina, Navlakhe has 32 years of experience in the construction industry, having previously worked at Larsen and Toubro (L&T) for more than two decades.

He has expertise in tendering, planning and execution, and commercial acumen.

Navlakhe has also delivered various other key infrastructure projects like greenfield Prayagraj Airport, India's first maritime museum, the country's first smog tower, several tall residential towers, and Puri Parikrama Project, among others.

Tata Projects is a leading technology-led engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) company in India.

**252. Which of the following country has won the Women's Football World Cup 2023 after beating England in Sydney, Australia?**

**ऑस्ट्रेलिया के सिडनी में इंग्लैंड को हराकर निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने महिला फुटबॉल विश्व कप 2023 जीता है?**

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Spain beat England to become Women's World Cup champions

Spain's women's football team won the World Cup 2023 for the first time after beating England 1-0 in Sydney, Australia.

With this win, Spain also became only the second nation to clinch both the men's and the women's World Cups after Germany.

Spain's first major international trophy made it the first European team to win the Women's World Cup since Germany in 2007.

The other nation is Germany, who won the men's World Cup in 1974 and 1990, and the women's World Cup in 2003 and 2007.

Spain's Olga Carmona scored the winning goal against England.

**Others FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Winners -**

- Young Player of the Tournament- Salma Paralluelo (Spain)
- Golden Glove- Mary Earps (England)
- Golden Boot- Hinata Miyazawa (Japan) (highest 5 goals)
- Silver Boot- Kadidiatou Diani (France)
- Bronze Boot- Alexandra Popp (Germany)
- Golden Ball- Aitana Bonmati (Spain)
- Silver Ball- Jennifer Hermoso (Spain)
- Bronze Ball- Amanda Ilestedt (Sweden)

**253. Who has won the gold medal in the U-17 category of the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championships held in Dalian, China?**

**चीन के डालियान में आयोजित एशियाई जूनियर स्क्वैश व्यक्तिगत चैंपियनशिप के अंडर-17 वर्ग में किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?**

- (a) Saurav Ghosal / सौरव घोषाल
- (b) Dipika Pallikal / दीपिका पल्लीकल
- (c) Ramit Tandon / रमित टंडन
- (d) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह
- (e) Anahat Singh / अनाहत सिंह

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** India's Anahat Singh clinches gold in Asian Junior

India's Anahat Singh clinched the gold medal in the U-17 category of the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championships held in Dalian, China.

The 15-year-old Anahat defeated Hong Kong's Ena Kwong 3-1 in the final on 20th August 2023 to win the gold medal.

She had beaten Malaysian players Doyce Lee and Whitney Isabelle Wilson in the quarterfinal and semifinal, respectively.

Last year in Thailand, the Delhi-based Anahat had won her first gold medal of this event.

Earlier this year, Anahat emerged winner in the U-15 category of the British Junior Open Squash, beating Sohaila Hazem of Egypt in the final.

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**254. Akshay Urja Day is observed annually on which day?**

**अक्षय ऊर्जा दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 22 August / 22 अगस्त
- (b) 25 August / 25 अगस्त
- (c) 21 August / 21 अगस्त
- (d) 20 August / 20 अगस्त
- (e) 23 August / 23 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 20 August - Akshay Urja Day

Akshay Urja Day is observed annually on August 20.

Objective - To raise awareness regarding the importance of renewable energy.

The main goal of celebrating the day is to create awareness about the energy generated by using natural resources like hydroelectric power, solar energy, wind energy, and biogas.

The Akshay Urja Day was initially established by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in 2004.

The first observation was organised in Delhi when a commemorative stamp was released by the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

To promote the goal of the day, a human chain having nearly 12,000 students from different schools was formed in Delhi.

**255. World Mosquito Day is observed every year on 20 August. What is the theme of World Mosquito Day 2023?**

**विश्व मच्छर दिवस हर साल 20 अगस्त को मनाया जाता है। विश्व मच्छर दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives
- (b) Reaching the zero-malaria target
- (c) The Spread of Anopheles Stephensi and the Fight Against the World's Deadliest Animal
- (d) Protect Yourself from Mosquito Bites
- (e) Fighting the World's Deadliest killer-the Mosquito

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 20 August - World Mosquito Day

World Mosquito Day is observed every year on August 20.

The day is set aside to mark the importance of protecting ourselves and our communities from the potentially deadly diseases transmitted by the insects that are commonly seen in homes across the world.

Theme 2023 - Fighting the World's Deadliest killer-the Mosquito

The mosquitoes are responsible for the spread of diseases like malaria, dengue fever, Zika virus, and West Nile virus. These diseases impact and claim millions of lives worldwide each year.

August 20 was particularly chosen to mark World Mosquito Day in a bid to commemorate the discovery that female anopheline mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans.

The discovery was made by legendary British doctor Sir Ronald Ross in 1897., marks the British physician Sir Ronald Ross's identification in 1897 that female anopheline mosquitoes are responsible for transmitting malaria among humans.

**256. Sadbhavana Diwas is observed every year on which day?**

**सद्भावना दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 22 August / 22 अगस्त
- (b) 25 August / 25 अगस्त
- (c) 21 August / 21 अगस्त
- (d) 20 August / 20 अगस्त
- (e) 23 August / 23 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 20 August - Sadbhavana Diwas

The birth anniversary of India's sixth Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is observed as Sadbhavana Diwas on August 20.

"Sadbhavana" in English means goodwill. Also known as Harmony Day, this day aims at encouraging peace, national integration and communal harmony among all religions.

To mark the occasion, several cultural events and tournaments are held across the country. People also work together and take a pledge to establish peace and harmony around them.

Sadbhavana Diwas was first marked in 1992, almost a year after Rajiv Gandhi was killed in a suicide bomb attack in Tamil Nadu's Sriperumbudur.

The primary aim is to foster a sense of national unity and promote positive interactions among various faiths and cultures.

This day is important as it promotes peaceful coexistence among individuals and urges them to steer clear of violence. The objective of Sadbhavana Diwas is to instil social peace, solidarity, fraternity, and love in society as a whole.

**257. International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is observed annually on which day?**

**दास व्यापार की स्मृति और उसके उन्मूलन के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 22 August / 22 अगस्त
- (b) 25 August / 25 अगस्त
- (c) 21 August / 21 अगस्त
- (d) 20 August / 20 अगस्त
- (e) 23 August / 23 अगस्त

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** 22 August - International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is observed annually on August 23.

This day raises awareness about the horrifying nature of the slave trade and reminds people about the transatlantic slave trade and its implications

It commemorates the day when an uprising began in Saint Domingue, now called Haiti, on 23 August 1791, against the slave trade. Haiti was a French settlement and a centre of the slave trade across Europe. The uprising led to a revolution against the rulers of the country.

Did you know that the transatlantic slave trade affected over 15 million people, including children, for more than 400 years?

This day is observed in memory of all victims of the slave trade and also aspires to promote critical examinations of such behaviors that could lead to modern forms of exploitation and slavery.

**258. Which of the following country has demanded India to implement the PM Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendra Model in its country?**

**निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने भारत से अपने देश में पीएम भारतीय जनऔषधि केंद्र मॉडल लागू करने की मांग की है?**

- (a) Indonesia / इंडोनेशिया
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Indonesia seeks to emulate India's Jan Aushadhi Kendra model

Indonesian Health Minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin visited a Jan Anushadhi Kendra in Gujarat's Gandhinagar.

Sadikin praised India's healthcare model and sought to replicate the same PM Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana in Indonesia.

Jan Aushadhi Kendras provide affordable medicines to senior citizens and middle-class families in India, with prices ranging from Rs 10 to Rs 20.

Notably, Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day speech from Red Fort this year said that the government has plans to increase the number of 'Jan Aushadhi Kendras' from 10,000 to 25,000.

Jan Aushadhi Kendras have provided new strength to senior citizens and middle-class families in our nation. We provide medicines which cost Rs 100 in the market for just Rs 10, Rs 15, Rs 20 through Jan Aushadhi Kendras," PM Modi had said from Red Fort.

**About Indonesia**

- Capital- Jakarta
- Currency - Indonesian Rupiah
- President- Joko Widodo

**259. Who has launched the CSIR Prima ET11, the first indigenous e-Tractor developed by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur?**

**सेंट्रल मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट (CMERI), दुर्गापुर द्वारा विकसित पहला स्वदेशी ई-ट्रैक्टर CSIR प्राइमा ET11 किसने लॉन्च किया है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Jitendra Singh launches the CSIR Prima ET11, the first indigenous e-Tractor Minister of Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh has launched the CSIR Prima ET11, which is claimed to be the first indigenous e-tractor developed by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur. Jitendra Singh focused on the role of Agri StartUps in India's economy and called for the adoption of new and AI-driven technologies in Agriculture.

An increasing number of new startups are venturing into the agriculture sector, focussing on niche technologies including e-tractor, recycling garbage, drip irrigation, and genome-sequenced farming such as Mango and Lotus among others.

**260. Which state government has launched Mukhyamantri Seekho-Kamao Yojana means the 'Chief Minister's Learn-Earn' scheme in the state?**

**किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में मुख्यमंत्री सीखो-कमाओ योजना अर्थात 'मुख्यमंत्री सीखो-कमाओ' योजना शुरू की है?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Madhya Pradesh CM inaugurated Mukhyamantri Seekho-Kamao Yojana scheme

Madhya Pradesh's Chief Minister Shivraj Singh has inaugurated Mukhyamantri Seekho-Kamao Yojana means 'Chief Minister's Learn-Earn' scheme in the state.

The scheme has facilitated on-the-job training on the lines of 'learn and earn along with skill development.

The state government is targeted to include one lakh youth in the first phase of the 'Mukhyamantri Seekho-Kamao' scheme.

However, more than 8 lakh 69 thousand youths have already registered themselves so far.

A total of 16 thousand 450 establishments have also been registered. These establishments have published around 69 thousand posts for the registered youth. Out of them, contracts have also been signed for more than 14 thousand posts.

The 'Mukhyamantri Sikho-Kamao' scheme has been started for the youth in the age group of 18 to 29 years. Under the scheme, the selected youth will be given training according to the requirements of the industries and also get an 8 to 10 thousand rupees stipend.

**About Madhya Pradesh**

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

**261. Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) Airport has recently launched Digi Yatra for hassle-free travel. This airport is located in which state?**

लोकप्रिय गोपीनाथ बोरदोलोई अंतर्राष्ट्रीय (एलजीबीआई) हवाई अड्डे ने हाल ही में परेशानी मुक्त यात्रा के लिए डिजी यात्रा शुरू की है। यह हवाई अड्डा किस राज्य में स्थित है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Guwahati airport becomes first in northeast to get 'Digi Yatra' facility

Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) Airport in Assam's Guwahati, the biggest airport in the northeast, launched Digi Yatra for hassle-free travel. It is the first airport in the northeast to launch Digi Yatra. The airport is operated by Adani Airports.

Digi Yatra is a new concept in India, initiated by the Civil Aviation Department.

In Digi Yatra, facial recognition technology is used, which is linked to Aadhaar. In three stages, it can be used while travelling from Guwahati airport. Through Digi Yatra, all the gates will open for you very easily without any problem.

LGBI Airport CAO Utpal Baruah said passengers only have to download the Digi Yatra app and upload their photo, which is linked with Aadhaar.

The Digi Yatra facility is all set to be launched at six additional airports across India.

The phased implementation and installation of the Digi Yatra infrastructure at airports will enhance the ease and efficiency of air travel. LGBI Airport has seen a 15 percent rise in passenger footfall in June this year to five lakh travellers.

**About Assam**

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

**262. Who has recently launched the Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP)?**

**हाल ही में भारत न्यू कार असेसमेंट प्रोग्राम (भारत NCAP) किसने लॉन्च किया है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Nitin Gadkari launches Bharat NCAP (New Car Assessment Programme)

Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has launched the much-awaited Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP).

Bharat NCAP is a significant step forward in the government's commitment to improve road safety by raising the safety standards of motor vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes in India.

The programme aims to provide a tool to the car customers to make a comparative assessment of crash safety of motor vehicles available in the market. Under this programme, car manufacturers can voluntarily offer their cars tested as per Automotive Industry Standard (AIS) 197. Based on the performance of the car in the tests, the car will be awarded star ratings for Adult Occupants (AOP) and Child Occupant (COP). Potential car customers can refer to these star ratings to compare the safety standards of different vehicles and accordingly make their purchase-decision.

**Nitin Gadkari In News**

- Nitin Gadkari inaugurates and lays foundation stone of 11 highway project worth Rs 5600 crore in Rajasthan
- 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.

**263. Which bank has recently launched the UPI Interoperable Digital Rupee mobile application as a part of the Reserve Bank of India's Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) pilot project?**

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक के सेंट्रल बैंक डिजिटल करेंसी (CBDC) पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के एक भाग के रूप में UPI इंटरऑपरेबल डिजिटल रुपया मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन लॉन्च 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) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Canara Bank launches UPI Interoperable Digital Rupee mobile application

Canara Bank has launched the UPI Interoperable Digital Rupee mobile application as a part of the Reserve Bank of India's Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) pilot project.

It is the first bank in both the public and commercial sectors to offer this feature via its CBDC mobile app called the Canara Digital Rupee app.

With the introduction of this feature, customers can scan merchant UPI QR codes using the Canara Digital Rupee app and pay through digital currency.

Moreover, the feature is aimed at empowering merchants to accept digital currency payments using their existing UPI QR codes in addition to UPI-based payments without the requirement of a separate onboarding process for CBDC.

Digital currency is legal tender per RBI regulations, and the launch of this app is a significant step towards adopting digital currency in India.

#### **About Canara Bank**

- Founded - 1906
- Headquarters- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- MD & CEO - K Satyanarayana Raju
- Tagline - Together with Can

#### **Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector**

- YES BANK launched '**iris**'app to offer digital banking solutions in India
- RBI launched **UDGAM portal** to track unclaimed deposits
- Canara Bank introduced **Canara Jeevan Dhara savings bank account** for pensioners.
- Tata AIA introduces Industry-**First Premium payment** through WhatsApp
- Airtel Payments Bank launched **India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card**

**264. The government will launch the 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikar' GST reward scheme soon. When was GST implemented in India?**

सरकार जल्द ही 'मेरा बिल मेरा अधिकार' जीएसटी इनाम योजना शुरू करेगी। भारत में जीएसटी कब लागू किया गया?

- (a) 1 June 2017
- (b) 1 July 2017
- (c) 1 June 2018
- (d) 1 July 2018
- (e) 1 April 2017

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Government to launch 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikar' GST reward scheme

The government will launch the 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikar' invoice incentive scheme, which offers cash prize from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1 crore.

Under the invoice incentivization scheme, cash prize of Rs 10 lakh to Rs 1 crore monthly/quarterly could be given to individuals who upload invoice received from retailer or wholesaler on the app.

The invoice uploaded on the app should have the GSTIN of the seller, invoice number, amount paid and tax amount.

An individual would be able to upload a maximum of 25 genuine invoices in a month on the app and the invoice should have a minimum purchase value of Rs 200.

Over 500 computerized lucky draws would be conducted every months where prize money could run into lakhs of rupees. Two lucky draws will be done in a quarter where the prize amount could be Rs 1 crore.

The 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikar' scheme would ensure electronic invoice generation even in case of B2C customers so as to enable the buyer to be eligible to participate in the lucky draw.

The scheme is conceptualized in a way so as to incentivise citizens and consumers to ask for genuine invoices from the seller when making business-to-consumer (B2C) purchase of goods or services, which are under the purview of Goods and Services Tax.

GST Network (GSTN) has developed a technology platform which will enable citizens to register themselves and upload invoices on a user-friendly mobile application and portal.

**265. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)?**

**राष्ट्रीय हरित न्यायाधिकरण (एनजीटी) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Prakash Shrivastava / प्रकाश श्रीवास्तव
- (d) Parminder Chopra / परमिंदर चोपड़ा
- (e) Anant Maheshwari / अनंत माहेश्वरी

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Justice Prakash Shrivastava appointed Chairperson of National Green Tribunal

Former Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, Justice Prakash Shrivastava has been appointed as the new Chairman of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)

The Cabinet Appointments Committee of the Central Government approved the appointment of Justice Prakash Shrivastava as the Chairman of the NGT.

NGT was set up under the National Green Tribunal Act in 2010.

Earlier, Justice Shiv Kumar Singh was appointed as the executive chairperson after the retirement of the then NGT Chairman Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel in July.

Justice Shrivastava was appointed as a Judge of the Madhya Pradesh high court in January 2008. He became a permanent judge two years later. He was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta high court in October 2021. He was retired from there in March this year.

**About National Green Tribunal (NGT)**

- Founded - 18 October 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
- Headquarters- Delhi
- Chairman - Prakash Shrivastava
- 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.

**266. Who has been appointed as the part-time chairperson of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?**

**भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण (यूआईडीएआई) के अंशकालिक अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Neelkanth Mishra / नीलकंठ मिश्रा
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesch Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Neelkanth Mishra appointed part-time chairperson of UIDAI

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), the nodal body in charge of issuing Aadhaar numbers, has appointed Neelkanth Mishra as its part-time chairperson. Mishra is the Chief Economist and Head of Global Research at Axis Bank Ltd.

The UIDAI board consists of a chairperson, two part-time members, and the CEO, who also serves as the member secretary.

The three appointments are for a period of three years or up to the age of 65 years old, whichever is earlier.

**About UIDAI**

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (Aadhaar Act 2016) on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- The Aadhaar Act 2016 has been amended by the Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019 (14 of 2019) with effect from July 25, 2019.
- UIDAI was created to issue Unique Identification numbers (UID), named as "Aadhaar", to all residents of India.
- CEO of UIDAI - Amit Agrawal

**Recent Appointment**

- **President of Qualcomm India** - Savi Soin (replace Rajen Vagadia)
- **Additional DG of Military Nurse Service** - Amita Rani
- **Director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** - Prof Ganesan Kannabiran
- **Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** - James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea (UK)
- **CEO of Dentsu X India** - Jose Leon

**267. Who has been appointed as the CEO of Viacom 18 for digital business?**

**डिजिटल व्यवसाय के लिए वायाकॉम 18 का सीईओ किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Ajay Bhadoo / अजय भादू
- (c) N Chandrasekaran / एन चंद्रशेखरन
- (d) Kiran Mani / किरण मणि
- (e) Harish Salve / हरीश साल्वे

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Viacom 18 appointed Kiran Mani as CEO of digital business

Viacom 18 has appointed Google's Kiran Mani as CEO overseeing digital business operations.

Currently, Mani is Google's General Manager and MD for Android and Google Play for the Asia Pacific region.

As the head of the digital business, Mani will be responsible for spearheading the growth of JioCinema, which has disrupted the video streaming market with its free proposition.

### **Recent Appointment**

- **Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)** - Shrikant Madhav Vaidya (reappointment)
- **Additional Director General of Indian Coast Guard** - S Paramesh
- **Strategic advisor for Cyrus Poonawalla Group's** - Keki Mistry
- **Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** - Sanjay Kumar Agarwal (replace Vivek Johri)
- **President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region** - Anant Maheshwari

**268. Who has been designated as a “national icon” by the Election Commission (EC) to encourage greater voter participation in the electoral process?**

चुनावी प्रक्रिया में मतदाताओं की अधिक भागीदारी को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए चुनाव आयोग (EC) द्वारा किसे "राष्ट्रीय आइकन" के रूप में नामित किया गया है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Sachin Tendulkar / सचिन तेंडुलकर
- (c) Mithali Raj / मिताली राज
- (d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (e) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Sachin Tendulkar designated as 'national Icon' By EC

Cricketing legend Sachin Tendulkar has been designated as a “national icon” by the Election Commission (EC) to encourage greater voter participation in the electoral process.

A memorandum of understanding has been signed between Tendulkar and the poll panel. As part of the three-year agreement, Tendulkar will spread voter awareness.

This collaboration would mark a significant step towards leveraging Tendulkar’s unparalleled impact with the youth for increasing voters’ participation in the forthcoming elections, especially in general elections (to Lok Sabha), 2024.

Last year, the commission had recognized actor Pankaj Tripathi as a national icon.

Earlier, during the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, stalwarts such as MS Dhoni, Aamir Khan and Mary Kom had been the EC’s national icons.

**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

**269. Which edition of the naval exercise 'Malabar' concluded off Sydney on Australia's East Coast?**

**नौसैनिक अभ्यास 'मालाबार' का कौन सा संस्करण ऑस्ट्रेलिया के पूर्वी तट पर सिडनी में संपन्न हुआ?**

- (a) 24th
- (b) 25th
- (c) 26th
- (d) 27th
- (e) 28th

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 27th edition of the naval exercise 'Malabar' of QUAD nations concludes

The 27th edition of the naval exercise Malabar concluded off Sydney on Australia's East Coast

Ships, submarines, and aircraft from the Indian Navy, Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) and the US Navy (USN) participated in the exercise.

The five-day-long naval exercise was conducted in two phases, which included a harbour phase and a sea phase.

The Indian Navy was represented by the indigenously built Destroyer INS Kolkata, Frigate INS Sahyadri and P8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

#### **Recent Exercise**

- **Passage Exercise (PASSEX) 2023** between Indian Navy & Royal Saudi Navy - Red Sea, Saudi Arabia (INS Chennai participated)
- **First FALCON Shield-2023 Exercise** between China & UAE – Xinjiang, China
- **15th edition of Nomadic Elephant 2023 exercise** between India and Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- **7th edition of SALVEX** exercise between India & USA - Kochi
- **7th edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23)** - Visakhapatnam

**270. Who is the author of the book titled "Drunk on Love: The Life, Vision and Songs of Kabir"?**

**“ड्रंक ऑन लव: द लाइफ, विजन एंड सॉन्स ऑफ कबीर” नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?**

- (a) Vipul Rikhi / विपुल रिखी
- (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.** 'Drunk on Love: The Life, Vision and Songs of Kabir' by Vipul Rikhi

A new book titled "Drunk on Love: The Life, Vision and Songs of Kabir" is written by Vipul Rikhi.

A new book aims to capture the life of mystic poet Kabir through popular legends, his vision and his poetry that has been quoted and translated extensively.

This book was published by HarperCollins India and presents the 15th-century poet, as he is described, quoted, and loved in popular imagination.

Vipul Rikhi is a writer, singer, poet, storyteller, and translator.

**271. Legendary cricketer Heath Streak passed away recently at the age of 49. He was a cricket player for which country?**

महान क्रिकेटर हीथ स्ट्रीक का हाल ही में 49 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस देश के क्रिकेट खिलाड़ी थे?

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Zimbabwe / जिम्बाब्वे

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Zimbabwe cricket legend Heath Streak dies at 49

Legendary Zimbabwe cricketer Heath Streak passed away at the age of 49 after a prolonged battle with cancer.

The 49-year-old announced his retirement at the age of 31, in 2005.

Streak still remains the only Zimbabwe bowler with more than 100 Test and over 200 ODI wickets.

The former Zimbabwe captain represented the country in 65 Tests and 189 ODIs.

He still continues to be Zimbabwe's all-time highest wicket-taker in both Tests and ODIs. The former right-arm pacer has 216 wickets in Tests and 239 in ODIs.

**272. Who has unveiled a new variety of lotus flower with 108 petals, named "Namoh 108"?**

**108 पंखुड़ियों वाले कमल के फूल की एक नई किस्म का अनावरण किसने किया है, जिसका नाम "नमोह 108" है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Jitendra Singh unveils new lotus variety 'Namoh 108'

Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh has unveiled a new variety of lotus flower with 108 petals, named "Namoh 108", developed by the city-based National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI).

The "NBRI Namoh 108" lotus variety flowers from March to December and is the first flower whose genome is completely sequenced for its characteristics.

NBRI is a constituent institution of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

Singh also released apparel made from lotus fibre and the perfume 'Frotus', extracted from lotus flowers and developed by the NBRI under the Lotus Research Programme in collaboration with Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj.

The minister also launched the Lotus Mission and this project was being undertaken in a mission mode like other priority schemes such as the National Honey and Bee Mission, National Bamboo Mission, National Food Security Mission, National Mission on Natural Farming, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and Gokul Mission.

**273. The 4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting begins in which city?**

**चौथी G20 संस्कृति कार्य समूह (CWG) की बैठक वाराणसी में शुरू हुई है?**

- (a) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (b) Ayodhya / अयोध्या
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** 4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting begins in Varanasi

The 4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting begins in Varanasi. It will culminate in the Culture Ministers' Meeting (CMM) on the 26th of this month.

Delegates from G20 member nations, invitee countries, and various international organizations will attend it.

Building upon the success of the previous three CWG meetings in Khajuraho, Bhubaneswar, and Hampi, as well as the four Global Thematic Webinars, the 4th CWG meeting in Varanasi aims to arrive at actionable outcomes while positioning culture at the heart of policy-making.

During the meet, the delegates will have the opportunity to experience the world-renowned Ganga Aarti on the banks of the river Ganga and explore the beautiful history of the lion capital of Sarnath.

The G20 Global Orchestra performance titled "Sur Vasudha" celebrating the rich musical knowledge and heritage of G20 member nations and invitee countries will be presented in Varanasi.

The CWG will also release a special stamp to commemorate the Culture Unites All' campaign to highlight India's unwavering belief in multilateralism.

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

- **4th G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Jaipur, Rajasthan (21 – 22 August 2023)
- **G20 Film Festival** - New Delhi (Opening film - Satyajit Ray's "Pathar Panchali")
- **Youth 20 Summit** - Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (17 - 20 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group Meetings** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (16 - 19 August 2023)
- **3rd G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** - Kolkata, West Bengal (9 – 10 August 2023)
- **Think20 Secretariat Summit** - Mysuru, Karnataka (31 July - 2 August 2023)

**274. Indian Coastal Guard (ICG) and which country's Coast Guard (PCG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on enhanced maritime cooperation?**

**भारतीय तटीय रक्षक (ICG) और किस देश के तटरक्षक (PCG) ने समुद्री सहयोग बढ़ाने पर एक समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?**

- (a) Maldives / मालदीव
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Philippine / फिलीपीन
- (e) Finland / फिनलैंड

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** ICG signs MoU with Philippine Coast Guard to enhance maritime cooperation

Indian Coastal Guard (ICG) and Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on enhanced maritime cooperation.

The MoU was signed by DG Rakesh Pal, Director General Indian Coast Guard and CG Admiral Artemio M Abu, Commandant, PCG at the Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi.

The MoU inked seeks to enhance the professional linkage between the two Coast Guards in the domain of Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE), Maritime Search & Rescue (M-SAR) and Marine Pollution Response (MPR).

The implementation of this MoU will enhance bilateral maritime cooperation between the two nations for ensuring safe, secure and clean seas in the region.

**Recently India signed MoUs with others countries**

- India signs MoU with Trinidad and Tobago on sharing INDIA STACK
- India and Laos sign MOUs for five quick impact projects in education, health, water facility, and IT.
- 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

**275. Singapore-headquartered BOC Aviation Limited and which airline company have entered into a finance lease transaction involving 10 Airbus A320NEO aircraft to further expand its fleet?**

**सिंगापुर मुख्यालय वाली BOC एविएशन लिमिटेड और किस एयरलाइन कंपनी ने अपने बेड़े का और विस्तार करने के लिए 10 एयरबस A320NEO विमानों को शामिल करते हुए एक वित्त पट्टा लेनदेन में प्रवेश किया है?**

- (a) Vistara / विस्तारा
- (b) Akasha / आकाश
- (c) SpiceJet / स्पाइसजेट
- (d) Air India / एयर इंडिया
- (e) IndiGo / इंडिगो

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Singapore's BOC Aviation signs financing pact with Indigo

Singapore-headquartered BOC Aviation Limited and India's largest airline IndiGo have entered into a finance lease transaction involving 10 Airbus A320NEO aircraft to further expand its fleet.

All 10 aircraft powered by CFM LEAP-1A engines are scheduled for delivery in 2023, said BOC Aviation.

India is currently among the fastest-growing civil aviation markets in the world and these aircraft will help IndiGo consolidate its position in the region.

BOC Aviation is a leading global aircraft operating leasing company with a fleet of 652 aircraft owned, managed, and on order. Its owned and managed fleet was leased to 91 airlines in 42 countries and regions worldwide as of June 30, 2023

With its fleet of over 300 aircraft, the airline is operating about 1,900 daily flights and connecting 79 domestic destinations and will soon further grow its footprint to 32 international destinations.

**276. Which of the following company has become the first Indian EV company to start Production in Africa?**

**निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी कंपनी अफ्रीका में उत्पादन शुरू करने वाली पहली भारतीय ईवी कंपनी बन गई है?**

- (a) Mahindra Electric / महिंद्रा इलेक्ट्रिक
- (b) OneElectric / वनइलेक्ट्रिक
- (c) Ashok Leyland Electric / अशोक लीलैंड इलेक्ट्रिक
- (d) Ola Electric / ओला इलेक्ट्रिक
- (e) Hero Electric / हीरो इलेक्ट्रिक

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** OneElectric: The First Indian EV Company to Start Production in Africa

One Electric Motorcycles announced that the company has started manufacturing its flagship electric motorcycle "KRIDN" locally in Africa.

The company has entered into a JV with a local established vehicle manufacturing entity.

One Electric has provided complete components, technology, and know-how for the assembly of its motorcycles.

One Electric also has plans to set up a battery manufacturing plant in Africa by end of the current year as volumes soar. After consolidation in Africa, the company is already in talks to expand into other markets like South America and Southeast Asia.

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**277. First Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) Microsite under the 100 microsites project by the National Health Authority launched in which city?**

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण द्वारा 100 माइक्रोसाइट परियोजना के तहत पहला आयुष्मान भारत डिजिटल मिशन (एबीडीएम) माइक्रोसाइट किस शहर में लॉन्च किया गया?

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** First ABDM Microsite by National Health Authority launched in Aizawl

The National Health Authority (NHA) announced 100 microsites project to accelerate the adoption of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) nationwide.

In India, Mizoram became the first state to operationalize an ABDM microsite

All healthcare facilities, including the private clinics and labs, will be made ABDM-enabled and will offer digital health services.

The 100-microsite project under the ABDM is a vital initiative for reaching out to the bulk of small and medium-scale healthcare providers from the private sector.

The concept of microsites was envisaged to provide a strong impetus to healthcare digitization efforts across the country. The efforts by Mizoram team have resulted in Aizawl becoming the first ABDM microsite in India.

The ABDM microsites are geographical regions where efforts are made to onboard small and medium-scale private healthcare providers.

**278. The state of Kerala has introduced its first AI school situated in which city of state?**

**केरल राज्य ने अपना पहला AI स्कूल राज्य के किस शहर में स्थापित किया है?**

- (a) Kochi / कोच्चि
- (b) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम
- (c) Kozhikode / कोझिकोड
- (d) Kannur / कन्नूर
- (e) Thrissur / त्रिशूर

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Kerala's first AI school launched in Thiruvananthapuram

The state of Kerala has introduced its first AI school situated at Santhigiri Vidyabhavan in Thiruvananthapuram.

It was inaugurated by the Former President of India, Ram Nath Kovind.

The pioneering AI School has been developed in collaboration with iLearning Engines (ILE) USA, a globally renowned educational platform, and Vedhik eSchool.

According to Vedhik eSchool authorities, AI school introduces an innovative learning approach that harnesses the power of artificial intelligence to offer students an international standard of education.

This unique system ensures quality learning experiences not only during school hours but also beyond, through the school's online portal.

The AI-powered features of the school include Multi-Teacher Revision Support, Multilevel Assessment, Aptitude Tests, Psychometric Counseling, Career Mapping, Ability Enhancement, Memory Techniques, Communication and Writing Skills, Interview and Group Discussion Skills, Mathematical Skills, Behavioral Etiquette, English Language Proficiency, and the Development of Emotional-Mental Abilities Training.

#### **About Kerala**

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

**279. How many new countries will join the BRICS alliance from 1 January 2024?**

**1 जनवरी 2024 से ब्रिक्स गठबंधन में कितने नए देश शामिल होंगे?**

- (a) 5
- (b) 6
- (c) 7
- (d) 3
- (e) 9

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** 6 Countries to join BRICS from 1 January 2024

In a significant geopolitical development, the BRICS alliance has announced the inclusion of six new member countries.

These countries are Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Argentina, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia, and will join Brazil, Russia, China, India, and South Africa. The membership will take effect from 1 January 2024.

President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa, the host nation of the recent BRICS summit, made a historic announcement on August 24th, revealing the names of the new entrants to the alliance.

This move not only diversifies the alliance but also provides a platform for emerging economies from different regions to align their interests on the global stage.

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**280. Which of the following company has acquired 6.660 percent stake in Jio Financial Services owing to the de-merger action by Reliance Industries?**

निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी ने रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज द्वारा डी-मर्जर कार्रवाई के कारण Jio फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज में 6.660 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी हासिल कर ली है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance / बजाज आलियांज जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (b) Life Insurance Corporation of India / भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
- (c) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (d) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
- (e) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** LIC acquires 6.7% stake in Jio Financial Services via RIL demerger action

The Life Insurance Corporation of India has acquired 6.660 percent stake in Jio Financial Services owing to the de-merger action by Reliance Industries.

Jio Financial de-merged from Reliance Industries on July 13, as a part of which shareholders of RIL were allotted one share of Jio Financial for every share held.

The cost of acquisition is equivalent to 4.68 percent of the pre-de-merged cost of Reliance Industries. The country's largest insurer held 6.49 percent stake in RIL at the end of June 2023.

**281. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has reconstituted the Advisory Board on Banking and Financial Frauds (ABBF) which conducts the first-level examination of bank frauds before recommendations or references are made to investigative by agencies such as the CBI. The reconstituted APBFF will be chaired by \_\_\_\_\_.**

केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयोग (सीवीसी) ने बैंकिंग और वित्तीय धोखाधड़ी पर सलाहकार बोर्ड (एबीबीएफएफ) का पुनर्गठन किया है, जो सीबीआई जैसी एजेंसियों द्वारा जांच के लिए सिफारिशें या संदर्भ दिए जाने से पहले बैंक धोखाधड़ी की प्रथम-स्तरीय परीक्षा आयोजित करता है। पुनर्गठित APBFF की अध्यक्षता \_\_\_\_\_ द्वारा की जाएगी।

- (a) Nidhi Khatri / निधि खत्री
- (b) Sunil Bajpai / सुनील बाजपेयी
- (c) Suresh N Patel / सुरेश एन पटेल
- (d) M S Sahoo / एम एस साहू
- (e) Chandra Prakash Goyal / चंद्र प्रकाश गोयल

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** CVC reconstitutes advisory board on bank frauds

The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has reconstituted the Advisory Board on Banking and Financial Frauds (ABBF) that conducts the first-level examination of bank frauds before recommendations or references are made to investigative by agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The reconstituted APBFF will be chaired by Suresh N Patel, the former Central Vigilance Commissioner.

Besides the Chairman, there are four Members and the tenure of the Chairman/ Members would be for two years with effect from August 21, according to an order issued by the CVC.

The four Members of the advisory board are Ravikant, a retired IAS officer; Rajnikant Mishra, former Director General, BSF; David Rasquinha, former MD of Exim Bank; and Partha Pratim Sengupta, former MD & CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.

The ABBFF has been empowered to examine the role of officials/ wholetime directors (including ex-officials/ ex-wholetime directors) in public sector banks, public sector insurance companies; and public sector financial institutions in case of frauds amounting to ₹ 3 crore and above. The CVC has now stipulated that all PSBs, public sector insurance companies, and public sector financial institutions should refer all matters of frauds involving ₹3 crore and above to the board for advice

**282. Which bank has launched a first-of-its-kind multi-branded credit card - 'IndusInd Bank Avios Visa Infinite Credit Card' for all customers, in partnership with British Airways Executive Club and Qatar Airways Privilege Club?**

किस बैंक ने ब्रिटिश एयरवेज एक्जीक्यूटिव क्लब और कतर एयरवेज प्रिविलेज क्लब के साथ साझेदारी में सभी ग्राहकों के लिए अपनी तरह का पहला मल्टी-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड - 'इंडसइंड बैंक एवियोस वीज़ा इनफिनिट क्रेडिट कार्ड' लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** IndusInd Bank launches multi-branded credit card with Qatar Airways

IndusInd Bank has launched a first-of-its-kind multi-branded credit card - 'IndusInd Bank Avios Visa Infinite Credit Card' for all customers, in partnership with British Airways Executive Club and Qatar Airways Privilege Club.

This credit card aims to offer best-in-class rewards and benefits to customers, across travel, wellness, and lifestyle experiences.

The card is available in a sleek 'metal card' variant, tailored to meet the needs of our valued customers.

Customers can opt for their preferred airline loyalty programme at the time of the application as well as select their preferred international destination to maximise the opportunity to collect Avios, the rewards currency for British Airways Executive Club and Qatar Airways Privilege Club, and enjoy a host of other benefits.

#### **IndusInd Bank**

- **Founded** - 1994
- **Founder** - S.P. Hinduja
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- **MD & CEO** - Sumant Kathpalia
- **Tagline** - We Make You Feel Richer

**283. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Smart eMobility?**

**स्मार्ट ईमोबिलिटी के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Manoj Kohli / मनोज कोहली
- (b) Neeraj Akhoury / नीरज अखौरी
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal / हर्षवर्द्धन बंसल
- (e) Lokesh M / लोकेश एम

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Manoj Kohli appointed as Chairman of Smart eMobility

Manoj Kohli has been appointed as Chairman of Smart eMobility.

Manoj Kohli, who previously held the position of Country Head at SoftBank India, is a highly accomplished entrepreneur with a proven track record.

He is passionate about driving industry transformations in various fields, including mobile internet, renewable energy, digital unicorns, and electric vehicles.

Smart eMobility is a fast-growing PaaS provider that offers comprehensive platform and end-to-end solutions for stakeholders in the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem

**Recent Appointment**

- **CEO of Viacom 18 for digital business** - Kiran Mani
- **Part-time chairperson of UIDAI** - Neelkanth Mishra
- **Chairman of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - CJ of the Calcutta HC Prakash Shrivastava (replace Shiv Kumar Singh)
- **Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)** - Shrikant Madhav Vaidya (reappointment)
- **Additional Director General of Indian Coast Guard** - S Paramesh

**284. Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur has announced that the Khelo India Women's League will officially be known as ASMITA Women's League. What is the meaning of second "A" in "ASMITA"?**

केंद्रीय युवा मामले और खेल मंत्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर ने घोषणा की है कि खेलो इंडिया महिला लीग को आधिकारिक तौर पर ASMITA महिला लीग के रूप में जाना जाएगा। "ASMITA" में दूसरे "A" का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Achieving
- (b) Action
- (c) Aspiration
- (d) Achievement
- (e) Awareness

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Khelo India Women's League officially be known as Asmita Women's League  
Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur has announced that the Khelo India Women's League will officially be known as Asmita Women's League.

ASMITA refers to Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action.

The Asmita Portal serves as a comprehensive resource, offering valuable insights into upcoming leagues among other features. It will enable any school, college, government, or private organization to host the 'Asmita Women's League' and be part of Khelo India's march towards sporting excellence.

The Government's resolute commitment to bolstering women's sports has paved the way for enhanced opportunities, facilities, and world-class infrastructure at elite and grassroots levels.

Thakur appreciated the entire team of Khelo India for conceptualizing the idea and developing Asmita Portal and new logo saying that it is a significant stride towards the digitalization of Indian Sports.

**285. Consider the following statements-**

- i. Chandrayaan-3 has been launched from Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.
- ii. Rocket used by ISRO to launch Chandrayaan-3 is LVM3.
- iii. Chandrayaan-3 mission's Lander Name is Pragyaan.
- iv. Director of the Chandrayaan-3 mission is P Veeramuthvel.
- v. Project Director of Chandrayaan-3 mission is Ritu Kharidhal.

**Find the correct statements.**

- (a) Only i
- (b) Only ii
- (c) Only i & ii
- (d) Only ii & iv
- (e) Only ii, iv & v

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** India becomes the first country to Land on South Pole of the Moon

India has scripted history with the successful soft landing of its lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 on the south pole region of the Moon.

With this achievement, India has become the first country to land on the Moon's challenging South Pole region.

Chandrayaan-3 is India's third lunar mission aimed at studying the Moon's geology, its water resources, and its potential for future human exploration.

This achievement marks India's entry into an elite group of four nations that have touched the moon's surface. Besides India, US, Russia and China are the only countries to successfully land a spacecraft on the lunar surface.

Chandrayaan-3 is a follow-on mission to Chandrayaan-2, and its objectives included; demonstrate safe and soft landing on the lunar surface, roving on the Moon, and to conduct in-situ scientific experiments.

ISRO's previous Moon mission Chandrayaan-2 had failed in its lunar phase when its lander 'Vikram' crashed into the surface of the Moon minutes before the touch-down following anomalies in the braking system in the lander while attempting a landing on September 7, 2019. Chandrayaan's maiden mission was in 2008.

The Rs 615 crore third Moon mission was launched on July 14 onboard Launch Vehicle Mark-III (LVM-3) rocket, for a 41-day voyage to reach near the lunar south pole.

The moon's south pole is one of the harder places on the lunar surface to land because it is heavily boulder strewn, without the wide, flat expanses that the Apollo astronauts and early uncrewed landers targeted in the equatorial regions of the moon's Earth-facing hemisphere.

Of the spacecraft that have crashed in the south pole, none got close enough to try to negotiate the boulder fields. That ISRO was able to do so—briefly placing Chandrayaan-3 in hover mode when it was 850 m (2,800 ft.) above the surface while it looked for a clear parking spot—is a testament both to the nimbleness of the ship and the deft touch of the engineers in mission control.

India's Chandrayaan-1, launched in 2008, proved those theories correct. An on-board spectrometer confirmed the existence of the icy regolith, and a 29 kg (64 lb.) impactor probe dropped on the south pole proved the existence of water there too just before it hit.

For future astronauts hoping to settle the moon and live off the land, that matters a lot. Not only can ice be harvested for drinking water, the H<sub>2</sub>O molecule can be broken down to provide breathable oxygen, and the hydrogen and oxygen can be recombined to make rocket fuel.

### Important Facts

- Chandrayaan-3 was launched date - 14 July 2023
- Chandrayaan-3 land on the moon - 23 August 2023
- Chandrayaan-3 has been launched from - Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota (Andhra Pradesh)
- Rocket used by ISRO to launch Chandrayaan-3 - LVM3
- Chandrayaan-3 mission's Lander Name - Vikram
- Chandrayaan-3 mission's Rover Name - Pragyaan
- Wheels are there in the Pragyan rover - 6
- Total weight of Chandrayaan-3 - 3,900 kg
- Mission life of the lander module of Chandrayaan-3 - 1 Lunar Day (14 Earth Days)
- Chandrayaan-3 aiming to land near - South pole of the Moon
- Budget of Chandrayaan-3 - Approx. Rs. 615 Crore or \$75 Million
- Director of the Chandrayaan-3 mission - Ritu Kharidhal
- Mission Director of ISRO - S. Mohanakumar
- Vehicle director of Chandrayaan3 - Biju C Thomas
- Project Director of Chandrayaan 3 - P Veeramuthvel
- Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre - S Unnikrishnana Nair
- Director of UR Rao Satellite Centre - M Sankaran

### About Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)

- **Founded** - 15 August 1969
- **Headquarters** - Bangalore, Karnataka
- **Founder / 1st Chairman** - Vikram Sarabhai
- **10th Chairman** - S Somanath

**286. The 26th National Conference on e-Governance has been organized in which city to deliberate on providing better facilities to the citizens?**

नागरिकों को बेहतर सुविधाएं प्रदान करने पर विचार-विमर्श करने के लिए ई-गवर्नेंस पर 26वां राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 6th National Conference on e-Governance begins in Indore

The 26th National Conference on e-Governance is being organized in Indore to deliberate on providing better facilities to the citizens.

Theme: 'Developed India: Empowering Citizens'.

The two-day conference is being organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Representatives from 28 states and 9 union territories as well as industry are participating in the conference.

Eleven themes including district-level initiatives, emerging technologies for providing citizen-centric services, role of R&D in citizen centric services are being discussed in the conference.

National e-Governance Awards 2023 in 5 categories will also be presented during the conference.

**287. National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approved India's \_\_\_\_\_ tiger reserve in Rajasthan's Karauli and Dholpur districts.**

**राष्ट्रीय बाघ संरक्षण प्राधिकरण (एनटीसीए) ने राजस्थान के करौली और धौलपुर जिलों में भारत के \_\_\_\_\_ बाघ रिजर्व को मंजूरी दे दी है।**

- (a) 52nd
- (b) 53rd
- (c) 54th
- (d) 55th
- (e) 56th

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** NTCA approved India's 54th tiger reserve in Rajasthan

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approved India's 54th tiger reserve in Rajasthan's Karauli and Dholpur districts.

This is Rajasthan's fifth tiger reserve after Ranthambore, Sariska, Mukundra Hills, and Ramgarh Vishdhari.

The number of tigers in India has increased from 2,967 in 2018 to 3,682 in 2022, an annual rise of 6 percent, according to government data.

With a 50 percent increase in the last four years, Madhya Pradesh has the maximum number of tigers in the country (785), followed by Karnataka (563), Uttarakhand (560), and Maharashtra (444).

The number of tigers in Rajasthan has increased from 32 in 2006 to 88 in 2022.

**288. Which of the following city has secured the first position in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan-2023 conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, securing an impressive 187 out of 200 points given by the CPCB?**

निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर ने केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड द्वारा आयोजित स्वच्छ वायु सर्वेक्षण-2023 में सीपीसीबी द्वारा दिए गए 200 में से प्रभावशाली 187 अंक हासिल कर पहला स्थान हासिल किया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Bhopal / भोपाल
- (e) Indore / इंदौर

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Indore secures 1st position, Bhopal 5th in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2023

Indore has secured the first position in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan-2023 conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, securing an impressive 187 out of 200 points given by the CPCB.

In the 10-lakh category, Gwalior seems to have made the least effort as it secured 117 points, ending up 43rd.

Bhopal came fifth with 181 points and Jabalpur seventh with 172 points.

Madhya Pradesh has secured two of the first five positions for cities with a population of more than 10 lakhs.

Indore stood first, Agra second, Thane third, Srinagar fourth and Bhopal fifth.

**289. Which state government has recently introduced additional textbooks of the State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) which incorporate the topics that were recently deleted from the NCERT textbooks?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने हाल ही में राज्य शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद (एससीईआरटी) की अतिरिक्त पाठ्यपुस्तकें पेश की हैं जिनमें उन विषयों को शामिल किया गया है जिन्हें हाल ही में एनसीईआरटी पाठ्यपुस्तकों से हटा दिया गया था?

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Kerala unveils additional books to include portions deleted by NCERT

The Kerala government has introduced additional textbooks of the State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT) which incorporates the topics that were recently deleted from the NCERT textbooks.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan expressed his government's concern over the exclusion of chapters by NCERT under the pretext of rationalization for the 2023-24 academic year. He emphasized that the omitted chapters were deemed crucial and should not have been removed.

The government views the exclusion of chapters seriously as they believe those chapters excluded are important.

In class 11 and 12, 12 subjects with 44 textbooks are from NCERT. Students of 11 and 12 are getting textbooks prepared by NCERT.

#### **About Kerala**

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

**290. Vaccine manufacturer Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL) will commercially launch its dengue fever vaccine by which year?**

**वैक्सीन निर्माता इंडियन इम्यूनोलॉजिकल्स लिमिटेड (IIL) किस वर्ष तक व्यावसायिक रूप से अपना डेंगू बुखार का टीका लॉन्च करेगी?**

- (a) 2025
- (b) 2026
- (c) 2027
- (d) 2028
- (e) 2029

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Indian Immunologicals targets dengue vaccine launch by Jan 2026

Vaccine manufacturer Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL) expects to commercially launch its dengue fever vaccine by early 2026.

Dengue, a mosquito-borne disease, has over the last few years become a major public health concern in India, with 31,464 dengue cases and 36 related deaths reported between January and July 31, 2023.

While its spread had fallen during the pandemic, there was a 333% surge from 2020 to 2021 and a 21% rise in number of cases between 2021 and 2022, according to the National Center for Vector Borne Diseases Control.

Besides IIL, at least two other Indian companies – Serum Institute of India and Panacea Biotec – are working to develop a dengue vaccine.

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**291. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) recently switched to indigenously developed "COPSYSS" software for psychological screening of personnel prior to their induction in dignitary protection teams. What is the full form of COPSYSS?**

केंद्रीय रिजर्व पुलिस बल (सीआरपीएफ) ने हाल ही में प्रतिष्ठित सुरक्षा टीमों में शामिल होने से पहले कर्मियों की मनोवैज्ञानिक जांच के लिए स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित "COPSYSS" सॉफ्टवेयर पर स्विच किया है। COPSYSS का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Common Psychological Screening System
- (b) Commercial Psychological Screening System
- (c) Computerized Psychological System Screening
- (d) Computerized Psychological Survey System
- (e) Computerized Psychological Screening System

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** CRPF switches to indigenous software COPSYSS

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) recently switched to indigenously developed software for psychological screening of personnel prior to their induction in dignitary protection teams.

Computerised Psychological Screening System (COPSYSS) is a software designed and developed by the Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR) of the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).

The indigenous physiological test system will help in the selection of candidates for escorting dignitaries.

The force has a tough system in place for physical fitness but this test will ensure sharp mental fitness.

However, the Special Protection Group (SPG) has been undergoing the Vienna Test System (VTS) for at least 15 years, and the National Security Guard (NSG) has switched to VTS in 2017.

**292. What is the theme of B20 Summit India 2023 which started recently in New Delhi?**

**B20 समिट इंडिया 2023 का थीम क्या है जो हाल ही में नई दिल्ली में शुरू हुआ है?**

- (a) RAISE
- (b) INDIA
- (c) Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam
- (d) One Earth, One Family, One Future
- (e) Realising Opportunities of the 21st Century for

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** B20 Summit India 2023 commences in Delhi

The B20 Summit India 2023 commences in New Delhi.

During the three days Summit, Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Dharmendra Pradhan, Dr. S Jaishankar, G20 India Sherpa Amitabh Kant, Trade Ministers of various countries, and several business leaders will share their ideas on the issues concerning businesses globally.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the special session on the 27th of this month as Chief Guest.

First day of the Summit, seven sessions were organized including B20 India priorities and recommendations from India for the world, aligning global priorities, Artificial Intelligence for business and societies, opportunities and regulations, inclusive global value chain for resilient global trade and investment and Trade Ministers' Session.

The Summit is based on the theme of B20 India R.A.I.S.E: Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable, Equitable Businesses.

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

- **4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG)** – Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (23- 26 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Jaipur, Rajasthan (21 – 22 August 2023)
- **G20 Film Festival** - New Delhi (Opening film - Satyajit Ray's "Pathar Panchali")
- **Youth 20 Summit** - Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (17 - 20 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group Meetings** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (16 - 19 August 2023)

**293. Tech giant Infosys onboards \_\_\_\_\_ as ambassador for the brand and Infosys' Digital Innovation.**

**टेक दिग्गज इंफोसिस ने ब्रांड और इंफोसिस के डिजिटल इनोवेशन के लिए \_\_\_\_\_ को राजदूत के रूप में शामिल किया है।**

- (a) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
- (c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
- (d) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (e) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Infosys onboards Rafael Nadal as ambassador

Tech giant Infosys has extended its partnership with Tennis star Rafael Nadal as an ambassador for the brand and Infosys' Digital Innovation. To mark Nadal's first-ever collaboration with a digital services company, Infosys and Nadal's coaching team are developing an AI-powered match analysis tool.

Globally acknowledged as one of the legends in sports, he also has had the ability to change with the changing rigors of tennis over the years.

**Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Rahul Dravid - Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- Shraddha Kapoor - Asics India Private Limited (a sports gear company)
- 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)
- Alia Bhatt - Gucci's First Indian Global Ambassador
- Rishabh Pant - Star Sports Believe Ambassadors

**294. ISRO is preparing a new Moon Mission in association with which country's space agency which has been named LUPEX or Lunar Polar Exploration?**

इसरो किस देश की अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी के साथ मिलकर एक नया चंद्रमा मिशन तैयार कर रहा है जिसे LUPEX या लूनर पोलर एक्सप्लोरेशन नाम दिया गया है?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** ISRO's Next Moon Mission in Collaboration with Japan Gathers Steam

With Chandrayaan-3 successfully landing on the Moon's surface, decks have been cleared for ISRO to unveil the next stage of its lunar exploration programme. As of now, ISRO is preparing for one more lunar mission, this one in collaboration with Japanese space agency (JAXA). This mission, called LUPEX, or Lunar Polar Exploration, is slated for 2024-25. But there would be more in the Chandrayaan series as well. The rover will carry not only the instruments of ISRO and JAXA but also those of US space agency NASA and European Space Agency (ESA). Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX) is a collaborative venture between Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the Bengaluru-headquartered Indian space agency.

According to JAXA, the LUPEX mission is aimed at exploring lunar polar region suitability for establishing a base on the Moon for sustainable activities; obtaining knowledge regarding the availability of lunar water-ice resources, and demonstrating lunar and planetary surface exploration technologies such as vehicular transport and overnight survival.

Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), an autonomous unit of the Department of Space, has proposed multiple instruments in the LUPEX mission mainly to carry out measurements on the surface and subsurface near the permanently shadowed polar region of the Moon. The objective of one of the proposed instruments - Permittivity and Thermo-physical investigation for Moon's Aquatic Scout (PRATHIMA) - is in-situ detection and quantification of water-ice mixed with lunar surface and sub-surface soil using a rover/lander platform. The LUPEX mission is slated to be launched in the year 2025.

**295. Who has inaugurated 33 Khelo India Centres (KIC) in the State of Rajasthan at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur?**

**जयपुर के सवाई मानसिंह स्टेडियम में राजस्थान राज्य में 33 खेलो इंडिया सेंटर (KIC) का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Anurag Thakur inaugurated 33 Khelo India Centres Across Rajasthan

The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated 33 Khelo India Centres (KIC) in the State of Rajasthan at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur.

He also announced that a National Center of Excellence with a sports science center will be set up in Rajasthan along with an additional 18 KIC, thus taking the total number of KIC in the State to 51.

The total number of KICs across India is 960, out of which 715 are operational KICs.

Currently, over 17,000 Athletes are getting trained in KICs and 699 Past Champion Athletes are already hired across the country.

These KICs are specific training centres looking after sports disciplines like cycling, basketball, wushu, hockey and more.

**296. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has a brand tie-up with which company for the upcoming Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 to be held in India between 5 October and 19 November 2023?**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट परिषद (ICC) ने 5 अक्टूबर से 19 नवंबर 2023 के बीच भारत में आयोजित होने वाले आगामी पुरुष क्रिकेट विश्व कप 2023 के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ ब्रांड गठजोड़ किया है?

- (a) Mastercard
- (b) Visa Inc
- (c) Paytm
- (d) Tata
- (e) Citibank

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Mastercard inks brand partnership with ICC for upcoming World Cup

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has a brand tie-up with Mastercard for the upcoming Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 to be held in India between 5 October and 19 November 2023.

Under this tie-up, Mastercard will be a global partner for the World Cup.

With this, Mastercard joins ICC's other global partners MRF Tyres, Booking.com, Aramco and Emirates.

The ICC has three categories of sponsors — global partners, official partners and category partners. Sponsors get multiple benefits like media integration, in-stadium branding, tickets, and hospitality.

Incidentally, MasterCard was also the title sponsor for all bilateral matches played in India until March. It was paying Rs 3.8 crore per match as the Indian cricket board's title sponsor.

**297. Who has won the Cincinnati Open 2023 title after defeating Carlos Alcaraz of Spain?**

**स्पेन के कार्लोस अलकराज को हराकर सिनसिनाटी ओपन 2023 का खिताब किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
- (b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
- (c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
- (d) Alexander Zverev / अलेक्जेंडर ज्वेरेव
- (e) Daniil Medvedev / डेनियल मेदवेदेव

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Novak Djokovic secured the title Cincinnati Open 2023

Serbia's Novak Djokovic secured the title of Cincinnati Open 2023 after defeating Carlos Alcaraz of Spain.

The win delivered Djokovic his 95th career title and 39th Masters 1000 crown.

The Spaniard is currently ranked at number one in the ATP Tour rankings, with Djokovic ranked just behind him at number two.

Djokovic is the only player in tennis history to be the reigning champion of all four majors at once across all three different surfaces.

**298. Who has won the gold medal in the Men's 25-metre standard pistol shooting event at the ISSF World Championship 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan?**

**बाकू, अजरबैजान में ISSF विश्व चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में पुरुषों की 25 मीटर स्टैंडर्ड पिस्टल शूटिंग स्पर्धा में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Mairaj Ahmad Khan / मैराज अहमद खान
- (b) Amanpreet Singh / अमनप्रीत सिंह
- (c) Atanu Das / अतानु दास
- (d) Saurabh Chaudhary / सौरभ चौधरी
- (e) Manu Bhaker / मनु भाकर

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Amanpreet Singh clinches gold in Men's 25 metre at ISSF World Championship

Indian shooter Amanpreet Singh won the gold medal in the Men's 25-metre standard pistol shooting event at the ISSF World Championship 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

South Korea's Gunhyeok Lee had to settle for silver while France's Kevin Chapon secured a bronze.

In the Women's 25-metre Standard Pistol shooting event, while Tiyana, Yashita Shokeen and Kritika Sharma failed to make it to the medal round in the individual competition, they managed to win the team bronze with a combined score of 1601.

The two medals on the day took India's tally in the Championship to nine – five gold and four bronze medals.

### 299. Who has won the Chess World Cup Final 2023?

शतरंज विश्व कप फाइनल 2023 किसने जीता है?

- (a) R Praggnanandhaa / आर प्रज्ञानानंदः
- (b) Aravindh Chithambaram / अरविंद चितंबरम
- (c) Alexandr Predke / एलेक्जेंडर प्रेडके
- (d) Abhijeet Gupta / अभिजीत गुप्ता
- (e) Magnus Carlsen / मैग्नस कार्लसन

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Magnus Carlsen wins the Chess World Cup Final 2023

The Norwegian chess grandmaster, Magnus Carlsen won the Chess World Cup Final 2023 title for the first time, after defeating India's chess grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa in a tie-breaker.

R Praggnanandhaa (18) was the youngest World Cup finalist ever and the youngest World Cup winner.

He managed to secure the silver medal after defeating Hikarua Nakamura and Fabiano Caruana.

He also became the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to enter the Chess World Cup.

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**300. Who is the Best Actor Award at the 69th National Film Awards 2023?**

**69वें राष्ट्रीय फिल्म पुरस्कार 2023 में सर्वश्रेष्ठ अभिनेता का पुरस्कार किसे दिया गया है?**

- (a) Shahi Kabir / शाही कबीर
- (b) Pankaj Tripathi / पंकज त्रिपाठी
- (c) MM Keeravaani / एमएम कीरावनी
- (d) Allu Arjun/ अल्लू अर्जुन
- (e) Nikhil Mahajan Godavari / निखिल महाजन गोदावरी

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Allu Arjun wins Best Actor award at 69th National Film Awards for Pushpa

The 69th National Film Awards was announced on Thursday during a press conference by the Jury at the National Media Center New Delhi. The Jury members for National Film Awards handed over the list of awardees for feature, non-feature and best script category to Union I&B Minister Anurag Thakur. A total of 280 films from 28 languages were submitted for the awards in year 2021. 31 categories in Feature film, 24 in non-feature and 3 in script writing on cinema.

69th National Film Awards 2023

- Best Feature Film- Rocketry
- Best actor - Allu Arjun (Pushpa)
- Best actress - Alia Bhatt (Gangubai Kathiawadi) & Kriti Sanon (Mimi)
- Best Director - Nikhil Mahajan Godavari
- Best Popular Film - RRR
- Nargis Dutt award for best film on national integration - Kashmir Files
- Best Supporting Actor - Pankaj Tripathi (Mimi)
- Best Supporting Actress - Pallavi Joshi (Kashmir Files)
- Best Child Artist- Bhavin Rabari (Chhello Show)
- Best Screenplay (Original) - Shahi Kabir, Nayattu
- Best Screenplay (Adapted)- Sanjay Leela Bhansali & Utkarshini Vashishtha, Gangubai Kathiawadi

- Best Dialogue Writer - Utkarshini Vashishtha & Prakash Kapadia, Gangubai Kathiawadi
- Best Music Director (Songs)- Devi Sri Prasad, Pushpa
- Best Music Direction (Background Music) - MM Keeravaani (RRR)
- Best Male Playback Singer - Kaala Bhairava (RRR)
- Best Female Playback Singer - Shreya Ghoshal (Iravin Nizhal)
- Best Lyrics - Chandrabose (Konda Polam's Dham Dham Dham)
- Best Wholesome Film - RRR
- Best Choregraphy - RRR
- Best Hindi Film - Sardar Udham
- Best Gujarati Film - Chhello Show
- Best Kannada Film - 777 Charlie
- Best Mishing Film - Boomba Ride
- Best Assamese Film - Anur
- Best Bengali Film - Kalkokkho
- Best Maithili Film - Samanantar
- Best Marathi Film - Ekda Kay Zala
- Best Malayalam Film - Hom
- Best non feature film - Ek Tha Gaon
- Best Playback Slinger - Shreya Ghosal
- Best Editor Award - Sanjay Leela Bhansali (Gangubai Kathiawadi)
- Best Music Director - Devi Sri Prasad (Pushpa)
- Best Screenplay - Nayattu (The Hunt)
- Special Jury Award- Shershaah, Vishnuvardhan
- Special Jury Award (Non-feature film) - Shekhar Bapu Rankhambe, Rekha



**301. The Centre has formed a nine-member committee to review the functioning of the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). Who will be chaired by this committee?**

केंद्र ने रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) के कामकाज की समीक्षा के लिए नौ सदस्यीय समिति का गठन किया है। इस समिति 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) K Vijay Raghavan / के विजय राघवन

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Government sets up high power committee to review DRDO

The Centre has formed a nine-member committee to review the functioning of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

The committee headed by Prof K Vijay Raghavan to review and redefine the role of the department and submit a report within three months.

Prof Vijay Raghavan is a former Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India and one of the key architects of the National Research Foundation (NRF).

The members also include a retired diplomat, an ISRO scientist and a serving officer.

The committee would suggest measures to revamp DRDO to make it more result-oriented.

### **Recent Committees**

- Government forms new panel to review all official data; chaired by - Pronab Sen
- 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)

**302. Which of the following has signed a MoU with the Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) to use National Waterways-2 (Brahmaputra) and Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBPR) for the export of petroleum products to Bangladesh?**

निम्नलिखित में से किसने बांग्लादेश को पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के निर्यात के लिए राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग -2 (ब्रह्मपुत्र) और इंडो बांग्लादेश प्रोटोकॉल रूट (आईबीपीआर) का उपयोग करने के लिए नुमालीगढ़ रिफाइनरी लिमिटेड (एनआरएल) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways / बंदरगाह, जहाजरानी और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
- (b) Central Pollution Control Board / केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
- (c) The Inland Waterways Authority of India / भारतीय अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग प्राधिकरण
- (d) Rail Vikas Nigam / रेल विकास निगम
- (e) National Highways Authority of India / भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** IWAI signs MoU with NRL for export of Petroleum Cargo via NW 2 & IBPR

The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has signed a MoU with the Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) to use National Waterways-2 (Brahmaputra) and Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBPR) for export of petroleum products to Bangladesh and other southeast Asian countries.

The MoU is aimed at powering PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan to boost India's Act East Policy.

The Numaligarh Refinery will export around 10,000 million tonnes (MT) of petroleum and petrochemical products per month from IWAI Jogighopa Multi-Modal terminal. The Numaligarh Refinery will set up POL Oil Terminal at Jogighopa Logistics Park with rail connectivity.

The Numaligarh Refinery will also provide 40 acres of land with a provision of getting connected to nearest Railway station at Jogighopa; and erect the loading and unloading facility; apart from transportation of petroleum.

NRL is also in the process of executing the Numaligarh Refinery Expansion Project (NREP), a refinery expansion cum modernization project with a capex of Rs 28,026 crore.

**303. Which IIT has received a \$18.6 million donation from an alumnus for setting up a green energy and sustainability research hub?**

**किस आईआईटी को हरित ऊर्जा और स्थिरता अनुसंधान केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए एक पूर्व छात्र से 18.6 मिलियन डॉलर का दान मिला है?**

- (a) IIT Hyderabad / आईआईटी हैदराबाद
- (b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली
- (c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास
- (d) IIT Kanpur / आईआईटी कानपुर
- (e) IIT Bombay / आईआईटी बॉम्बे

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** IIT BOMBAY receives donation of 18.6 million for Green Energy Hub

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has received a \$18.6 million donation from an alumnus for setting up a green energy and sustainability research hub.

This landmark contribution will redefine the Institute's role in addressing the global climate crisis.

The state-of-the-art academic building will be located on the IIT Bombay campus. The focus areas of this hub will include evaluation of climate risks and development of effective mitigation strategies, climate change adaptation, and comprehensive environmental monitoring.

The hub will facilitate research in several critical areas, including battery technologies, solar photovoltaics, biofuels, clean-air science, flood forecasting, etc.

**304. Which state has emerged as the top state in the Nutrition Awareness Index 2023, scoring 11% above the national average?**

**कौन सा राज्य पोषण जागरूकता सूचकांक 2023 में राष्ट्रीय औसत से 11% अधिक स्कोर करके शीर्ष राज्य के रूप में उभरा है?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Punjab emerged as the top state in Nutrition Awareness Index 2023

The 'Right To Protein' campaign released the 'Nutrition Awareness Index 2023', a state-wise index assessing awareness, affordability, and accessibility of nutrition in India as perceived by end-consumers (citizens).

The Nutrition Awareness Index aims to serve as an important tool to advance the vision of nutrition security in India - with regards to commitments, practices, and management.

Punjab emerged as the top state, scoring 11% above the national average, while Bihar ranked at the bottom, scoring 10% below the national average. Based on the total scores, the other top-ranked states are, Karnataka (9% higher than the national average), Delhi (7% higher), Uttarakhand (6% higher) and Assam (5% higher).

While the bottom-ranked ones are Andhra Pradesh (10% lower than the national average), Rajasthan (8% lower), Tamil Nadu (6% lower) and Gujarat (6% lower). The Index also found that majority Indians are unaware of vegetarian protein sources. Over 53% of young Indians (aged 18-35) find nutrition access challenging and while over 50% of them feel they eat balanced but failed to identify nutritional food sources correctly.

#### **About Punjab**

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

**305. Which state government has issued a notification banning the use and production of plastic water bottles below 1000 ml capacity in the state from 2 October 2023?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने 2 अक्टूबर 2023 से राज्य में 1000 मिलीलीटर क्षमता से कम प्लास्टिक की पानी की बोतलों के उपयोग और उत्पादन पर प्रतिबंध लगाने की अधिसूचना जारी की है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Assam Govt issues notification banning plastic water bottles

The Assam Environment and Forest Department has issued a notification banning the use and production of plastic water bottles below 1000 ml capacity in the state from October 2 this year.

The Assam Environment and Forest Department has issued a notification, prohibiting the use or manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, or sale of plastic water bottles below 1000 ml capacity in the state from October 2 this year.

It is observed that the use of packaged drinking water bottles up to 1000 ml volume and their pollution potential is higher than packaged drinking water bottles of larger volume.

The implementation of the prohibition of the notification shall vest in Urban and Rural local bodies, District Administration and Police department and the Pollution Control Board of Assam.

**About Assam**

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

**306. Which state government has signed an MoU with TCPL Green Energy Solutions Private Ltd. (TGESPL) to set up the country's "first" hydrogen fuel project at an estimated cost of over Rs 350 crore?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने 350 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की अनुमानित लागत पर देश की "पहली" हाइड्रोजन ईंधन परियोजना स्थापित करने के लिए टीसीपीएल ग्रीन एनर्जी सॉल्यूशंस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (टीजीईएसपीएल) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Jharkhand govt inks pact with TGESPL

The Jharkhand government has signed an MoU with TCPL Green Energy Solutions Private Ltd. (TGESPL) to set up the country's "first" hydrogen fuel project in Jamshedpur at an estimated cost of over Rs 350 crore. The capacity of the proposed unit will be over 4,000 hydrogen IC engine/fuel agnostic engine and more than 10,000 battery system. The facility is expected to start commercial production in March 2024, and likely provide employment to about 1,000 people directly or indirectly.

#### **About Jharkhand**

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

#### **Recent MoUs signed by State Government**

- ISB signed MoU with Goa government for knowledge partnership
- Karnataka govt, Foxconn sign Letter of Intent with Rs 5000 cr investment
- 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

**307. Which bank has partnered with Marriott Bonvoy to launch the 'Marriott Bonvoy Credit Card'?**

**‘मैरियट बॉनवॉय क्रेडिट कार्ड’ लॉन्च करने के लिए किस बैंक ने मैरियट बॉनवॉय के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** HDFC Bank launches India's First Co-Branded Hotel Credit Card with Marriott

HDFC Bank has partnered with Marriott Bonvoy, the esteemed travel program by Marriott, to launch 'Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card'.

This pioneering co-branded card will operate on the Diners Club platform, which is a part of the globally recognized Discover Global Network.

The newly launched credit card comes packed with travel benefits, designed to elevate cardholders' travel journeys.

Cardholders are entitled to Silver Elite Status with Marriott Bonvoy, ushering in a range of privileges including priority late checkouts, exclusive member rates, and bonus points, among other perks.

The card will also provide Silver Elite Status accompanied by the privilege of receiving ten elite night credits annually.

**About HDFC Bank**

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

**308. Which of the following woman player becomes Global Brand Ambassador to promote Infosys' Digital Innovation?**

**निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी महिला खिलाड़ी इंफोसिस के डिजिटल इनोवेशन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए ग्लोबल ब्रांड एंबेसडर बनी है?**

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Sania Mirza / सानिया मिर्जा
- (c) Ashleigh Barty / एशले बार्टी
- (d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (e) Iga Swiatek / इगा स्विएटेक

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Infosys welcomes Iga Swiatek as Global Brand Ambassador

IT giant Infosys has announced a multi-year partnership with women's tennis world number 1 Iga Swiatek, appointing her as the ambassador for the brand. Swiatek is a four-time Grand Slam Champion and has been ranked World No. 1 since April 22 for a record 70 consecutive weeks. It will now work closely with Swiatek's team to build an advanced data analytics and video dashboard by leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) to amplify her training and evolve her strengths and match strategy.

Infosys and Swiatek will also conceptualize and promote programs to help women from underserved communities build careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

On August 24, the IT company announced a three-year partnership with global tennis legend Rafael Nadal, appointing him as the ambassador for the brand and Infosys' Digital Innovation.

This marks Nadal's first-ever collaboration with a digital services company.

**Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Rahul Dravid - Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- Shraddha Kapoor - Asics India Private Limited (a sports gear company)
- Rashmika Mandanna - Printer company Epson India
- Smriti Mandhana - Wrangler brand
- Hrithik Roshan - Zebronic TV
- Sachin Tendulkar - Smile Ambassador by Maharashtra government

**309. Who has been conferred with 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' award by Greek President Katerina Sakellaropoulou?**

ग्रीक राष्ट्रपति कतेरीना सकेलारोपोलू द्वारा 'द ग्रैंड क्रॉस ऑफ द ऑर्डर ऑफ ऑनर' पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़
- (b) S Jaishankar / एस जयशंकर
- (c) Ajit Doval / अजीत डोभाल
- (d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मू
- (e) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** PM Modi conferred with award by Greece President

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' award by Greek President Katerina Sakellaropoulou.

This is the second-highest civilian honour in Greece.

The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour is conferred to "eminent personalities who by reason of their distinguished position, have contributed to enhancing the stature of Greece". This day-long trip is the first visit to Greece by an Indian Prime Minister in 40 years.

The Order of Honour was established in 1975.

**Top international awards and honours bestowed by various countries on PM Modi**

- Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour by France in July 2023
- 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
- Ebaki 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.

**310. India has won the 50m pistol women's team gold medal. Which of the following person was not in the team?**

**भारत ने 50 मीटर पिस्टल महिला टीम का स्वर्ण पदक जीता है। इनमें से कौन सा व्यक्ति टीम में नहीं था?**

- (a) Suryavanshi / सूर्यवंशी
- (b) Manu Bhaker / मनु भाकर
- (c) Tiyana / तियाना
- (d) Sakshi / साक्षी
- (e) Kirandeep Kaur / किरणदीप कौर

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** India won 50m pistol women's team gold medal

The Indian 50m pistol women's team containing Tiyana, Sakshi Suryavanshi, and Kirandeep Kaur bagged the gold medal at the ISSF World Championships 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The Indian trio shot a composite score of 1573-6x to finish on the top of the podium.

China finished second with a score of 1567-9x while Mongolia bagged the bronze with a combined score of 1566-3x.

With a total score of 1646-28x in the men's 50m pistol team competition, the Indian team of Vikram Jagannath Shinde, Kamaljeet, and Ravinder Singh won the bronze medal.

The gold medal went to China (1655-32x points), and the silver to the Republic of Korea (1654-30x).

Tiyana and Ravinder Singh of India won bronze medals in the men's and women's individual events, respectively.

Tiyana placed third out of 14 shooters in the women's solo 50m pistol final with a score of 533. Gold and silver medals were won by Austrian shooter Sylvia Steiner (540 points) and Mongolian shooter Bayartsetseg Tumurchudur (534) respectively.

**311. Women's Equality Day is celebrated every year on which day to highlight the achievements made by women in various fields?**

**विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में महिलाओं द्वारा हासिल की गई उपलब्धियों को उजागर करने के लिए हर साल किस दिन महिला समानता दिवस मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 24 August / 24 अगस्त
- (b) 25 August / 25 अगस्त
- (c) 27 August / 27 अगस्त
- (d) 26 August / 26 अगस्त
- (e) 28 August / 28 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 26 August - Women's Equality Day

Women's Equality Day is celebrated every year on August 26 to highlight the achievements made by women in various fields.

The day also aims to bring to the fore the struggles women have faced to win equal rights.

Women's Equality Day is marked primarily in the US on August 26 annually. It was on this day in 1920 when women in the US were granted the right to vote after decades of hardships and advocacy.

Women's Equality Day was first celebrated on August 26, 1971. Since then, it has been proclaimed each year by the president of the US.

The idea to mark the day stems from the years of protests and demonstrations by women to achieve equal rights in terms of social status and opportunities.

The first such protest by women for equal rights was held at the world's first Women's Rights Convention in 1848 in New York State. In 1971, a bill was introduced by women's rights activist and United States Congress Representative Bella Abzug to declare August 26 as Women's Equality Day. This had come after the 'strike for equality' protest by women to mark the 50th anniversary of the 19th Amendment.

In 1973, the 37th President of the United States Richard Nixon formally recognised August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

**312. International Dog Day is observed every year on which day?**

**अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कुत्ता दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 24 August / 24 अगस्त
- (b) 25 August / 25 अगस्त
- (c) 27 August / 27 अगस्त
- (d) 26 August / 26 अगस्त
- (e) 28 August / 28 अगस्त

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 26 August - International Dog Day

International Dog Day is observed every year on 26 August.

This day aims to recognize the important role that a dog plays in our lives.

Whether it's a loyal companion or pet, a service animal, a police dog, or a rescue dog, these amazing creatures have been playing a crucial part in humans' lives.

International Dog Day has been observed since 2004, when a pet lover, Colleen Paige, celebrated the day as a way to raise awareness about dog shelters.

Since then, International Dog Day has become a global celebration for all pet lovers who participate in events and activities to honour their pets and also to raise awareness about humans' best friends.

Paige is also the founder of National Cat Day and National Pet Day.

**313. \_\_\_\_\_ Windham Rotunda aka Bray Wyatt passed away recently at the age of 36.**

\_\_\_\_\_ विंडहैम रोटुंडा उर्फ ब्रे वायट का हाल ही में 36 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया।

- (a) Grand slam Champion
- (b) Baseball Champion
- (c) Shooting Champion
- (d) WWE Champion
- (e) None of above

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Former WWE Champion Windham Rotunda aka Bray Wyatt passes away  
Windham Rotunda, who was known as Bray Wyatt passed away at the age of just 36.  
Rotunda was an American professional wrestler. He was best known for his tenure in  
WWE, where he performed under the ring name Bray Wyatt.  
Wyatt gained recognition among the fans the moment he made his debut with his  
'Wyatt Family.'

**314. Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, widely known as C R Rao, passed away recently at the age of 102. Who was he?**

कैल्यामपुडी राधाकृष्ण राव, जिन्हें व्यापक रूप से सी आर राव के नाम से जाना जाता है, का हाल ही में 102 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Eminent Statistician CR Rao Passed Away

Renowned mathematician and statistician Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, widely known as C R Rao, passed away at the age of 102.

He had recently received the prestigious "International Prize in Statistics-2023", often referred to as the "statistics' equivalent of the Nobel Prize".

He was honoured with the Padma Bhushan award in 1968 and the Padma Vibhushan award in 2001.

**315. The 3rd International Conference on Structural Integrity (ICONS 2023) has been inaugurated in which city?**

**स्ट्रक्चरल इंटीग्रिटी पर तीसरा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन (ICONS 2023) किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 3rd International Conference on Structural Integrity inaugurated at Mamallapuram

The 3rd International Conference on Structural Integrity (ICONS 2023) began virtually at Mamallapuram in Tamil Nadu

ICONS 2023 was inaugurated under the leadership of Dr. N. Kailaiselvi, Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

ICONS 2023 is jointly organized by the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam and the Society for Failure Analysis, in association with Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Indian Society for Non-destructive Testing, Kalpakkam Chapter, Indian Institute of Metals Kalpakkam Chapter and Indian Structural Integrity Society.

ICONS 2023 was attended by around 250 delegates from India and abroad, including mechanical engineers, materials scientists, academicians, industry experts, plant managers and regulatory personnel.

The aim of the conference is to discuss recent developments and future directions in assessing and ensuring structural integrity in industries such as nuclear, defence, aerospace, chemical and oil.

#### **About Tamil Nadu**

- **Formation** – 26 January 1950
- **Capital** – Chennai
- **Chief Minister** – M K Stalin
- **Governor** – R N Ravi

**316. Which company has successfully manufactured the first set of indigenous SCR Catalysts for limiting NOx emissions from thermal power plants?**

किस कंपनी ने थर्मल पावर प्लांटों से NOx उत्सर्जन को सीमित करने के लिए स्वदेशी SCR उत्प्रेरक के पहले सेट का सफलतापूर्वक निर्माण किया है?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited / भारत हेवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड
- (c) Hindustan Unilever Limited / हिंदुस्तान यूनिलीवर लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** BHEL develops India's first catalyst set to curb NOx emissions in power plants

State-owned engineering firm Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has successfully manufactured the first set of indigenous SCR Catalysts for limiting NOx emissions from thermal power plants.

SCR Catalysts were earlier imported in line with the 'Make in India' initiative.

The initial batch of indigenous SCR Catalyst was manufactured for 5x800 MW Yadadri Thermal Power Station in Telangana.

BHEL set up a manufacturing facility at its Solar Business Division unit to produce SCR catalysts for reducing NOx emissions in thermal power plants.

Burning coal converts its nitrogen content into nitrogen oxides (NOx), a major air pollutant that includes substances such as NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O.

**About Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**

- Establishment - 1956
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- BHEL works as a part of the Government of India and comes under the purview of the Ministry of Heavy Industry.
- It has the distinction of being the largest manufacturer of power generation equipment under government ownership.

**317. Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal has launched \_\_\_\_\_ ,which Integrates Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App to ensure access to justice.**

कानून और न्याय मंत्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल ने \_\_\_\_\_ लॉन्च किया है, जो न्याय तक पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने के लिए टेली-लॉ और न्याय बंधु ऐप को एकीकृत करता है।

- (a) Tele-Law 2.0
- (b) Tele-Law 3.0
- (c) Tele-Law 4.0
- (d) Tele-Law 5.0
- (e) Tele-Law 6.0

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal launches Tele-Law 2.0

Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal has launched Tele-Law- 2.0 which Integrates Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App to ensure access to justice.

This will enable the common citizen to access legal advice, legal assistance and legal representation through a single registration and single gateway of Tele-Law.

The number of beneficiaries of the Tele-Law Scheme have reached 50 Lakhs.

The integration of legal guidance, support, and representation through a single registration process stands as a testament to the commitment to nurture a digitally literate and empowered populace.

The Minister called upon legal professionals to contribute pro bono services to ensure that no citizen is deprived of essential legal assistance

**318. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has released a postage stamp in memory of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**भारत के राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने \_\_\_\_\_ की स्मृति में एक डाक टिकट जारी किया है।**

- (a) Nirmal Shanta / निर्मल शांता
- (b) Sushma Swaraj / सुषमा स्वराज
- (c) Arun Jaitley / अरुण जेटली
- (d) Dadi Prakashmani / दादी प्रकाशमणि
- (e) Jayalalithaa / जयललिता

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Draupadi Murmu releases postage stamp in memory of Dadi Prakashmani

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has released a postage stamp in memory of Dadi Prakashmani, former chief of Brahma Kumaris at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre.

This stamp was released under the 'My Stamp' initiative of the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications to mark the 16th death anniversary of Dadi Prakashmani.

Dadi Prakashmani spread Indian values and culture in India and abroad through spirituality.

Under her leadership, the Brahma Kumaris became the largest women-led spiritual organization in the world. Like a true leader, she stood by Brahma Kumaris family with faith and courage even in challenging circumstances and always guided them.

 **ambitious baba**.com

**319. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Indian Oil's Indane XTRATEJ LPG brand?**

**इंडियन ऑयल के इंडेन XTRATEJ एलपीजी ब्रांड के लिए ब्रांड एंबेसडर किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Rachita Kapoor / रचिता कपूर
- (b) Sanjeev Kapoor / संजीव कपूर
- (c) Anshika Kapoor / अंशिका कपूर
- (d) Alyona Kapoor / एल्योना कपूर
- (e) Garima Arora / गरिमा अरोड़ा

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Indian Oil ropes in chef Sanjeev Kapoor as its brand ambassador

Indian Oil has collaborated with Chef Sanjeev Kapoor as the brand ambassador for its Indane XTRATEJ LPG brand.

IndianOil has observed significant year-on-year growth in market volume since the initial trial of XTRATEJ in Belgaum, Karnataka.

Indian Oil has 16 crore customers connections.

IndianOil's unwavering dedication to customer efficiency, underscoring how the hospitality industry now benefits from innovations like XtraTej that enhance business operations.

Kapoor applauded Indian Oil for providing a cost-efficient solution that conserves LPG, essential in an era where customer expectations continue to evolve rapidly.

**Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Iga Swiatek – Infosys's Global Brand Ambassador
- Rafael Nadal – Infosys brand and Infosys Digital Innovation
- Rahul Dravid - Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- Shraddha Kapoor - Asics India Private Limited (a sports gear company)
- Rashmika Mandanna - Printer company Epson India
- Smriti Mandhana - Wrangler brand

**320. Which of the following country has developed a device for the visually impaired?**

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने दृष्टि बाधित लोगों के लिए एक उपकरण विकसित किया है?

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Germany develops device for visually impaired

With the help of modern technology, even the visually impaired can now try their hand at sports of shooting. Germany has developed a device for the visually impaired.

This device has been brought to India for the first time and given to the visually impaired in Pune.

In shooting, the target is identified and aimed through binoculars. The same technique has been developed by these devices, one part of this device is in the rifle and the other part is on the headphones placed on the ear.

This device will do the work of target sighting for visually impaired shooters. The device sends a signal to the visually impaired when they come close to the main circle.

**About Germany**

- Capital - Berlin
- Currency - Euro
- President - Frank-Walter Steinmeier

**321. Which bank has launched a Customer Service Points (CSPs) functionality that allows customers to enroll for social security schemes through Aadhaar Card?**

किस बैंक ने ग्राहक सेवा बिंदु (सीएसपी) कार्यक्षमता शुरू की है जो ग्राहकों को आधार कार्ड के माध्यम से सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजनाओं के लिए नामांकन करने की अनुमति देती 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. a**

**Sol.** SBI launches Aadhaar-based enrolment for social security schemes

Public sector lender the State Bank of India has launched a Customer Service Points (CSPs) functionality that allows customers to enroll for social security schemes through Aadhaar Card.

Chairman Dinesh Khara introduced the feature which will be availed at the bank's CSPs that aims to make the process of enrolling in various social security schemes simpler.

The customers visiting CSPs will need only their Aadhaar to enroll in social security schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

They will no longer need to carry passbooks to the CSP outlet for enrolment.

With the feature, the bank aims to strengthen its offerings and extend the benefits of crucial schemes to the masses.

This technology-driven enhancement is a testament to SBI's commitment to improve financial inclusivity and social welfare through digitization.

**About State Bank of India (SBI)**

- **Founded** - 1 July 1955
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Dinesh Kumar Khara
- **Tagline** - (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else  
(2) With you all the way  
(3) A bank of the common man  
(4) The banker to every Indian  
(5) The Nation banks on us

**Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- IndusInd Bank launches **multi-branded credit card** with Qatar Airways
- Canara Bank launches **UPI Interoperable Digital Rupee** mobile application
- YES BANK launched '**iris**' app to offer digital banking solutions in India
- RBI launched **UDGAM portal** to track unclaimed deposits
- Canara Bank introduced **Canara Jeevan Dhara savings bank account** for pensioners.

**322. Which bank has partnered with commodities trader Maptrasco for the completion of the first “live” transaction of electronic Bills of Lading (eBL) for shipments?**

शिपमेंट के लिए इलेक्ट्रॉनिक बिल ऑफ लैडिंग (ईबीएल) के पहले "लाइव" लेनदेन को पूरा करने के लिए किस बैंक ने कमोडिटी व्यापारी मैपट्रास्को के साथ साझेदारी की है?

(a) DBS Bank / डीबीएस बैंक

(b) Standard Chartered Bank / स्टैंडर्ड चार्टर्ड बैंक

(c) Citibank / सिटी बैंक

(d) OCBC Bank / ओसीबीसी बैंक

(e) HSBC Bank / एचएसबीसी बैंक

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** DBS partners with Maptrasco to complete the first eBL transaction

DBS Bank has partnered with commodities trader Maptrasco for the completion of the first “live” transaction of electronic Bills of Lading (eBL) for shipments between Singapore and India.

With this first shipment, businesses across Singapore and India can participate in the TradeTrust network via their respective choice of TradeTrust-enabled platforms to enable the digital trade finance of live shipments of goods between the two countries.

The transaction was implemented under the TradeTrust framework, an initiative by the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) and supported by Enterprise Singapore.

The project leverages the United Nation’s Model Law for Electronic Transferable Records and aims to drive cross-border document and title exchanges.

The successful transaction ushers in a new chapter of more efficient, and interoperable digital bills of lading and is a key milestone in the digital transformation of trade financing.

**About Development Bank of Singapore (DBS) Bank**

- **Founded** - 1968
- **Headquarters** - Singapore
- **Chairman** - Peter Seah
- **CEO** - Piyush Gupta

**Recent MoU in Banking Sector**

- Axis Bank partners with RBI innovation hub to launch KCCs and MSME loans
- NHA and IRDAI collaborate to boost digital health integration in insurance
- IIITD-IC partners with YES Bank to scale up Indian startups
- Bajaj Finance partnered with ICICI Lombard to offer insurance plan
- Bandhan Bank ties up with Odisha govt to strengthen Odisha Tourism Development Corporation

**323. Indian women's blind cricket team has won the gold medal after defeating which country in the IBSA World Games 2023?**

**भारतीय महिला ब्लाइंड क्रिकेट टीम ने IBSA वर्ल्ड गेम्स 2023 में किस देश को हराकर स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?**

- (a) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Indian women's blind cricket team wins gold in IBSA World Games

Indian women's blind cricket team created history as it defeated Australia in the finals by 9 wickets and won the gold medal at the IBSA World Games.

The women's cricket team showed exceptional resilience in the rain-spoiled match and ultimately became the first-ever cricket winners at the IBSA World Games.

The Indian men's blind cricket team earned a silver medal at the IBSA World Games 2023 after losing to Pakistan in the men's T20 cricket final held at Edgbaston, Birmingham.

The inclusion of cricket in the IBSA World Games began and both the Indian men's and women's blind cricket teams reached the finals, ensuring medals for India.

The team became the first-ever cricket winners at the IBSA World Games.

**324. Which of the following state has been awarded the best 'State Award' for 2022?**

**निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य को 2022 के लिए सर्वश्रेष्ठ 'राज्य पुरस्कार' से सम्मानित किया गया है?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Indore won National Smart City Award 2022

Indore bagged the best "National Smart City Award", followed by Surat and Agra.

The central government announced the India Smart Cities Awards for 2022.

Madhya Pradesh has won the best 'State Award' and Tamil Nadu bagged the second spot. Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh were in the third spot jointly.

Chandigarh has been ranked the number one in the Union territory category.

Among the 100 smart cities in the country, Indore bagged the top spot, Surat in Gujarat the second place, and Agra the third spot.

In October last year, Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the sixth time in a row.

The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry said that while 66 winners in different categories were announced the awards would be presented by President Droupadi Murmu at a ceremony in Indore on September 27.

It includes 35 in Project Award, six in Innovation Award, 13 in the National/Zonal City Award, five in State/UT Award and seven in Partner Award.

**325. Who has released books based on speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi titled “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas” at the Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Centre in Bhopal?**

भोपाल में कुशाभाऊ ठाकरे इंटरनेशनल कन्वेंशन सेंटर में प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के भाषणों पर आधारित "सबका साथ, सबका विकास, सबका विश्वास" नामक पुस्तकों का विमोचन 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. a**

**Sol.** Shivraj Singh & Anurag Thakur releases books based on speeches of PM Modi

Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur and Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan have released books based on speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi titled “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas” at the Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Centre in Bhopal.

The speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi are always connected with the public, make relations, create motion, and are based on Nation-First policy and that is why they are perfect and reach the heart of the public.

The second volume of the book covers 86 speeches from the second year of Mr. Modi's second term in the Prime Minister's Office, i.e. from June 2020 to May 2021.

Whereas, the third volume is a collection of 80 speeches from June 2021 to May 2022, the third year of Mr. Modi's second term in the Prime Minister's Office.

**326. Neeraj Chopra has won the gold medal in the men's Javelin Throw at the World Athletics Championships 2023 with a throw of \_\_\_\_.**

**नीरज चोपड़ा ने विश्व एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2023 में पुरुषों की भाला फेंक में \_\_\_\_ के थ्रो के साथ स्वर्ण पदक जीता है।**

- (a) 87.82 meters
- (b) 88.17 meters
- (c) 86.82 meters
- (d) 85.82 meters
- (e) 88.27 meters

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Neeraj Chopra becomes first Indian to win gold at World Athletics

Neeraj Chopra achieved another historic feat, becoming the first Indian athlete to win World Athletics Championships gold medal during the men's javelin throw final event in Budapest.

Chopra's second attempt in the final saw him launch the javelin to a distance of 88.17 meters, which remained the highest in the event. Neeraj's achievement marked a significant improvement from the 2022 edition of the Worlds, where he secured a silver medal. Chopra's compatriot from Pakistan, Arshad Nadeem finished second as he finished marginally behind the Indian gold medallist at 87.82m. The Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch took the bronze in 86.67m.

The other two Indian javelin throwers in contention – Kishore Jena and DP Manu – also produced impressive performances even as they couldn't secure podium spots. Both throwers qualified for the top 8 positions and finished fifth and sixth respectively. While Jena had the highest registered throw of 84.77m – also his personal best – Manu threw 84.14m

Chopra, the current no.1 in the javelin world rankings, had won the Olympic gold in Tokyo 2020 but finished with a silver at the worlds in Eugene last year, as Anderson Peters had clinched the gold.

The only other Indian to win a medal at the worlds was Anju Bobby George, who took bronze in the women's long jump in 2003 in Paris. India's superstar javelin thrower also became only the third in history to simultaneously hold the Olympics and World Championships titles in the sport, after the iconic Jan Zelezny of Czech Republic and Andreas Thorkildsen of Norway

Zelezny clinched Olympics gold in 1992, 1996 and 2000 while winning World Championships title in 1993, 1995 and 2001. Thorkildsen won gold in 2008 Olympics and 2009 World Championships.

**327. What is the name of the specific spot where Chandrayaan-2 was landed on the Moon?**

**जिस विशिष्ट स्थान पर चंद्रयान-2 चंद्रमा पर उतरा था, उस विशिष्ट स्थान नाम क्या रखा गया है?**

- (a) Tirangashakti / तिरंगाशक्ति
- (b) Tiranga Point / तिरंगा प्वाइंट
- (c) Shivshakti / शिवशक्ति
- (d) India Point / इंडिया प्वाइंट
- (e) Shakti Point / शक्ति बिंदु

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** India declares August 23 as National Space Day

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has declared August 23 as the National Space Day to commemorate the remarkable achievement of Chandrayaan-3's landing on the moon.

The specific spot where Chandrayaan-3 landed on the Moon will be named 'Shivshakti', and the spot where Chandrayaan-2 landed will be called 'Tiranga Point'.

PM Modi made this announcement during his visit to the ISRO Telemetry Tracking and Command Network Mission Control Complex in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

On 23 August 2023, Chandrayaan-3 achieved a historic feat by becoming the first mission to land on the South Pole of the Moon. Mission goals included a safe lunar landing, rover maneuverability, and the performance of scientific experiments on-site. India has now joined the ranks of the United States, Russia, and China in successfully landing on the Moon.

**328. Seema Deo passed away recently at the age of 83. Who was she?**

**सीमा देव का हाल ही में 83 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थीं?**

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Actor / अभिनेता
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Film Director / फिल्म निर्देशक

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Veteran actor Seema Deo passes away

Marathi cinema legend and Hindi film actor Seema Deo passed away at the age of 83.

The senior actor was seen in films like Anand, Koshish and Kora Kagaz.

Apart from appearing in several Hindi films, Seema Deo was a renowned actor in Marathi cinema.

She appeared in over 80 films throughout her career.

**329. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has chaired the 26th meeting of the Western Zonal Council in which city?**

**केंद्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने किस शहर में पश्चिमी क्षेत्रीय परिषद की 26वीं बैठक की अध्यक्षता की है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Amit Shah chairs 26th meeting of Western Zonal Council in Gandhinagar

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has chaired the 26th meeting of the Western Zonal Council at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The meeting was organized by the Inter-State Council Secretariat under the Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the Government of Gujarat.

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde, Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel, Goa CM Pramod Sawant, and administrator of UT of Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman, Diu Praful Patel attended the Meeting along with senior officials from state and Central Government.

During the meeting, Amit Shah also inaugurated an e-resource web portal, of the Inter-State Council Secretariat. This Portal contains minutes & agendas of various meetings of the Inter-State Council, 5 Zonal Councils & their Standing Committees since their inception.

The Western Zonal Council comprises the states of Gujarat, Goa, and Maharashtra, and the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

#### **Amit Shah in News**

- Amit Shah plants 4 croreth tree at CRPF Group Center in Greater Noida
- Amit Shah inaugurates development works worth Rs 1052 cr in Gujarat
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone for IFFCO Nano Urea Plant
- Amit Shah laid foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool
- Amit Shah inaugurated mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs

**330. Ministry of Education and \_\_\_\_\_ have launched the sixth edition of the Smart India Hackathon 2023.**

**शिक्षा मंत्रालय और \_\_\_\_\_ ने स्मार्ट इंडिया हैकथॉन 2023 का छठा संस्करण लॉन्च किया है।**

- (a) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) / अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई)
- (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) / विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग (यूजीसी)
- (c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) / केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई)
- (d) Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) / संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (यूपीएससी)
- (e) National Testing Agency (NTA) / राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण एजेंसी (एनटीए)

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Ministry of education unveils smart India hackathon 2023

The Ministry of Education and the All-India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) have launched the sixth edition of the Smart India Hackathon 2023.

The Smart India Hackathon acts as a remarkable platform that unites the ingenuity of India's young minds with the practical obstacles encountered by diverse government entities and ministries.

With a vast network comprising more than 7500 Innovation Institutes spanning the nation, SIH is a breeding ground for unconventional solutions and fresh perspectives.

Objective - To bring together the creativity of India's young minds with real-world challenges faced by various government departments.

It has become a global model for hackathons and innovation frameworks, reflecting its dynamic evolution over time.

**331. India has handed over the B20 presidency to which country to host G20 in 2024?**

**भारत ने 2024 में G20 की मेजबानी के लिए B20 की अध्यक्षता किस देश को सौंपी है?**

- (a) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (b) UAE / यूएई
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** India hand over B20 presidency to Brazil to host G20 in 2024

India has handed over the B20 presidency to Brazil to host G20 in 2024.

B20 India Chair N Chandrasekaran said that India's B20 Presidency under its G20 Presidency worked under the theme of Vasudeva Katumbakam (One Earth, One Family, One Future).

Worked on 9 themes which included the empowerment of women and youth, the transition towards an Artificial Intelligence world, building a global resilient supply chain, and financing for the global economic recovery.

During this period we worked on nine important themes which included empowerment of women and youth, transition towards an Artificial Intelligence world, building a global resilient supply chain and financing for the global economic recovery.

The presidency of India's B20 has been recognized for its effective process, engagement, and consensus-building in generating 54 policy recommendations over the last nine months.

**332. As part of India's G20 presidency, the second G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable Meeting has been conducted in which city?**

**भारत की G20 अध्यक्षता के हिस्से के रूप में, दूसरी G20-मुख्य वैज्ञानिक सलाहकारों की गोलमेज बैठक किस शहर में आयोजित की गई है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 2nd G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' meeting begins in Gandhinagar

As part of India's G20 presidency, the second G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable has been conducted in Gandhinagar.

Science advisors, Scientists, researchers from G 20 countries, and invited countries participated in the meeting.

During the day-long meeting, the delegates discussed several critical issues pertaining to scientific research and technology development.

On the sidelines of the meeting, three bilateral meetings between India and Saudi Arabia, Australia and the UK were held.

#### **G20 in News**

- **4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG)** – Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (23- 26 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Jaipur, Rajasthan (21 – 22 August 2023)
- **G20 Film Festival** - New Delhi (Opening film - Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali")
- **Youth 20 Summit** - Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (17 - 20 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Digital Economy Working Group Meetings** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (16 - 19 August 2023)

**333. Which of the following country has hosted its first Karnataka cultural festival?**

**निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने अपने पहले कर्नाटक सांस्कृतिक उत्सव की मेजबानी की है?**

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

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Sri Lanka hosts first Karnataka cultural festival

Sri Lanka hosted its very first Karnataka cultural festival.

It was organized by the International Cultural Council of India in collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre and M.E Global Peace Foundation.

The event showcased a mesmerizing lineup of performances by over 30 artists from Karnataka including dances, folk songs, multi-lingual poems, ballet, and captivating puppet shows.

The programme featured the essence of Karnataka's heritage, with the spotlight on talented artists like Madhuri Bondre and her troupe.

The event celebrated cultural diversity and marked a significant moment in the shared cultural heritage of India and 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

**334. Who has become the first woman field director of Kaziranga National Park?**

**काजीरंगा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान की पहली महिला क्षेत्र निदेशक कौन बनी हैं?**

- (a) Rinki Yadav / रिकी यादव
- (b) Radhika Jindal / राधिका जिंदल
- (c) Sonali Ghosh / सोनाली घोष
- (d) Mansi Madan / मानसी मदान
- (e) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Kaziranga National Park gets first Woman field Director

Chief conservator of forests Dr Sonali Ghosh became the first woman field director of Kaziranga National Park.

The Indian Forest Service (IAS) officer will take charge of the park from incumbent field director Jatindra Sarma.

Ghosh is presently working as the chief conservator of forests for research education and working plan division at the office of the principal chief conservator of forests and head of the forest force in Guwahati.

According to a forest department official, she will become the first woman to hold charge as director of the 118-year-old KNP.

The KNP was first declared a proposed reserve forest in 1905, followed by a reserve forest in 1908 and a game sanctuary in 1916. It was opened to visitors in 1938.

In 1950, it was declared as a wildlife sanctuary and upgraded to a national park in February 1974.

UNESCO declared KNP as a World Heritage Site in December 1985.

**Recent Appointment**

- **President and CEO of Honeywell High Growth Region** - Anant Maheshwari
- **President of Qualcomm India** - Savi Soin (replace Rajen Vagadia)
- **Additional DG of Military Nurse Service** - Amita Rani
- **Director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** - Prof Ganesan Kannabiran
- **Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** - James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea (UK)

**335. Who has been appointed as the new country chair of Shell India?**

**शेल इंडिया के नए कंट्री चेयरमैन के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran / गणेशन कन्नाबीरन
- (b) Radhika Jindal / राधिका जिंदल
- (c) Parth Jindal / पार्थ जिंदल
- (d) Mansi Madan / मानसी मदान
- (e) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Shell India appoints Mansi Madan Tripathy as new country chair

Shell India has appointed Mansi Madan Tripathy as the new country chair of the company, effective from 1 October.

Tripathy will succeed Nitin Prasad who has been the country chair since 2016.

'As Country Chair of Shell India, Mansi will oversee Shell Group of companies in India, in addition to her role as Vice President, Shell Lubricants for Asia Pacific.

Mansi will relocate from Singapore to New Delhi, her home city, to take up the role.

She joined the company from Procter & Gamble in 2012, where she held several regional and global director-level positions.

**Recent Appointment**

- **Chairman of Smart eMobility** - Manoj Kohli
- **CEO of Viacom 18 for digital business** - Kiran Mani
- **Part-time chairperson of UIDAI** - Neelkanth Mishra
- **Chairman of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)** - CJ of the Calcutta HC Prakash Shrivastava (replace Shiv Kumar Singh)
- **Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)** - Shrikant Madhav Vaidya (reappointment)

**336. Which Payments Bank has partnered with Frontier Markets to launch the 'She Leads Bharat: Udyam' initiative?**

किस पेमेंट्स बैंक ने 'शी लीड्स भारत: उद्यम' पहल शुरू करने के लिए फ्रंटियर मार्केट्स के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Airtel Payments Bank / एयरटेल पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (b) India Post Payments Bank / इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (c) FINO Payments Bank / फिनो पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (d) Paytm Payments Bank / पेटीएम पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (e) Jio Payments Bank / जियो पेमेंट्स बैंक

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Airtel Payments Bank partnered with Frontier Markets to support 1 lakh women

Airtel Payments Bank, Frontier Markets and the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth have launched 'She Leads Bharat: Udyam', an initiative to elevate 1,00,000 women-owned small businesses with resources, tools and opportunities to grow and diversify their incomes.

She Leads Bharat: Udyam is a first-of-its-kind initiative that brings together the private sector, social enterprise, and philanthropy in the banking, financial services, and insurance sector to demonstrate a digital-first model designed to unlock ways for women-owned small businesses to increase their incomes. This initiative will be funded by the Mastercard Impact Fund, while Mastercard will bring the catalytic capital and global expertise of its Center for Inclusive Growth to unlock tools, resources, and networks for women-owned small businesses.

In this first phase, the initiative will enable 1,00,000 women-owned small businesses in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to learn and earn via Frontier Markets' proprietary, flexible Meri-Saheli platform.

10,000 of these women small business owners will be further enabled to grow their business by becoming Airtel Payments Bank Business Correspondents (BCs) and unlock additional revenue streams.

In India, women-owned micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) constitute 20 per cent of all MSMEs yet receive only 5 percent of the total financing provided by public-sector banks

**Recent MoU in Banking Sector**

- DBS partners with Maptrusco to complete the first eBL transaction
- Axis Bank partners with RBI innovation hub to launch KCCs and MSME loans
- NHA and IRDAI collaborate to boost digital health integration in insurance
- IIITD-IC partners with YES Bank to scale up Indian startups
- Bajaj Finance partnered with ICICI Lombard to offer insurance plan

**337. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the upper limit of an offline payment transaction to how much rupees from the existing Rs 200 to promote the use of UPI-Lite wallet?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने UPI-लाइट वॉलेट के उपयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए ऑफ़लाइन भुगतान लेनदेन की ऊपरी सीमा को मौजूदा 200 रुपये से बढ़ाकर कितने रुपये कर दिया है?**

- (a) 400
- (b) 500
- (c) 1000
- (d) 1500
- (e) 2000

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** RBI raises small value payment transaction limit in offline mode to Rs 500

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the upper limit of an offline payment transaction to Rs 500 from the existing Rs 200 to promote the use of UPI-Lite wallet in areas where internet connectivity is weak or not available.

The total limit for offline transactions on a payment instrument, however, remains Rs 2,000.

The RBI launched a device wallet called UPI Lite in September last year to increase the speed of small-value transactions on UPI, optimise processing resources for banks and reduce transaction failures.

The product currently processes more than 10 million transactions a month.

Earlier this month, the RBI had proposed facilitating offline transactions using Near Field Communication (NFC) technology to promote UPI-Lite. Transactions through NFC do not require PIN verification.

**About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**

- **Founded** - 1 April 1935
- **RBI Nationalized** - 1 January 1949
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **RBI set up** - Hilton Young Commission
- **1st Governor** - Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- **1st Indian Governor** - CD Deshmukh
- **25th Governor** - Shaktikanta Das

**338. The Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the biennial multilateral tri-services exercise Bright Star-23 held at Cairo Air Base in Egypt. Which of the following country is not a part of Exercise Bright Star-23?**

भारतीय वायु सेना (IAF) ने मिस्र के काहिरा एयर बेस में आयोजित द्विवार्षिक बहुपक्षीय त्रि-सेवा अभ्यास ब्राइट स्टार -23 में भाग लिया। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश एक्सरसाइज ब्राइट स्टार-23 का हिस्सा नहीं है?

- (a) Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब
- (b) USA / यूएसए
- (c) Greece / ग्रीस
- (d) Qatar / कतर
- (e) Egypt / मिस्र

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Indian Air Force participates in Exercise Bright Star-23

The Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the biennial multilateral tri-services exercise Bright Star-23 held at Cairo Air Base in Egypt. It is being held from August 27 to September 16, 2023.

The participating countries in the biennial multilateral tri-services exercise Bright Star-23 include the United States, Saudi Arabia, Greece, Qatar, and India.

The participation of the IAF in this exercise underscores a new chapter of cooperation and collaboration among nations.

The Indian Air Force contingent for this exercise is an impressive assembly, comprising five MiG-29 aircraft, two IL-78 aircraft, two C-130 aircraft, and two C-17 aircraft.

#### **Recent Exercise**

- **Passage Exercise (PASSEX) 2023** between Indian Navy & Royal Saudi Navy - Red Sea, Saudi Arabia (INS Chennai participated)
- **27th edition of Malabar Multilateral Exercise** - Sydney, Australia
- **First FALCON Shield-2023 Exercise** between China & UAE – Xinjiang, China
- **15th edition of Nomadic Elephant 2023 exercise** between India and Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- **7th edition of SALVEX** exercise between India & USA - Kochi

**339. HS Prannoy was in news for winning a bronze medal at an international event. Which sport is he associated with?**

**एचएस प्रणय एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रतियोगिता में कांस्य पदक जीतने के कारण चर्चा में थे। वह किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?**

- (a) Baseball / बेसबॉल
- (b) Tennis / टेनिस
- (c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
- (d) Wrestling / कुश्ती
- (e) Chess / शतरंज

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** HS Prannoy wins bronze at BWF World Championship 2023

In badminton, India's ace shuttler HS Prannoy had to settle for a bronze medal as he registered a loss to Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the semifinals of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Championships.

Prannoy went down to world number three and three-time Junior champion Vitidsarn by 21-18, 13-21, 14-21.

Prannoy had stormed into the semi-final of the BWF World Championships after defeating World Number 2 and the defending champion Viktor Axelsen at Kuala Lumpur.

With this win, World Number 7 Prannoy assured a bronze medal for India by beating the home favourite Axelsen in three games 21-13, 15-21, 16-21.

This is India's 14th medal at the World Championships. This includes one gold, four silvers and nine bronze medals.

China is the most successful team in the tournament's history, with 196 medals, including 69 gold, 48 silver and 79 silvers.

The BWF World Championships 2023 was held in Copenhagen, Denmark.

**340. Which of the following country has won the gold medal at World Athletics Championship 2023 in Budapest, Hungary?**  
**निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने हंगरी के बुडापेस्ट में विश्व एथलेटिक्स चैम्पियनशिप 2023 में स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?**

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Great Britain / ग्रेट ब्रिटेन
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) India / भारत

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India's Men's Relay Team Finishes Fifth at World Athletics Championship

Indian men's 4x400m relay team finished fifth in their respective finals at the World Athletics Championships 2023 in Budapest, Hungary.

The team of Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Amob Jacob, Muhammed Ajmal and Rajesh Ramesh completed the race with the clock reading 2:59.92.

USA (Quincy Hall, Vernon Norwood, Justin Robinson, and Rai Benjaminwon), who won the gold medal finished the race in 2:57:31 seconds. France (2:58.45) and Great Britain (2:58.71) won silver and bronze respectively.

A day earlier the Indian team had shattered the Asian record in the qualifying round, taking 2:59.05 seconds to complete the race. The previous record was held by Japan, which was 2:59.51 seconds. They also became the first Indian team to reach a World Championship final.

France clocked bagged silver while Great Britain claimed bronze.

**341. Which of the following former cricket player has recently joined 'Midwicket Stories' as principal advisor?**

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा पूर्व क्रिकेट खिलाड़ी हाल ही में प्रमुख सलाहकार के रूप में 'मिडविकेट स्टोरीज़' में शामिल हुआ है?

- (a) Ravi Shastri / रवि शास्त्री
- (b) Chetan Sharma / चेतन शर्मा
- (c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
- (d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी
- (e) Sunil Gavaskar / सुनील गावस्कर

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Sunil Gavaskar joins 'Midwicket Stories' as principal advisor

Former Indian cricketer Sunil Gavaskar has joined 'Midwicket Stories' as principal advisor.

Also known by the nicknames 'Sunny' and 'Little Master', Gavaskar is among the greatest Indian cricketers to have graced the gentleman's game.

The concept of 'Midwicket Stories' is where former players come together and talk about their time, talk about things that happened during their time.

There is an anchor who asks the question. The whole idea is that at that particular point of time there was not the kind of availability of putting those stories south like it is there today in the public media.

Gavaskar is a distinguished member of India's maiden World Cup winning squad of 1983, Gavaskar once held the record for scoring the most centuries in Tests. The Mumbaier, who scored more than 10,000 runs in red-ball cricket, brought down the curtains to his career with 45 half centuries and 34 centuries to his name.

**342. The National Sports Day is celebrated every year on 29 August. What is the theme of National Sports Day 2023?**

**राष्ट्रीय खेल दिवस हर साल 29 अगस्त को मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय खेल दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Met The Champion
- (b) Sports at home with Family
- (c) Nation First, Always First
- (d) Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society
- (e) Persistence and hard-work change failure into extraordinary achievement

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 29 August - National Sports Day

The National Sports Day in India is celebrated every year on 29 August.

It is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand Singh.

The day also serves as a reminder for all of us to recall the contributions, determination and extraordinary achievements of the athletes and their influence in shaping societies.

Theme 2023 - Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society

The first National Sports Day was celebrated on August 29, 2012, and hence this year marks the 12th anniversary of Rashtriya Khel Divas.

 **ambitious baba**.com

**343. Dev Kohli passed away recently in Mumbai. Who was he?**

**देव कोहली का हाल ही में मुंबई में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?**

- (a) Poet / कवि
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Theatre artist / थिएटर कलाकार
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Historian / इतिहासकार

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Veteran lyricist Dev Kohli passes away

Veteran lyricist and poet Dev Kohli passed away in Mumbai

He had penned over a hundred songs for Bollywood films such as Baazigar, Hum Aapke Hain Koun, Maine Pyaar Kiya, Shoot Out At Lokhandwala, among many others.

Kohli is famed for his songs over 100 films including 'Maine Pyaar Kiya,' 'Baazigar,' 'Judwaa 2,' 'Musafir,' 'Shoot Out At Lokhandwala,' and 'Taxi No. 9211.' He has collaborated with music directors like Anu Malik, Raam Laxman, Anand Raaj Anand, Anand Milind among others.

Dev Kohli was born on November 2, 1942, in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. He moved to Delhi in 1949 and spent his childhood in Dehradun. He wrote lyrics for several hit songs like 'Aate Jaate Hanste Gaate,' 'Kabootar Ja Ja Ja,' 'Aaja Shaam Hone Aayee,' 'Maine Pyar Kiya' and 'Hum Aapke Hain Koun'

From Shankar-Jaikishan to Vishal-Shekhar, Dev Kohli worked with different generations of composers in a career that spanned from 1969 to 2013.

**344. Which state government has signed an MoU with Germany's professional association football league, 'Bundesliga', to build a football team for players under the age of 14?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने 14 वर्ष से कम उम्र के खिलाड़ियों के लिए फुटबॉल टीम बनाने के लिए जर्मनी की पेशेवर एसोसिएशन फुटबॉल लीग, 'बुंडेसलिगा' के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Maharashtra signs MoU with Germany's professional association football

The Maharashtra Government has signed an MoU with Germany's professional association football league, 'Bundesliga', to build a football team for players under the age of 14.

The agreement was signed by Ranjit Singh Deol, Principal Secretary, Department of School Education and Sports, and Mrs Julia Farr, representative of the Bundesliga, on behalf of the Government of Maharashtra.

It will help young footballers to develop their skills and potentially compete at a high level.

The Bundesliga is Germany's premier professional football league.

It is one of the leading football leagues in Europe and the best football players and teams belong to the league.

#### **Recent MoUs signed by State Government**

- Jharkhand govt signed MoU with TCPL Green Energy Solutions Private Ltd. to set up the country's "first" hydrogen fuel project in Jamshedpur.
- ISB signed MoU with Goa government for knowledge partnership
- Karnataka govt, Foxconn sign Letter of Intent with Rs 5000 cr investment
- Punjab govt signs MoU with BCEIP to launch online course 'English for Work'
- Himachal Pradesh signs MoU with Oil India Ltd for Green Hydrogen

**345. Who has launched HSBC India's partnerships aimed at innovation in Green Hydrogen?**

**ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन में नवाचार के उद्देश्य से एचएसबीसी इंडिया की साझेदारी किसने शुरू की है?**

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (e) Nirmala Sitharaman / निर्मला सीतारमण

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Nirmala Sitharama launched HSBC India's Green Hydrogen Partnerships

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched HSBC India's partnerships aimed at innovation in Green Hydrogen.

That includes partnerships with IIT Bombay and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation to pursue technological advancements to make green hydrogen more efficient, cost-effective, and scalable.

These two partnerships, with total grant support of Rs 15 crore (USD 2 mn), will focus on innovation projects that will help prioritize green hydrogen as a strategic alternate fuel, help in building a robust, green hydrogen economy, and achieve the government's vision of an energy-independent nation.

Green hydrogen has a pivotal role to play as we counter climate change and work towards enabling a low-carbon and self-reliant economy.

The partnership with IIT Bombay will encourage researchers, scientists, and students across IITs to develop breakthrough technologies and solutions that address key challenges in green hydrogen production, storage, transportation, and utilization.

Group Chairman of HSBC - Mark Tucker,

CEO of HSBC India - Hitendra Dave

Chairperson of the Board, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation - Jamshyed Godrej

**346. Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shobha Karandlaje has inaugurated the G20 One Health workshop in which city?**

**केंद्रीय कृषि और किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री शोभा करंदलाजे ने किस शहर में G20 वन स्वास्थ्य कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन किया है?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** G20 One Health Workshop inaugurated in Bengaluru

Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shobha Karandlaje has inaugurated the G20 One Health workshop in Bengaluru.

The three-day workshop on One Health-Opportunities and Challenges is attended by delegates from G20 member countries and invited countries.

India's G20 chairmanship is focused on the theme "One Earth, One Family, and One Future".

Its goal is to create a harmonious system for sharing knowledge, experience, and resources among nations.

#### **G20 in News**

- **2nd G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Meeting** – Gandhinagar, Gujarat (28 August 2023)
- **B20 Summit India 2023** – New Delhi (25 – 27 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG)** – Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (23 - 26 August 2023)
- **4th G20 Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Jaipur, Rajasthan (21 – 22 August 2023)
- **G20 Film Festival** - New Delhi (Opening film - Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali")

**347. Which state government has launched the expansion of the State government's flagship Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme to benefit 17 lakh students of classes 1 to 5?**

किस राज्य सरकार ने कक्षा 1 से 5 तक के 17 लाख छात्रों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए राज्य सरकार की प्रमुख मुख्यमंत्री नाश्ता योजना का विस्तार शुरू किया है?

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** M.K. Stalin launches expansion of breakfast scheme

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has launched the expansion of the State government's flagship Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme to benefit 17 lakh students of classes 1 to 5, studying in 31,008 government schools across the State, at a cost of ₹404.41 crore.

A survey conducted among 10 lakh children, of less than six years of age, in urban areas, to check their nutritional status revealed that nearly 92,000 were malnourished.

The government provided nutrient supplements to them, and as a result, 62,000 children recovered from malnutrition.

The objective of the breakfast scheme was to eradicate hunger by enhancing the nutritional status and reducing malnutrition among children.

This scheme would also reduce the burden on working mothers and increase the attendance and retention of children in schools.

**About Tamil Nadu**

- **Formation** – 26 January 1950
- **Capital** – Chennai
- **Chief Minister** – M K Stalin
- **Governor** – R N Ravi

**347. Which state government has distributed land rights certificates to the 65,000 poor families living in the slums?**

**किस राज्य सरकार ने झुग्गियों में रहने वाले 65,000 गरीब परिवारों को भूमि अधिकार प्रमाण पत्र वितरित किये हैं?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Odisha CM distributes land rights certificates to slum dwellers

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has distributed land right certificates to the 65,000 poor families living in the slums of five metropolitan cities including Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur, and Rourkela.

Odisha is the only state in the country to give land rights to slum dwellers

On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that "financial assistance will also be provided for the construction of houses.

The second phase of the certificate will be issued next October. This campaign will continue till all the poor families of the city get land rights. The Jaga Mission program, which started in 2018, provides land rights to poor families living in urban slums. Till now more than two lakh 40 thousand families got land rights in the state. Along with this, 40 thousand families have been given assistance for building houses.

With the aim of making slum-free Odisha, all these slums are being given all kinds of basic facilities and are being converted into Biju model colonies. Till now, 1010 settlements in 68 urban areas have been converted into Biju Model Colony.

The Chief Minister inaugurated 1010 colonies which have transformed into Biju Model Colonies and honoured the cities of Cuttack, Khordha, Koraput and Jajpur for their outstanding work in the construction of Biju Adamas Colony.

**About Odisha**

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

**348. Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched the world's first 100 percent Ethanol-fueled car in which city?**

**सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने किस शहर में दुनिया की पहली 100 प्रतिशत इथेनॉल-ईंधन वाली कार लॉन्च की है?**

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

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Nitin Gadkari launches world's first 100% Ethanol-fueled Car in ND

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched the world's first 100 percent Ethanol-fueled car in New Delhi.

The world's first BS-VI (Stage-II), electrified flex-fuel vehicle has been launched which can function fully on ethanol-based fuel.

With the implementation of 20 percent ethanol blending in petrol, the country will save 35 thousand crore rupees annually as import bill.

India has achieved 10 percent of ethanol blending five months in advance of the initial target of 2022.

With the ethanol blending process the farmers have earned 82 thousand crores rupees so far and the country's import bill has reduced.

The flex fuel is a technology that allows an engine to utilise ethanol-blended petrol or gasoline beyond 20 percent. The aim is to reduce carbon footprint, improve sustainable mobility and decrease the country's dependency on traditional fuel sources.

**349. Which bank has launched a co-branded Corporate Credit Card in collaboration with spend management platform Zaggle to empower businesses?**

**व्यवसायों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए किस बैंक ने व्यय प्रबंधन मंच जैगल के सहयोग से एक सह-ब्रांडेड कॉर्पोरेट क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च किया है?**

- (a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Yes bank partnered with fintech Zaggle for next-gen corporate credit card

Yes Bank has launched co-branded Corporate Credit Card in collaboration with spend management platform Zaggle, to empower businesses to reimagine their payment processes, streamline reconciliation, and efficiently manage company expenditures.

The new card 'YES BANK Zaggle Corporate Credit Card', provides businesses direct control over company expenditures.

This includes the ability to set individual spending limits, apply merchant category restrictions, and implement diverse controls.

Additionally, cardholders gain access to an array of exclusive benefits, spanning rewards, golf privileges, lounge access, and travel insurance.

The partnership with Zaggle enables businesses to bring in operational efficiencies by allowing them to undertake banking transactions, manage company expenditures as well as keep track of all business-related overheads on a single platform.

Executive Director of Yes Bank - Rajan Pental

**About Yes Bank**

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

**350. Which insurance company has tied up with Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd in its effort to increase the penetration of life insurance through the Bancassurance channel?**

**किस बीमा कंपनी ने बैंकएश्योरेंस चैनल के माध्यम से जीवन बीमा की पैठ बढ़ाने के प्रयास में सारस्वत सहकारी बैंक लिमिटेड के साथ समझौता किया है?**

- (a) Bajaj Allianz Insurance / बजाज आलियांज इंश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA Insurance / भारती एक्सा इंश्योरेंस
- (c) Cholamandalam MS Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस इंश्योरेंस
- (d) Max Life Insurance / मैक्स लाइफ इंश्योरेंस
- (e) Life Insurance Corporation of India / भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** LIC Partners with Saraswat Cooperative Bank to Increase the life Insurance

Life Insurance Corporation of India has tied up with Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd in its effort to increase the penetration of life insurance through the Bancassurance channel in Mumbai.

Saraswat Cooperative Bank is India's largest Urban Cooperative Bank.

Citizens in general and customers of Saraswat Bank, in particular, will now have the opportunity to fulfill their life insurance protection needs through the Bank itself by purchasing insurance products.

The Bank has a vast network of 294 Branches as at 31 March 2023 spread over 6 states and is catering to over 2 million customers. It has also got the distinction of being India's largest Urban Cooperative Bank.

Being the premier insurer of the country, LIC has plans for all segments of the society under its product basket of Annuity, ULIP, Term Insurance and Savings category.

Recently LIC has launched a close-ended Guaranteed Benefit plan "Dhan Vriddhi" which is available till 30th September 2023 only, to persons of all age ranging from 90 days to 60 years.

#### **Recent MoU in Banking Sector**

- Airtel Payments Bank partnered with Frontier Markets to support 1 lakh women
- DBS partners with Maptrusco to complete the first eBL transaction
- Axis Bank partners with RBI innovation hub to launch KCCs and MSME loans
- NHA and IRDAI collaborate to boost digital health integration in insurance
- IIITD-IC partners with YES Bank to scale up Indian startups

**351. Which bank has launched its 'Infinity Savings Account' to offer special features for its customers, including no domestic transaction charges in exchange for monthly fees?**

किस बैंक ने अपने ग्राहकों के लिए विशेष सुविधाएँ प्रदान करने के लिए अपना 'इन्फिनिटी सेविंग्स अकाउंट' लॉन्च किया है, जिसमें मासिक शुल्क के बदले कोई घरेलू लेनदेन शुल्क नहीं शामिल है?

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Axis Bank launches 'Infinity' Savings Account

A private sector lender, Axis Bank has launched its 'Infinity Savings Account' to offer special features for its customers, including no domestic transaction charges in exchange for monthly fees. The move aims to appeal to those who frequently adopt subscription-based models. This innovative savings account provides Axis Bank customers with exclusive privileges such as a waived average monthly balance (AMB) requirement, complimentary debit cards, and a waiver of all domestic charges against a small monthly recurring fee of Rs 150 or an annual fee of Rs 1,650.

The bank offers two subscription-based flexible plans: Monthly and Annual.

The Monthly plan is priced at Rs 150 (inclusive of GST) and requires a minimum subscription period of six months. After the initial six months, the plan continues on a 30-day cycle, with Rs 150 deducted every 30 days.

The Annual plan is priced at Rs 1,650 (inclusive of GST) and provides Infinity benefits for 360 days. The plan automatically renews after this period. Customers can now choose to subscribe to the savings account and not worry about fees for services or maintaining minimum balances.

#### **About Axis Bank**

- **Founded** - 1993
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Rakesh Makhija
- **MD & CEO** - Amitabh Chaudhary
- **Tagline** - Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

#### **Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- SBI launches **Aadhaar-based enrolment** for social security schemes
- IndusInd Bank launches **multi-branded credit card** with Qatar Airways
- Canara Bank launches **UPI Interoperable Digital Rupee** mobile application
- Yes Bank launched **'iris' app** to offer digital banking solutions in India
- RBI launched **UDGAM portal** to track unclaimed deposits

**352. Who has won the gold medal in the 3000 meters steeplechase final of the World Athletics Championships 2023 in Budapest Hungary?**

**बुडापेस्ट हंगरी में विश्व एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2023 के 3000 मीटर स्टीपलचेज़ फाइनल में किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?**

- (a) Parul Chaudhary / पारुल चौधरी
- (b) Winfred Mutile Yavi / विनफ्रेड म्यूटाइल यावी
- (c) Beatrice Chepkoech / बीट्राइस चेपकोच
- (d) Faith Cherotich / आस्था चैरोटिच
- (e) Aditya Patel / आदित्य पटेल

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Parul breaks national record at World Athletics Championships

Indian athlete Parul Chaudhary finished in the eleventh position in the 3000 meters steeplechase final of the World Athletics Championships 2023 in Budapest Hungary.

She broke the national record in the World Athletics Championships and qualified for the Paris Olympics 2024.

Parul clocked 9:15.31s to break Lalita Babar's mark of 9:19.76s set during Rio Olympics in 2016 while also finishing comfortably under 9:23.00s, the automatic qualification mark for next year's Summer Games in the French capital.

Earlier in the preliminary round, Parul ran five seconds faster than her previous personal best (9:29.51) and it helped her finish in fifth place and earn a spot in the final.

Brunei athlete Winfred Mutile Yavi clinched the gold medal, Kenya's Beatrice Chepkoech won silver and another Kenya athlete Faith Cherotich achieved winning bronze.

**353. Find correct pair-**

- |                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| (i) Bahrain Grand Prix 2023 -        | Sergio Pérez     |
| (ii) Saudi Arabian Grand Prix 2023 - | Max Verstappen   |
| (iii) Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2023 -   | Sebastian Vettel |
| (iv) Austrian Grand Prix 2023 -      | Max Verstappen   |

- (a) Only i & ii  
(b) Only ii & iii  
(c) Only iii  
(d) Only iv  
(e) all are correct

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Max Verstappen wins Dutch Grand Prix 2023

Max Verstappen has won the Dutch Grand Prix for the third consecutive year, once again prevailing at his home race.

With the dominant win, Verstappen has now matched Sebastian Vettel's all-time record of nine F1 victories in a row.

Fernando Alonso secured a podium position by coming in second.

Sergio Pérez, driving for Red Bull, initially finished third, but a five-second penalty resulted in Pierre Gasly taking third place on the podium.

**Recent Grand Prix Winner**

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

**354. Who has been awarded the ET Leadership Excellence Awards?**

**ईटी लीडरशिप एक्सीलेंस अवार्ड्स से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?**

- (a) Deepak Shenoy / दीपक शेनॉय
- (b) Neeli Bendapudi / नीली बेंदापुडी
- (c) Raghu Ram Pillarisetti / रघु राम पिल्लरीसेट्टी
- (d) Shanti Lakra /शांति लकड़ा
- (e) Parmeet Singh Sood / परमीत सिंह सूद

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Parmeet Singh Sood felicitated at "ET Leadership Excellence Awards

The Economic Times honored the achievements of leaders and change-makers who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. The Economic Times honored the achievements of leaders and change-makers who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. Parmeet Singh Sood, Managing Director of Climax Overseas Pvt. Ltd. was awarded the "Excellence in Manufacturing Of Automobile Parts" and felicitated by the well-known Bollywood actress Rakul Preet Singh along with Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva. Parmeet Singh Sood's journey began in 1999 as a 21-year-old. Fresh from the University of Bradford, UK, with a degree in Business and Management Studies, Parmeet embraced the challenge of transformation and growth. He started his career at the grassroots selling door-to-door in the spare parts market of Kenya and then quickly went on to target large aftermarket customers in Europe within the first couple of years of his joining the business.

**Recent Awards**

- **Harvard University's coveted George Ledlie Prize 2023** - Indian-American economist Raj Chetty & Biologist Michael Springer
- **Lifetime Achievement Award at RICS South Asia Awards** - Subhash Runwal
- **Global Leader Award 2023** - Jayesh Saini
- **Diversity in Cinema Award at Indian Film Festival of Melbourne** - Mrunal Thakur
- **Global Visionary Entrepreneur Award** - Deepak Shenoy (MD of Medec Dragon Pvt Ltd)

**355. Who has clinched the title of Miss Earth India 2023 during Miss Divine Beauty 2023 national final held in New Delhi?**  
**नई दिल्ली में आयोजित मिस डिवाइन ब्यूटी 2023 राष्ट्रीय फाइनल के दौरान मिस अर्थ इंडिया 2023 का खिताब किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Sushmita Sen / सुष्मिता सेन
- (b) Harnaaz Sandhu / हरनाज़ संधू
- (c) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह
- (d) Parul Goel / पारुल गोयल
- (e) Priyan Sain / प्रियन सैन

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Priyan Sain Crowned Miss Earth India 2023

Rajasthan's Priyan Sain clinched the title of Miss Earth India 2023 during the Miss Divine Beauty 2023 national final held in New Delhi.

The 20-year-old student, dancer, and taekwondo player from Jaipur, succeeds last year's winner Vanshika Parmar, and will now prepare to represent India at the Miss Earth 2023 pageant in Vietnam this December.

She received her crown from reigning Miss Earth from Korea Mina Sue Choi who was invited as a special guest along with Miss Earth Air from Australia Sheridan Mortlock.

At the same event, Praveena Aanjna was named Miss International India 2023 while Pema Choden Bhutia and Tejaswini Shrivastava were both announced as runners-up.

Prior to becoming a finalist for Miss Divine Beauty and eventually winning her national title, Priyan participated in Miss Rajasthan 2022 where she finished as first runner-up.

As a result of winning the Miss India pageant, she will participate in the Miss World pageant to be held in Vietnam.

The Miss India 2023 pageant was held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Delhi.

**356. Small Industry Day is celebrated every year on which day in India?**

**भारत में हर साल लघु उद्योग दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 31 August / 31 अगस्त
- (b) 30 August / 30 अगस्त
- (c) 29 August / 29 अगस्त
- (d) 28 August / 28 अगस्त
- (e) 27 August / 27 अगस्त

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** 30 August - Small Industry Day

Small Industry Day is celebrated every year on August 30 in India.

This day honours the invaluable contributions of small industries, often overlooked yet pivotal drivers of global economies.

These industries, driven by unwavering resolve, are the backbone of innovation, job creation, and economic dynamism. At present, small industries make up approximately 40% of India's overall economy.

The roots of Small Industry Day can be traced back to the year 2000. In August of that year, the Indian government created a comprehensive policy package for small-scale industries (SSI).

To mark this occasion, the Ministry of Small-Scale Industries announced that August 30, would be observed as the Small Industries Day, annually.

It was celebrated for the first time on August 30, 2001. On this day, the Ministry of Small-Scale Industries organized a convention for small entrepreneurs in the national capital.

These small-scale industries can range from blacksmiths to tailors, contributing their unique skills and products to their communities.

**357. Jayanta Mahapatra passed away recently at the age of 95. Who was he?**

**जयंत महापात्रा का हाल ही में 95 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?**

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** English Poet Jayanta Mahapatra passes away

Eminent littérateur and poet Jayanta Mahapatra passed away at the age of 95.

Mahapatra was the first Indian poet to win a Sahitya Akademi award for English poetry in 1981.

He was also conferred with the Padma Shri award in 2009. However, he returned in 2015 to protest against "rising intolerance in India".

The author of 'Indian Summer' and 'Hunger', considered as classics in modern Indian English literature, Mahapatra penned 27 books of poems, of which seven are in Odia language and the rest in English.

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