

Best 300+ MCQs

SEPTEMBER 2024

Current Affairs PDF



1. In August 2024, The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved the proposal for the conduct of 3rd batch of ascending e-auctions for _____ channels in 234 new cities with an estimated reserve price of Rs.784.87 crore.

अगस्त 2024 में, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 784.87 करोड़ रुपये के अनुमानित आरक्षित मूल्य के साथ 234 नए शहरों में _____ चैनलों के लिए आरोही ई-नीलामी के तीसरे बैच के संचालन के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी है।

- (a) 720
- (b) 230
- (c) 730
- (d) 1000
- (e) 842

Ans. c

Sol. Union Cabinet approves rolling out Private FM Radio to 234 uncovered new cities & towns

Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Union Cabinet has approved a proposal for e-auctions to set up 730 channels in 234 new cities across the country with an estimated reserve price of ₹784.87 crore, as part of the initiative to expand the reach of private FM Radio channels.

The Cabinet decision on the rollout of private FM Radio to 234 cities and towns will enhance access to diverse and local content, thus encouraging creativity and encouraging local languages as well as cultures.

Many of these cities and towns are located in aspirational districts and areas affected by Left-Wing Extremism. A maximum of 100 channels are to be provided in 32 cities/towns of Uttar Pradesh, followed by 68 across 22 cities/towns of Andhra Pradesh, 61 in 20 cities/towns of Madhya Pradesh, and 59 in 19 cities/towns of Rajasthan.

While 57 channels will be made available in Bihar, 53 channels have been proposed for Karnataka's 16 cities/towns, 42 in West Bengal, 36 in Maharashtra, 33 in Tamil Nadu, 31 in Telangana, 28 in Punjab, 24 in Gujarat, 27 in Haryana and 19 in Jharkhand.

2. In August 2024, The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved how many new greenfield industrial smart cities under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) to transform the country's industrial landscape?

अगस्त 2024 में, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में आर्थिक मामलों की मंत्रिमंडलीय समिति ने देश के औद्योगिक परिदृश्य को बदलने के लिए राष्ट्रीय औद्योगिक गलियारा विकास कार्यक्रम (एनआईसीडीपी) के तहत कितने नए ग्रीनफील्ड औद्योगिक स्मार्ट शहरों को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 8
- (b) 18
- (c) 12
- (d) 15
- (e) 10

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves 12 Industrial nodes/cities under NICD Programme

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved 12 new greenfield industrial smart cities under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) to transform the country's industrial landscape.

The combined estimated investment in these industrial areas will be 28,602 crore rupees. These projects will create ten lakh direct and up to 30 lakh indirect jobs.

The projects span across ten states and are strategically planned along six major corridors. These are Khurpia in Uttarakhand, Gaya in Bihar, Rajpura-Patiala in Punjab, Zaheerabad in Telangana, Dighi in Maharashtra, Orvakal and Koppa in Andhra Pradesh, Palakkad in Kerala, Jodhpur-Pali in Rajasthan, and Agra and Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh.

3. Consider the following points about the Central Sector Scheme under the 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund' (AIF) which was recently approved by the union cabinet -

(i) The AIF scheme aims to enhance agricultural infrastructure and support the farming community by broadening the scope of eligible projects and integrating additional supportive measures.

(ii) The AIF scheme now allows eligible beneficiaries to create infrastructure for viable community farming assets.

(iii) This scheme was launched by the PM Modi in 2021.

(iv) The expansion of the AIF scheme is expected to further drive growth, improve farm productivity, and generate rural employment opportunities.

Which of the following points are CORRECT regarding this?

(a) only i & ii

(b) only ii & iii

(c) only iii & iv

(d) only i, ii & iv

(e) only ii, iii & iv

Ans. d

Sol. Union Cabinet approved 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund' for progressive expansion

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi approved the progressive expansion in the Central Sector Scheme of financing facility under 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund' to make it more attractive, impactful, and inclusive.

The government has announced a series of measures to expand the scope of Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme. These initiatives aim to expand the scope of eligible projects and integrate additional supportive measures to foster a robust agricultural infrastructure ecosystem.

Viable Farming Assets- To allow all eligible beneficiaries of scheme to create of infrastructure covered under 'viable projects for building community farming assets'.

Integrated Processing projects- To include integrated primary secondary processing projects in eligible activities under AIF. However standalone secondary projects would not be eligible under MoFPI schemes.

PM KUSUM Component-A- To allow convergence of Component-A of PM-KUSUM with AIF for farmers/groups of farmers/ Farmer Producer Organizations/ Cooperatives/ Panchayats.

NABSanrakshan- In addition to CGTMSE, it is proposed to extend AIF credit guarantee coverage of FPOs through the NABSanrakshan Trustee Company Pvt. Ltd. also. Since its launch by the Prime Minister in 2020, AIF has been instrumental in supporting the creation of 6623 warehouses, 688 cold stores, and 21 silos projects, resulting in additional storage capacity of about 500 LMT in the country. This includes 465 LMT of dry storage and 35 LMT of cold storage capacity.

In addition, infrastructure projects sanctioned under AIF have helped in generating more than 8.19 Lakh rural employment opportunities in the agriculture sector.

4. Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has launched the RESET Programme to empower retired sportspersons who have played for the country and brought immense laurels to the nation. What is the full form of the RESET Programme?

केंद्रीय युवा मामले और खेल मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने देश के लिए खेलने वाले और राष्ट्र को अपार सम्मान दिलाने वाले सेवानिवृत्त खिलाड़ियों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए रीसेट कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है। रीसेट कार्यक्रम का पूरा नाम क्या है?

- (a) Retired Sportsperson Entitled Training
- (b) Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Trainer
- (c) Retired Sportsperson Effective Training
- (d) Retired Sportsperson Elight Training
- (e) Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training

Ans. e

Sol. Sports Minister launches 'Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training' (RESET) Programme

Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has launched the "Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training" (RESET) Programme on the occasion of National Sports Day in New Delhi.

RESET Programme is aimed at empowering retired sportspersons who have played for the country and brought immense laurels to the nation.

The programme will support retired athletes on their career development journey by empowering them with the necessary knowledge and skills and making them more employable.

The RESET programme will bridge the gap between generations, allowing the unique skills of our retired athletes to benefit the new generation of aspiring athletes.

The applications will be invited through a dedicated portal. Initially, the programmes will be of two levels based on educational qualifications of Class 12th and above and Class 11th and below.

5. With a wealth of Rs 11.6 lakh crore, Gautam Adani replaced Mukesh Ambani and clinched the no.1 spot in the 2024 Hurun India rich list. For the first time, Indian movie star _____ made it to Hurun India Rich List.

11.6 लाख करोड़ रुपये की संपत्ति के साथ गौतम अडानी ने मुकेश अंबानी को पछाड़कर 2024 हुरुन इंडिया की अमीरों की सूची में पहला स्थान हासिल किया। पहली बार, भारतीय फिल्म स्टार _____ ने हुरुन इंडिया की अमीरों की सूची में जगह बनाई।

- (a) Akshay Kumar
- (b) Sharukh Khan
- (c) Salman Khan
- (d) Priyanka Chopra
- (e) Amitabh Bachchan

Ans. b

Sol. Gautam Adani replaces Mukesh Ambani as the richest Indian on Hurun list
With a wealth of Rs 11.6 lakh crore, Gautam Adani replaced Mukesh Ambani and clinched the no.1 spot in the 2024 Hurun India rich list.

The report says India minted a new billionaire every 5 days last year. Wealth calculations are a snapshot as of 31st July 2024.

India is emerging as Asia's wealth creation engine! While China saw a 25% decline in its number of billionaires, India experienced a 29% increase, reaching a record 334 billionaires.

Mukesh Ambani has taken the second top spot in the 2024 Hurun India Rich List, with a wealth of Rs 1,014,700 crore. Shiv Nadar & family of HCL Technologies is in third place this year with a wealth of Rs 314,000 crore. Vaccine maker Cyrus S Poonawalla & family of Serum Institute of India holds the fourth position in the list followed by Dilip Shanghvi of Sun Pharmaceutical Industries.

Over the past five years, six individuals have consistently remained in the India Top 10. Leading the list is Gautam Adani & family, followed by Mukesh Ambani & family, Shiv Nadar, Cyrus S. Poonawalla & family, Gopichand Hinduja & family, and Radhakishan Damani & family.

The youngest on the 2024 Hurun India rich list is 21-year-old Kaivalya Vohra of Zepto, a \$5 bn quick commerce startup. His co-founder Aadit Palicha, 22, is the second youngest in the list.

For the first time, Indian movie star Shah Rukh Khan made it to Hurun India Rich List, largely due to the rising value of his holdings in the IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders. Hurun India Rich Listers from the entertainment industry added Rs 40,500 crores in just one year, with seven new entrants.

6. India will host inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to bolster India's media and entertainment industry and extend its global influence in which state?

भारत अपने मीडिया और मनोरंजन उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने और अपने वैश्विक प्रभाव को बढ़ाने के लिए विश्व ऑडियो विजुअल और मनोरंजन शिखर सम्मेलन (WAVES) की मेजबानी किस राज्य में करेगा?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Goa
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Uttar Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. India to host inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa

The Government of India will host the inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to bolster India's media and entertainment industry and extend its global influence.

The Summit is being held in Goa from November 20th to November 25th this year.

The Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw launched 25 Challenges under the 'Create in India Challenge – Season 1' on August 22nd.

WAVES is poised to become a significant platform for icons of the media and entertainment fraternity worldwide, focusing on entertainment economics and technology.

These challenges cover a wide range of disciplines including animation, filmmaking, gaming, comics, and music. From animation and gaming to music and emerging technologies, these challenges are designed to inspire and empower participants to explore new horizons, showcase their talents, and contribute to India's evolving narrative in the global media and entertainment industry.

7. In August 2024, who among the following took over as the Director General of Project Seabird, the largest defence infrastructure project at the Karwar Naval Base?

अगस्त 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने कारवार नौसेना बेस पर सबसे बड़ी रक्षा बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजना, प्रोजेक्ट सीबर्ड के महानिदेशक का पदभार संभाला?

- (a) Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar
- (b) Vice Admiral Rajkumar Gupta
- (c) Vice Admiral Rajan Kumar
- (d) Vice Admiral Tarun Singh
- (e) Vice Admiral Rohit Dhankhar

Ans. a

Sol. Rajesh Dhankhar takes over as DG of Project Seabird

Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar NM, assumed duties of the Director General Project Seabird, with a charter to oversee the largest defence infrastructure project currently progressing at the Karwar Naval Base, from Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti.

VAdm Rajesh Dhankhar was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 July 1990 and is a specialist in Navigation & Direction.

The Flag Officer is an alumnus of the prestigious Naval Academy, Defence Services Staff College, and has undergone the Higher Command Course in Japan. During his illustrious career spanning 34 years, the Flag Officer has tenanted specialist appointments onboard warships Pondicherry, Godavari, Kora, and Mysore. The officer has also done instructional tenures in the erstwhile Project 15 Training Team, Navigation & Direction School and at the MIDS Wing Officer's Cadet School, Singapore. The Flag Officer is a recipient of the Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry) in 2015 for Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) of Indian nationals from Aden and Al-Hodeida, Yemen.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- DG of National Security Guard (NSG) - B Srinivasan (replace Nalin Prabhat)
- Additional DG of ITBP - Sanjeev Raina
- Chief of Enforcement Directorate (ED) - Rahul Navin
- Director General of Assam Rifles - Vikas Lakhera (22nd)
- Director General of BSF - Daljit Singh Chawdhary (additional charge)
- Additional National Security Adviser - Rajinder Khanna

8. In August 2024, which of the following nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBN) was commissioned by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, marking India's second SSBN under the strategic command in the presence of top naval officials at a quiet event in Visakhapatnam?

अगस्त 2024 में, विशाखापत्तनम में एक शांत कार्यक्रम में शीर्ष नौसेना अधिकारियों की उपस्थिति में रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने निम्नलिखित में से किस परमाणु ऊर्जा चालित बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल पनडुब्बी (SSBN) को कमीशन किया, जो रणनीतिक कमान के तहत भारत की दूसरी SSBN होगी?

- (a) INS Agni
- (b) INS Gadar
- (c) INS Arighat
- (d) INS Angad
- (e) INS Shatru

Ans. c

Sol. India's 2nd nuclear missile submarine 'INS Arighat' commissioned by Rajnath Singh India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, the INS Arighaat, was commissioned into service at Visakhapatnam in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

It joins the first such submarine, the INS Arihant, which was commissioned into service in 2016.

The INS Arihant was quietly commissioned into service in August 2016. It has a displacement of 6,000 tonnes and is powered by an 83 MW pressurised light-water reactor with enriched uranium. INS Arighaat retains the same reactor and dimensions, but has several technological upgrades.

The completion of the nuclear triad was announced in November 2018, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on social media that INS Arihant had returned from its first deterrence patrol.

The advanced technology project began in the 1980s and its first product, the Arihant vessel, was launched in 2009 by then-Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, and eventually commissioned in 2016.

INS Arihant is presently armed with a 750 km range K-15 Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) while a 3,500 km range SLBM K-4 is under development, having been tested for the first time in 2020. The K4 will become the mainstay of India's undersea nuclear deterrence, as it gives the stand-off capability to launch nuclear weapons while submerged in Indian waters.

9. Shannon Gabriel, who announced his retirement from international cricket recently, belongs to which country?

शैनन गेब्रियल, जिन्होंने हाल ही में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा की, किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Irelands
- (b) Australia
- (c) West Indies
- (d) Sout Africa
- (e) England

Ans. c

Sol. Shannon Gabriel retires from International Cricket

Shannon Gabriel of the West Indies has announced his retirement from international cricket.

Since his West Indies debut in 2012, the right-arm quick played 59 tests, 25 ODIs and two T20 Internationals finishing with 202 wickets across the three formats.

Gabriel was more successful in test matches and became a regular member of the West Indies team in 2017.

He last played for West Indies in a test match against India in July 2023.

Recently Retired Players

- Shikhar Dhawan (India) - All forms of Cricket
- Ilkay Gundogan (Germany) - International Football 
- Andy Murray (UK) - International Tennis
- PR Sreejesh (India) - International Hockey
- James Anderson (England) - International Test Cricket
- Dinesh Karthik (India, RCB) - IPL

10. India's Avani Lekhara and Mona Agarwal won the gold and bronze medals, respectively, in the women's _____ Air Rifle competition at the Paris Paralympics 2024.

भारत की अवनि लेखारा और मोना अग्रवाल ने पेरिस पैरालिंपिक 2024 में महिलाओं की _____ एयर राइफल प्रतियोगिता में क्रमशः स्वर्ण और कांस्य पदक जीते।

- (a) 10m
- (b) 20m

- (c) 30m
- (d) 50m
- (e) 100m

Ans. a

Sol. Avani Lekhara wins gold medal in para shooting at Paris Paralympics

India's Avani Lekhara and Mona Agarwal won the gold and bronze respectively in the women's 10m Air Rifle competition.

Avani bettered her previous record set in the Tokyo Games to finish at the top. She finished with a total of 249.7 to achieve the new Paralympic record in the category. Her previous best was 249.6 in the Tokyo Paralympics.

Mona won the first medal for the country in the Paris Paralympics on her debut in the Games.

Manish Narwal clinched a silver medal in the men's 10-meter Air Pistol with a score of 234.9. The 22-year-old, who bagged a gold in the Mixed 50-meter Pistol event in the Tokyo Paralympics, held the first spot in the final after an initial round of shots in stage 2, but eventually lost his lead to finish second.

Preeti Pal bagged bronze in the women's 100-meter sprint as she achieved her personal best timing of 14.21 seconds to finish third in the final.

11. In the World U20 Athletics Championships, Aarti won a Bronze medal in the Women's _____ race walk event with the National U20 record time at Lima in Peru.

विश्व अंडर-20 एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप में, आरती ने पेरू के लीमा में राष्ट्रीय अंडर-20 रिकॉर्ड समय के साथ महिलाओं की _____ रेस वॉक स्पर्धा में कांस्य पदक जीता।

- (a) 100m
- (b) 1000m
- (c) 10000m
- (d) 200m
- (e) 2000m

Ans. c

Sol. Aarti wins Bronze Medal in Women's 10000m race walk event at World U20 Athletics Championships

In the World U20 Athletics Championships, Aarti won a Bronze medal in the Women's 10000m race walk event with the National U20 record time to open India's medal account at Lima in Peru.

She clocked 44 minutes 39.39 seconds to finish third in the gruelling event on the penultimate day of competitions.

The 17-year-old Aarti broke her own earlier national record of 47 minutes 21.04 seconds which she had clocked in March this year in the National Federation Cup U20 Championships in Lucknow.

Chinese race walkers Zhuoma Baima won the gold while and Meiling Chen clinched silver.

12. Which edition of the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 will begin at Rajgir in Bihar on November 11th?

महिला एशियाई चैंपियंस ट्रॉफी 2024 का कौन सा संस्करण 11 नवंबर को बिहार के राजगीर में शुरू होगा?

- (a) 5th
- (b) 6th
- (c) 7th
- (d) 8th
- (e) 9th

Ans. d

Sol. Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 to begin from 11th Nov at Rajgir
Hockey India has announced that the 8th Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 will begin at Rajgir in Bihar on November 11th this year.

The event, a joint effort between Hockey India and the Bihar Government, will take place at the Rajgir Hockey Stadium between 11th November and 20th November.

Last year, Hockey Jharkhand hosted the Women's Asian Champions Trophy in Ranchi, where India emerged as the champion.

Besides the defending champions, India, reigning Olympic silver- medallists China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, and Thailand are expected to participate in this tournament.

13. Dawid Malan, who announced his retirement from international cricket recently, belongs to which country?

हाल ही में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास लेने वाले डेविड मलान किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Australia
- (b) England
- (c) New Zealand
- (d) South Africa
- (e) Netherlands

Ans. b

Sol. Dawid Malan retires from International Cricket

Dawid Malan, England's former world No. 1 T20I batter, has announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 37.

The left-handed batter announced his decision in an interview with British Daily 'The Times', following his omission from the upcoming white-ball series against Australia.

Malan is one of only two England men's players, alongside Jos Buttler, to have scored centuries in Tests, ODIs, and T20Is. Despite this remarkable achievement, Malan had not featured for England since last year's 50-over World Cup in India.

14. International Day for People of African Descent is observed every year on which day?

अफ्रीकी मूल के लोगों के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 29 August
- (b) 30 August
- (c) 31 August
- (d) 28 August
- (e) 1 September

Ans. c

Sol. 31 August - International Day for People of African Descent

International Day for People of African Descent is observed every year on 31 August. The International Day for People of African Descent marks a significant milestone in the global recognition of the contributions and challenges faced by individuals of African descent worldwide.

On June 19, 2020, the Council adopted a resolution on the "Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers."

15. Which Central Public Sector Enterprise has been accorded Navratna Status in August 2024?

अगस्त 2024 में किस केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र उद्यम को नवरत्न का दर्जा दिया गया है?

- (a) NBCC (India) Limited
- (b) Power Grid Corporation of India
- (c) National Aluminum Company
- (d) Housing and Urban Development Corporation
- (e) NHPC Limited

Ans. e

Sol. **Railtel, SJVN, NHPC bag 'Navratna' status from FinMin,**

- The Ministry of Finance upgraded four public-sector enterprises, SJVN, Solar Energy Corporation, NHPC and RailTel Corporation of India, to the 'Navratna' status on August 30.
- PSUs are given a status, from Maharatna companies, to Navratna companies and Miniratna companies. Navratna status is awarded to government-owned companies that were previously classified under 'miniratna' category I, recognizing their strong financial and market performance.
- Navratna companies can invest up to Rs 1,000 crore without prior government approval. Navratna PSUs also can allocate around 15 percent to a specific project or 30 percent of their net worth over an entire year, as long as it is under the Rs 1,000 crore limit.

16. Where was the 5th Global Fintech Fest 2024 held?

5वां ग्लोबल फिनटेक फेस्ट 2024 कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Indore
- (e) Panji

Ans. a

Sol. 5th Global Fintech Fest held in Mumbai

The 5th Global Fintech Fest was held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The festival, which started in 2021, aims to establish itself as the premier global conference for the global fintech ecosystem, promote collaboration, and influence the future of the Fintech industry.

PM Narendra Modi addressed the 5th Global Fintech Festival.

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das and Chairman of Global Fintech Fest (GFF) Kris Gopalakrishnan were also present at the occasion.

The Global Fintech Fest is organized by the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI), the Payment Council of India and the Fintech Convergence Council.

The Fintech Convergence Council was established in 2018 and represents the various regulated financial service providers and fintech companies.

17. Which defence force has launched the first phase of Project NAMAN, which is designed to provide dedicated support and services to Defence pensioners, veterans, and their families?

किस रक्षा बल ने प्रोजेक्ट नमन का पहला चरण शुरू किया है, जिसे रक्षा पेंशनभोगियों, दिग्गजों और उनके परिवारों को समर्पित सहायता और सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है?

- (a) Indian Navy
- (b) Indian Air Force
- (c) Indian Coast Guard
- (d) Indian Army
- (e) both a and d

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Army launches Project NAMAN to Support Veterans & Families

The Indian Army launched the first phase of Project NAMAN, which is designed to provide dedicated support and services to Defence pensioners, veterans, and their families.

The importance of the project in ensuring that veterans and their families receive the care and support they deserve.

In the first phase of Project NAMAN, 14 Common Services Centres have been established at key locations across India, including New Delhi, Jalandhar, Leh, Dehradun, Lucknow, Jodhpur, Bengdubi, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Secunderabad, Saugor, Guntur, Ahmedabad, and Bangalore.

The project is set to expand significantly and aims to establish approximately 200 centres nationwide over the next 2 to 3 years.

18. Who has inaugurated the National Conference of District Judiciary at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली के भारत मंडपम में जिला न्यायपालिका के राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) CJI D Y Chandrachud
- (c) Arjun Ram Meghwal
- (d) Justice Sanjeev Khanna

(e) Kapil Sibbal

Ans. a

Sol. PM inaugurates National Conference of District Judiciary in New Delhi

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated the National Conference of District Judiciary at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister also unveiled the stamp and coin commemorating 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court of India.

The two-day Conference, organized by the Supreme Court of India, hosts five working sessions to deliberate and discuss the issues related to the District Judiciary such as Infrastructure and Human Resources, Inclusive Courtrooms for all, Judicial Security and Judicial Wellness, Case Management and Judicial Training.

India on the occasion and also conveyed his best wishes to those taking part in the National Conference of District Judiciary.

19. PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Vadhvan Port in the Palghar district of _____.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने _____ के पालघर जिले में वधवन बंदरगाह की आधारशिला रखी।

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Goa

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi lays foundation stone of Vadhvan Port in Palghar

PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Vadhvan Port in the Palghar district of Maharashtra.

He also inaugurated various fisheries projects and distributed transponders and Kisan Credit Cards to fishermen.

The cost of this project is around 76,000 crore rupees. It aims to establish a world-class maritime gateway that will boost the country's trade and economic growth by catering to large container vessels, offering deeper drafts, and accommodating ultra-large cargo ships.

Vadhvan Port, located near Dahanu town in Palghar district, will be one of India's largest deep-water ports and will provide direct connectivity to international shipping routes, reducing transit times and costs.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 218 fisheries projects worth around 1,560 crore rupees, aimed at bolstering the sector's infrastructure and productivity across the nation.

Additionally, the Prime Minister launched the National Rollout of the Vessel Communication and Support System at a cost of around ₹364 crore. Under this project, one lakh transponders will be installed in a phased manner on mechanized and motorized fishing vessels in 13 coastal states and Union Territories.

20. In August 2024, The Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council (THSC) under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, signed an MoU with which digital payments company for a three-year partnership valued at up to USD 1 million, aims to train youth across 10 States?

अगस्त 2024 में, कौशल विकास और उद्यमिता मंत्रालय के तत्वावधान में पर्यटन और आतिथ्य कौशल परिषद (THSC) ने किस डिजिटल भुगतान कंपनी के साथ 1 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर तक के मूल्य की तीन साल की साझेदारी के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जिसका लक्ष्य 10 राज्यों में युवाओं को प्रशिक्षित करना है?

- (a) American Express
- (b) VISA
- (c) Mastercard
- (d) RuPay
- (e) Fastenal

Ans. b

Sol. Visa and the Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council inked a 3-year partnership of up to \$1 million USD

The Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council (THSC) under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Visa (NYSE: V), a global leader in digital payments, for a three-year partnership valued at up to \$1 million USD.

This initiative, designed to up skill at least 20,000 Indian youth in tourism-relevant skills, was formalized in the presence of Shri Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Minister of State, Ministry of Education Government of India.

The partnership, which builds upon Visa's ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, aims to train youth across 10 States, including Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and West Bengal to elevate the tourism service experience for tourists.

21. Who has been appointed as the 33rd Cabinet Secretary of the Government of India?
भारत सरकार के 33वें कैबिनेट सचिव के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) TV Somanathan
- (b) Ajay Seth
- (c) Vinay Mohan Kwatra
- (d) Deepti Gaur Mukherjee
- (e) Manoj Govil

Ans. a

Sol. TV Somanathan takes over as Cabinet Secretary

T V Somanathan took over as Cabinet Secretary following the superannuation of Rajiv Gauba.

TV Somanathan is the 33rd cabinet secretary of the government of India.

Gauba had been Cabinet Secretary since 2019 and completed an unprecedented five-year term. Until recently the Finance Secretary, Somanathan was named Cabinet Secretary on August 10 with a two-year tenure.

A 1987-batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, Somanathan is a qualified chartered accountant, cost accountant and company secretary. He has held important assignments at the Centre, including as Joint Secretary and later as Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office.

About Cabinet Secretary

- The Cabinet Secretary heads the Cabinet Secretariat, which is headed by the Prime Minister.
- The Cabinet Secretary heads the Cabinet Secretariat, is the head of the bureaucracy in India, and is the ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board.
- The Cabinet Secretariat is the key administrative body of the Government of India and facilitates smooth transaction of business in Ministries/ Departments.
- The Cabinet Secretariat coordinates the activities of the various ministries of the Government of India.

Other Important Secretaries

- **Ministry of Corporate Affairs Secretary** - Deepti Gaur Mukherjee (replace Manoj Govil)
- **Foreign Secretary** - Vikram Misri (replace Vinay Mohan Kwatra)
- **Expenditure Secretary** - Manoj Govil (replace T. V. Somanathan)
- **Home Secretary** - Govind Mohan (replace Ajay Kumar Bhalla)
- **Secretary of DPIIT** - Amardeep Singh Bhatia
- **Revenue Secretary** - Sanjay Malhotra
- **Defence Secretary** - Giridhar Aramane
- **Economic Affairs Secretary** - Ajay Seth
- **MoSPI Secretary** - Dr. G. P. Samanta

22. In August 2024, which of the following companies launched its Payment Passkey Service, marking a significant step forward in secure online transactions, this innovative service aims to make online shopping more secure and convenient, with India chosen as the debut market for its pilot program?

अगस्त 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी ने अपनी भुगतान पासकी सेवा शुरू की, जो सुरक्षित ऑनलाइन लेनदेन में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है, इस अभिनव सेवा का उद्देश्य ऑनलाइन खरीदारी को अधिक सुरक्षित और सुविधाजनक बनाना है, भारत को इसके पायलट कार्यक्रम के लिए शुरुआती बाजार के रूप में चुना गया है?

- (a) American Express
- (b) VISA
- (c) Mastercard
- (d) RuPay
- (e) Fastenal

Ans. c

Sol. Mastercard launches Global Payment Passkey Service in India

US-based multinational payment card services corporation Mastercard has launched its Payment Passkey Service, with plans to first introduce it to India. Its Payment Passkey Service, marking a significant step forward in secure online transactions.

Unveiled at the Global Fintech Fest in Mumbai, this innovative service aims to make online shopping more secure and convenient, with India chosen as the debut market for its pilot program.

The pilot will involve some of the nation's leading payment players, including aggregators like Juspay, Razorpay, and PayU, major online merchants like BigBasket, and top financial institutions like Axis Bank.

The Payment Passkey Service is designed to address the growing threat of online fraud, which has seen a nearly 300% increase in India over the past two years, according to the Reserve Bank of India. By leveraging device-based biometric authentication methods—such as fingerprints or facial scans—the service eliminates the need for traditional passwords and, one-time passwords (OTPs), which have become increasingly vulnerable to scams like phishing and SIM swapping.

The service enhances security by utilizing passkeys and tokenization to ensure that no financial account data is shared with third parties, thereby rendering it useless to fraudsters.

23. _____ was presented the globally acclaimed Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award 2024 for its online contest 'Holiday Heist' in the Digital Marketing Campaign category, at a function in Bangkok.

_____ को बैंकॉक में आयोजित एक समारोह में डिजिटल मार्केटिंग अभियान श्रेणी में ऑनलाइन प्रतियोगिता 'हॉलिडे हीस्ट' के लिए विश्व स्तर पर प्रशंसित पैसिफिक एशिया ट्रेवल एसोसिएशन (PATA) गोल्ड अवार्ड 2024 प्रदान किया गया।

- (a) Lakshadweep Tourism
- (b) Nicobar Tourism
- (c) Kerala Tourism
- (d) Odisha Tourism
- (e) Goa Tourism

Ans. c

Sol. Kerala tourism presented PATA gold award 2024

Kerala Tourism was presented the globally acclaimed Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award 2024 for its online contest 'Holiday Heist' in the Digital Marketing Campaign category, at a function in Bangkok.

Tourism Director Sikha Surendran received the award at a function held during PATA Travel Mart 2024, at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre (QSNCC) in the Thailand capital.

The award was presented by Peter Semone, PATA Chair in the presence of Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director, Macao Government Tourism Office and Noor Ahmad Hamid, PATA CEO.

Kerala Tourism was the only destination from India to bag the PATA Gold award this year. 'Holiday Heist', the month-long ground-breaking campaign was launched in July 2023 to woo tourists through an engaging and thrilling bidding game on the Tourism department's WhatsApp chatbot Maya.

It became a phenomenal hit with travellers making uniquely lowest bids for visiting Kerala's spectacular destinations. The campaign has witnessed over 80,000 bids, 5.2 lakh conversations, 45 million impressions, and 13 million video views.

24. In August 2024, which fintech company launched a series of innovative products and enhancements at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 aimed at transforming the payments ecosystem?

अगस्त 2024 में, किस फिनटेक कंपनी ने भुगतान पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को बदलने के उद्देश्य से ग्लोबल फिनटेक फेस्ट (GFF) 2024 में नवीन उत्पादों और संवर्द्धन की एक श्रृंखला शुरू की है?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) GooglePay
- (c) PhonePe
- (d) AmazonPay
- (e) Razorpay

Ans. e

Sol. Razorpay unveils Groundbreaking Payment Solutions at GFF 2024

A leader in the fintech industry, Razorpay has launched a series of innovative products and enhancements at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 aimed at transforming the payments ecosystem. With a focus on accessibility, inclusivity, and the future of financial transactions, Razorpay continues pushing the boundaries of what's possible in fintech. Razorpay, in collaboration with Mastercard, has launched India's first Biometric Authentication system, revolutionizing the checkout process by eliminating the need for OTPs. This advanced system leverages passkey protocols to enhance security and convenience, resulting in a 4% increase in transaction success rates and a 35% reduction in OTP-related errors.

This innovation is poised to boost conversion rates for merchants, providing a seamless payment experience for customers.

Razorpay has also introduced Razorpay A1, an all-in-one QR-centric device designed to enhance UPI payments, reflecting the growing preference for QR codes over traditional payment methods.

25. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a penalty of Rs 2.68 crore on which bank for contravention of certain provisions, including on opening of current accounts, interest rate on deposits and frauds classification in August 2024?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने अगस्त 2024 में चालू खाते खोलने, जमा पर ब्याज दर और धोखाधड़ी वर्गीकरण सहित कुछ प्रावधानों के उल्लंघन के लिए किस बैंक पर 2.68 करोड़ रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया?

- (a) Central Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) UCO Bank

(d) Bank of Maharashtra

(e) Canara Bank

Ans. c

Sol. RBI imposes Rs 2.68 crore penalty on UCO Bank

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 2.68 crore on UCO Bank for contravention of certain provisions, including on opening of current accounts, interest rate on deposits and frauds classification.

The RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 2.1 lakh on Cent Bank Home Finance Ltd for non-compliance with certain provisions of KYC directions.

In both cases, penalties are based on regulatory compliance and are not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the entities with their customers.

Recent Penalties imposed on Banks by RBI

- Muthoot Finance Limited (1.9 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provision of KYC Directions, 2016' issued by RBI.
- Bank of Maharashtra (1.27 crore) - for violating its directions, including on KYC
- Poonawalla Fincorp Limited, Pune (10 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of the NBFC - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016.
- Hinduja Leyland Finance Ltd (4.90 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of the KYC Directions, 2016.
- CSB Bank Limited (₹1.86 crore) - For violations, including paying commissions to employees for Non-Performing Assets' recovery
- Union Bank of India (₹1.06 crore)- For non-compliance with RBI guidelines on creating a central repository for large exposures and KYC norms.

26. India's energy major, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has launched a co-branded credit card XTRA in partnership with which bank in Global Fintech Fest (GFF), Mumbai?

भारत की प्रमुख ऊर्जा कंपनी इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (IOCL) ने ग्लोबल फिनटेक फेस्ट (GFF), मुंबई में किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी में एक सह-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड XTRA लॉन्च किया है?

(a) RBL Bank

(b) ICICI Bank

(c) Axis Bank

(d) HDFC Bank

(e) UCO Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Oil and RBL Bank launch co-branded credit card

India's energy major, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has launched a co-branded credit card XTRA in partnership with RBL Bank in Global Fintech Fest (GFF), Mumbai

This strategic collaboration aims to provide cardholders with attractive rewards and benefits, enabling them to earn upto 250 litres of free petrol annually.

RBL Bank is one of India's leading private sector banks with an expanding presence across the country. The Bank offers specialized services under five business verticals namely: Corporate Banking, Commercial Banking, Branch Banking & Retail Liabilities, Retail Assets and Treasury & Financial Markets Operations.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- ESAF Small Finance Bank launches **Inori RuPay Platinum Credit Card**
- Tata AIA Life launches '**Sampoorna Raksha Promise**' product with ₹3 lakh instant payout feature
- Bandhan Bank launches **Avni Saving Account** for Women Customer
- Karnataka Bank unveils **credit line on UPI in partnership with Navi Technologies**
- RBL Bank launched **Vijay Fixed Deposits** to honor 78th Independence Day
- Axis Bank launches **PRIMUS super-premium credit card** with VISA

27. Which Small Finance Bank is planning to expand its newly introduced Dabba Savings Accounts campaign across the country to promote financial inclusion as part of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the government's push to bring the unbanked into the formal banking fold?

कौन सा लघु वित्त बैंक संयुक्त राष्ट्र सतत विकास लक्ष्यों और बैंकिंग सुविधा से वंचित लोगों को औपचारिक बैंकिंग के दायरे में लाने के सरकार के प्रयास के तहत वित्तीय समावेशन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए देश भर में अपने नए शुरू किए गए डब्बा बचत खाता अभियान का विस्तार करने की योजना बना रहा है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank
- (e) ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited

Ans. e

Sol. ESAF Small Finance Bank to expand Dabba Savings Accounts campaign

ESAF Small Finance Bank is planning to expand its newly introduced Dabba Savings Accounts campaign across the country.

The campaign aims to promote financial inclusion as part of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the government's push to bring the unbanked into the formal banking fold.

The campaign caters to women in economically backward areas who do not have bank accounts due to fear of banking procedures or lack of accessibility. It is designed to address the financial needs of micro banking customers to promote micro savings accounts, which play a crucial role in fostering a culture of savings among the micro banking community.

This scheme is a powerful tool to bring women from economically weaker sections and backward areas into the formal banking system.

The Dabba Savings Account Campaign won bronze in the Sustainable Development Goals category at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity recently, and it garnered multiple accolades at the MAD Stars awards in Busan, South Korea.

About ESAF Small Finance Bank

- **Founded-** 10 March 2017
- **Founders-** K. Paul Thomas, Mereena Paul, Jacob Samuel
- **Headquarters-** Thrissur, Kerala
- **MD & CEO -** Paul Thomas K
- **Chairperson -** P R Ravi Mohan

28. The Indian economy has clocked a GDP growth of _____ in the first quarter of the financial year 2024-25, released by the Ministry of Statistics showed that the crucial manufacturing sector that provides quality jobs to the young workforce posted a 7 per cent growth, while the construction and electricity sectors posted double-digit growth during the quarter.

भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-25 की पहली तिमाही में _____ की जीडीपी वृद्धि दर्ज की है, सांख्यिकी मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी आंकड़ों से पता चला है कि युवा कार्यबल को गुणवत्तापूर्ण रोजगार प्रदान करने वाले महत्वपूर्ण विनिर्माण क्षेत्र ने 7 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दर्ज की है, जबकि निर्माण और बिजली क्षेत्रों ने तिमाही के दौरान दोहरे अंकों की वृद्धि दर्ज की है।

- (a) 6.7%
- (b) 6.8%
- (c) 6.8%
- (d) 7.2%
- (e) 7.0%

Ans. a

Sol. NSO Reports 6.7% Real GDP Growth for April-June 2024 Quarter

The Indian economy has clocked a GDP growth of 6.7 per cent in the first quarter of the financial year 2024-25. Figures released by the Ministry of Statistics showed that the crucial manufacturing sector that provides quality jobs to the young workforce posted a 7 per cent growth, while the construction and electricity sectors posted double-digit growth during the quarter.

Private Final Consumption Expenditure and Gross Fixed Capital Formation have witnessed growth rates of 7.4 per cent and 7.5 per cent, respectively, during this period. Aggregate demand conditions are gathering momentum with a revival in rural consumption on the back of growing incomes.

29. India's Rubina Francis won a bronze medal at the Paris Paralympic Games 2024. She is related to which sport?

भारत की रुबीना फ्रांसिस ने पेरिस पैरालंपिक खेलों 2024 में कांस्य पदक जीता। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Shooting
- (b) Archery
- (c) Badminton
- (d) Walking

(e) Table Tennis**Ans. a**

Sol. Indian shooter Rubina Francis won bronze in women's 10-meter air pistol SH1 final at Paralympic Games

In the Paris Paralympic Games, Indian shooter Rubina Francis won bronze in the women's 10-meter air pistol SH1 final qualification round.

Rubina secured India's fourth medal in shooting at the 17th Summer Paralympic Games. The 25-year-old shooter from Madhya Pradesh scored a total of 211.1 to finish third in the final.

On the other hand, Manish Narwal secured a silver medal in the men's 10-meter air pistol SH1 with a score of 234.9.

30. How much lakh crore rupees was GST collected in August 2024?**अगस्त 2024 में कितने लाख करोड़ रुपये का जीएसटी संग्रह हुआ?**

- (a) 1.75 lakh crore
- (b) 1.82 lakh crore
- (c) 2.10 lakh crore
- (d) 1.32 lakh crore
- (e) 2.72 lakh crore

Ans. a

Sol. GST collections rise 10% to Rs 1.75 trillion in August 2024

Gross GST collections in August grew 10 per cent to about Rs 1.75 lakh crore, reflecting higher domestic consumption.

As per the government data released, gross GST revenues from domestic transactions grew 9.2 per cent to about Rs 1.25 lakh crore.

Revenues from import of goods were up 12.1 per cent to Rs 49,976 crore.

In July, gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) mop-up was Rs 1.82 lakh crore, while in August last year it was Rs 1.59 lakh crore.

GST Collection of Previous Months

- January 2024 – 1.72 lakh crore
- February 2024 - 1.68 lakh crore
- March 2024 – 1.78 lakh crore
- April 2024 – 2.10 lakh crore
- May 2024 – 1.73 lakh crore
- June 2024 – 1.74 lakh crore
- July 2024 – 1.82 lakh crore

31. The revenue department in the finance ministry has formed a panel to simplify the decades-old I-T Act. Who will chair this panel?

वित्त मंत्रालय के राजस्व विभाग ने दशकों पुराने आयकर अधिनियम को सरल बनाने के लिए एक पैनल का गठन किया है। इस पैनल की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Dikshit Mishra
- (b) Arun Goyal

- (c) T V Somnathan
- (d) Shakti Kanta Das
- (e) V K Gupta

Ans. e

Sol. Panel headed by V K Gupta to simplify decades-old direct tax laws

The revenue department in the finance ministry has formed a panel headed by V K Gupta, chief commissioner of income-tax (I-T), to simplify the decades-old I-T Act.

In its preliminary discussions, the panel focused on rationalizing exemptions, raising the computation methods to global standards, and making the appeals system less cumbersome.

During discussions over the past few days and supervised by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman Ravi Agrawal, it emerged that more than 90 Sections of the 1961 law have lost their relevance.

32. Which edition of the Rashtriya Poshan Maah was inaugurated at the Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat to enhance nutrition awareness and overall well-being across the nation?

देश भर में पोषण जागरूकता और समग्र कल्याण को बढ़ाने के लिए गुजरात के गांधीनगर में महात्मा मंदिर में राष्ट्रीय पोषण माह के कौन से संस्करण का उद्घाटन किया गया?

- (a) 5th
- (b) 6th
- (c) 7th
- (d) 8th
- (e) 9th

Ans. c

Sol. Seventh Rashtriya Poshan Maah launched with a focus on nutrition and well-being
The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah was inaugurated at the Mahatma Mandir in

Gandhinagar, Gujarat, with a strong emphasis on enhancing nutrition awareness and overall well-being across the nation.

Annpurna Devi, the Union Minister for Women and Child Development, emphasized the need to enhance the health of children and adolescents while combating malnutrition through a lifecycle approach. She outlined the four key pillars of Poshan 2.0 – good governance, convergence, capacity building, and community participation – as essential to the program's success.

The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024 will focus on key themes including Anaemia, Growth Monitoring, Complementary Feeding, Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi, Technology for Better Governance, and Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam.

Through Mission Poshan 2.0, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is dedicated to combating malnutrition among children, adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers across the country.” The month-long campaign aims to bolster efforts against malnutrition and promote holistic well-being throughout the nation.

33. Which country will host the 19th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) from December 2024?

कौन सा देश दिसंबर 2024 से 19वें इंटरनेट गवर्नेंस फोरम (IGF) की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Qatar
- (b) India
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) France
- (e) USA

Ans. c

Sol. Saudi Arabia to host 19th Internet Governance Forum in December

Saudi Arabia will host the 19th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) from December 15-19, 2024, at the King Abdulaziz International Conference Center in Riyadh.

The five-day event is expected to gather over 10,000 participants from 160 countries, including more than 1,000 international speakers.

The forum aims to reach consensus among governments, private sector, and non-profit organizations on policies for stronger internet governance worldwide.

IGF is a global multistakeholder platform. The event, organized by the UN since 2006, fosters discussions on public policy issues related to the internet, facilitates sharing information, exchanging experience, and working to come up with solutions.

About Saudi Arabia

- **Capital-** Riyadh
- **Currency-** Saudi riyal
- **Prime minister-** Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud

34. Four countries have recently signed the Charter and an MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) Secretariat in Colombo to address security and stability challenges in the Indian Ocean Region. Which of the countries has not signed this, Charter?

हाल ही में चार देशों ने हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में सुरक्षा और स्थिरता की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए कोलंबो में कोलंबो सुरक्षा सम्मेलन (सीएससी) सचिवालय की स्थापना के लिए चार्टर और समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इनमें से किस देश ने इस चार्टर पर हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए हैं?

- (a) India
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Maldives
- (e) Mauritius

Ans. b

Sol. India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives sign Charter and MoU for establishment of Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat

India, Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka have signed the Charter and an MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) Secretariat in Colombo to address security and stability challenges in the Indian Ocean Region.

The signing ceremony was hosted in Colombo by the Government of Sri Lanka.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and the representatives of the Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka signed the documents on behalf of the respective Member States.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval emphasized the importance of the Colombo Security Conclave in addressing traditional, non-traditional, and emerging hybrid security challenges. He highlighted the need for sustained regional cooperation across various security pillars.

The CSC's core objective is to promote regional security by addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern to the Member States. There are five pillars of cooperation under the CSC namely Maritime Safety and Security; Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation; Combating Trafficking and Transnational Organised Crime; Cyber Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Technology; and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief.

35. _____ has become the first Indian life insurer to commence operations in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City).

_____ गुजरात इंटरनेशनल फाइनेंस टेक सिटी (गिफ्ट सिटी) में परिचालन शुरू करने वाली पहली भारतीय जीवन बीमा कंपनी बन गई है।

- (a) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance
- (b) ICICI Lombard
- (c) Max Life Insurance
- (d) Tata Aia Life Insurance
- (e) IndiaFirst Life

Ans. e

Sol. IndiaFirst Life becomes 1st Indian life insurer to start ops in GIFT City

IndiaFirst Life has become the first Indian life insurer to commence operations in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).

The company inaugurated its IFSC Insurance Office (IIO) at the country's international financial gateway.

IndiaFirst Life's IIO will have a dedicated team of specialists who will cater to the needs of GIFT City's global audience. The company offers a specially designed ULIP product for global Indians -- IndiaFirst Life Wealth Wise plan.

36. The airline's operations will be fully integrated with Air India starting from November 12, marking the culmination of a merger process initiated nearly two years ago. As a part of this merger, Singapore Airlines will acquire a ____ per cent stake in the newly consolidated Air India.

एयरलाइन का संचालन 12 नवंबर से एयर इंडिया के साथ पूरी तरह से एकीकृत हो जाएगा, जो लगभग दो साल पहले शुरू की गई विलय प्रक्रिया की परिणति को चिह्नित करता है। इस विलय के एक हिस्से के रूप में, सिंगापुर एयरलाइंस नव समेकित एयर इंडिया में ____ प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी हासिल करेगी।

- (a) 25.1
- (b) 24.1
- (c) 23.1
- (d) 22.1
- (e) 28.1

Ans. a

Sol. Vistara's last Flight on November 11

Vistara Airlines will cease to operate under its brand name on November 11.

The airline's operations will be fully integrated with Air India starting from November 12, marking the culmination of a merger process initiated nearly two years ago.

Vistara is a joint venture between the Tata Group and Singapore Airlines. However, with Tata Group also owning Air India, the decision to unify the two airlines aims to streamline operations and offer passengers an enhanced travel experience.

As a part of this merger, Singapore Airlines will acquire a 25.1 per cent stake in the newly consolidated Air India.

The transition, approved by Centre, includes the green light for foreign direct investment (FDI) by Singapore Airlines in Air India.

37. Who has been appointed as the Deputy Chief of the Indian Air Force?

भारतीय वायु सेना के उप प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Anish Dayal Singh
- (b) Sujoy Lal Thakur
- (c) Vineet McCarty
- (d) Tejinder Singh
- (e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal

Ans. d

Sol. Air Marshal Tejinder Singh appoints Deputy Chief of Air Staff

Air Marshal Tejinder Singh took over as Deputy Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force in New Delhi.

Air Marshal Tejinder is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and was commissioned in the fighter stream of the IAF on 13 June 1987.

He is a Category 'A' Qualified Flying Instructor with over 4500 hours of flying, an alumnus of Defence Service Staff College and National Defence College.

He has commanded a Fighter Squadron, a Radar Station, a premier Fighter Base and was Air Officer Commanding in Jammu and Kashmir. He was also awarded the Vayu Sena Medal in 2007 and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2022.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **DG of Project Seabird** - Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar (replace Tarun Sobti)
- **DG of National Security Guard (NSG)** - B Srinivasan (replace Nalin Prabhat)
- **Additional DG of ITBP** - Sanjeev Raina
- **Chief of Enforcement Directorate (ED)** - Rahul Navin
- **Director General of Assam Rifles** -Vikas Lakhera (22nd)

38. Who has been appointed as the interim Chairman and Managing Director of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) for three months?

किसको तीन महीने के लिए हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (एचपीसीएल) का अंतरिम अध्यक्ष और प्रबंध निदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Gaurav Banerjee
- (b) Jetha Ahir

- (c) Raj Kumar Chaudhary
(d) Rajneesh Narang
(e) Rajesh Kumar Singh

Ans. d

Sol. Rajneesh Narang appoints as Interim CMD of HPCL

Rajneesh Narang has been appointed the interim Chairman and Managing Director of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) for three months.

He succeeded Pushp Kumar Joshi.

Narang, a chartered accountant with over thirty years of experience, has managed a wide range of finance-related responsibilities for the company, including corporate finance, treasury, risk management, margin management, marketing finance, SBU commercial, refinery projects, etc.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman and CEO of Railway Board** - Satish Kumar (replace Jaya Varma Sinha)
- **Chairman of International Cricket Council (ICC)** - Jay Shah (replace Greg Barclay)
- **Chairperson of NASSCOM** - Sindhu Gangadharan
- **Chairman of Texas Economic Development Corporation** - Arun Agarwal
- **CEO of Nestlé** - Laurent Freixe (replace Mark Schneider)
- **Chairman of Cognizant India** - Rajesh Varrier (replace Rajesh Nambiar)

39. Who was given the additional charge of the Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)?

भारतीय तेल निगम (आईओसी) के अध्यक्ष का अतिरिक्त प्रभार किसे दिया गया?

- (a) Gaurav Banerjee
(b) Jitendra Singh
(c) V Satish Kumar
(d) Rajneesh Narang
(e) Rajesh Kumar Singh

Ans. c

Sol. V Satish Kumar given additional charge of IOC chairman

V Satish Kumar took over as the Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the nation's largest oil firm.

He will concurrently serve as chairman while continuing in his role as Director (Marketing), a position he has held since October 2021.

He also held the additional charge of Director (Finance) for one year from October 2022, a period characterised by geopolitical tensions due to the Ukraine-Russia conflict.

With a career spanning 35 years, Kumar has served in various regions across the country and held key positions, leading IOC's efforts to maintain its leadership in the marketing of petroleum products.

40. India's Barinder Sran has announced his retirement recently. He is related to which sport?

भारत के बरिंदर सरन ने हाल ही में संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Cricket

- (b) Hockey
- (c) Football
- (d) Boxing
- (e) Shooting

Ans. a

Sol. Barinder Sran announces retirement from international cricket

Barinder Sran, the left-arm fast bowler, has called it quits from international and domestic cricket with immediate effect at the age of 31.

He made his debut under MS Dhoni's captaincy in January 2016 and played six ODIs and two T20Is until June 2016 before losing his place in the Indian team.

He could never don the blue jersey and eight years later, has decided to step away from the game.

Sran picked seven wickets in ODIs and six in T20Is apart from collecting 137 wickets across formats at the domestic level. In the Indian Premier League (IPL), the 31-year-old played for four teams - Rajasthan Royals, Sunrisers Hyderabad, Punjab Kings and Mumbai Indians - featuring in 24 matches and picking 18 wickets.

Recently Retired Players

- Shannon Gabriel (West Indies) - International Cricket
- Shikhar Dhawan (India) - All forms of Cricket
- Ilkay Gundogan (Germany) - International Football 
- Andy Murray (UK) - International Tennis
- PR Sreejesh (India) - International Hockey

41. Himanshi Tokas, who was seen in news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

सितंबर 2024 में उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए खबरों में रहीं हिमांशी टोकस निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Shooting
- (b) Judo
- (c) Golf
- (d) Archery
- (e) Wushu

Ans. b

Sol. Himanshi Tokas clinches silver medal at Asian Cadet Judo Championships

Himanshi Tokas won a silver medal at the Asian Cadet and Junior Judo Championships. The event took place in Mungyeong, South Korea.

Himanshi competed in the women's 63-kilogram weight category.

She is 19 years old and part of the Khelo Bharat program. 12 members from India participated in the competition.

42. 15-year-old Chess International Master Mayank Chakraborty has won his second Grand Master Norm in a GM Norm Tournament being conducted in Greece. He is from which state?

15 वर्षीय शतरंज अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मास्टर मयंक चक्रवर्ती ने ग्रीस में आयोजित जीएम नॉर्म टूर्नामेंट में अपना दूसरा ग्रैंड मास्टर नॉर्म जीता है। वह किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Assam
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Punjab
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Ans. b

Sol. 15-year-old International Master Mayank Chakraborty wins his 2nd Grand Master Norm in Greece

15-year-old Chess International Master Mayank Chakraborty from Assam has won his second Grand Master Norm in a GM Norm Tournament being conducted in Greece.

IM Mayank requires one last norm and to touch the FIDE Rating Point 2500 once to be a Grand Master; in fact the first Grand Master from entire North East India.

His present FIDE rating is 2431. He had become International Master this year in April only, and right now he is the player with the highest number of Grand Master Norms and highest rating from the entire North East India.

43. At Paris Paralympics 2024, Indian Para Athlete Preethi Pal won the bronze medal in the Women's _____ meters – T35 Final.

पेरिस पैरालिंपिक 2024 में, भारतीय पैरा एथलीट प्रीति पाल ने महिलाओं की _____ मीटर – टी35 फाइनल में कांस्य पदक जीता।

- (a) 100m
- (b) 200m
- (c) 400m
- (d) 500m
- (e) 1000m

Ans. b

Sol. Preethi Pal makes history with Bronze and Nishad Kumar wins Silver at Paris Paralympics 2024

At Paris Paralympics 2024, Indian Para Athlete Preethi Pal secured yet another medal for India, clinching a Bronze medal in the Women's 200 meters – T35 Final.

She won the medal with a personal best timing of 30.01 seconds.

With this win, she became the first track and field Indian Woman Para Athlete to win two medals at the Paralympics.

On the other hand, Indian athlete Nishad Kumar also won a silver medal with an effort of 2.04 meter in Men's High Jump – T47 event.

44. Yogesh Kathuniya has won the silver medal in the Paris Paralympic Games 2024. He is related to which sport?

योगेश कथुनिया ने पेरिस पैरालिंपिक खेल 2024 में रजत पदक जीता है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Shooting
- (b) Judo

- (c) Discus Throw
- (d) Archery
- (e) Wushu

Ans. c

Sol. Yogesh Kathuniya wins silver in men's Discus throw F56 final

India's Yogesh Kathuniya clinched his second consecutive Paralympic silver medal in men's discus throw F-56 event with a season's best effort 42.22m at the ongoing Games in Paris.

The 27-year-old hurled the discus to the podium-clinching distance in his very first attempt to add to the silver he won in the Tokyo Paralympics three years ago.

Brazil's Claudiney Batista dos Santos registered a hat-trick of Paralympic gold medals, creating a new Games record with an effort of 46.86m in his fifth attempt.

Greece's Konstantinos Tzounis won the bronze with 41.32m.

45. Nitesh Kumar, a para badminton player, claimed India's second gold medal at the Paris Paralympics in Para badminton, after beating Great Britain's Daniel Bethell in the final of the men's singles SL3 category. He is from which state?

पैरा बैडमिंटन खिलाड़ी नितेश कुमार ने पुरुष एकल SL3 श्रेणी के फाइनल में ग्रेट ब्रिटेन के डेनियल बेथेल को हराकर पैरा बैडमिंटन में पेरिस पैरालिंपिक में भारत के लिए दूसरा स्वर्ण पदक जीता। वह किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Uttar Pradesh
- (e) Assam

Ans. b

Sol. Shuttler Nitesh Kumar wins gold medal at Paris Paralympics

Nitesh Kumar, a para badminton player from Charkhi Dadri, Haryana, claimed India's second gold medal at the Paris Paralympics in Para badminton, after beating Great Britain's Daniel Bethell in the final of men's singles SL3 category.

SL3 class players, like Nitesh, compete with more severe lower limb disabilities, requiring play on a half-width court.

The 29-year-old Nitesh, who overcame permanent leg damage from a 2009 accident, showed his dominance with a (result) win over Bethell in the final.

46. Indian paddler Divyanshi Bhowmick clinched a bronze medal in the Under-19 Youth Girls Singles Event at the World Table Tennis Youth Contender Varazdin 2024. This championship was held in which country?

भारतीय पैडलर दिव्यांशी भौमिक ने वर्ल्ड टेबल टेनिस यूथ कंटेन्डर वराज़दीन 2024 में अंडर-19 यूथ गर्ल्स सिंगल्स इवेंट में कांस्य पदक जीता। यह चैंपियनशिप किस देश में आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) France
- (b) Kazakhstan
- (c) Croatia

(d) Oman

(e) Iran

Ans. c

Sol. Divyanshi Bhowmick clinches bronze medal at WTT Youth Contender 2024
Indian paddler Divyanshi Bhowmick clinched a bronze medal in the Under-19 Youth Girls Singles Event at the World Table Tennis Youth Contender Varazdin 2024 ARENA VARAŽDIN in Croatia.

The 13-year-old paddler is a Khelo India athlete.

47. India's Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar clinched the bronze medal in the mixed compound open _____ event at the Paris 2024 Paralympics.

भारत की शीतल देवी और राकेश कुमार ने पेरिस 2024 पैरालिंपिक में मिश्रित कंपाउंड ओपन _____ स्पर्धा में कांस्य पदक जीता।

(a) Badminton

(b) Tennis

(c) Discus Throw

(d) Archery

(e) Wushu

Ans. d

Sol. Sheetal Devi, Rakesh Kumar clinched Archery Mixed Team Bronze
India's Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar clinched the bronze medal in the mixed compound open archery event at the Paris 2024 Paralympics.

The duo secured the victory in a nail-biting match against Italy's Eleonora Sarti and Matteo Bonacina, winning by a single point with a scoreline of 156-155.

Sheetal Dev, at 17, became India's youngest Paralympic medallist in history. She was the only female armless archer at Paris 2024.

For 39-year-old Rakesh Kumar, his first Paralympic medal comes after years of consistency at the top level. He is a gold medallist at the Para World Championship and Asian Para Games.

48. Who has won the silver medal in the men's singles SL4 category in badminton at the Paris Paralympics 2024?

पेरिस पैरालिंपिक 2024 में बैडमिंटन में पुरुष एकल SL4 वर्ग में रजत पदक किसने जीता है?

(a) Nitesh Kumar

(b) Divyanshi Bhowmick

(c) Manish Ramadass

(d) Thulasimathi Murugesan

(e) Suhas Yathiraj

Ans. e

Sol. Suhas Yathiraj gets silver in badminton men's singles SL4 category

India's Suhas Yathiraj got the silver medal in the men's singles SL4 category in badminton at the Paris Paralympics 2024.

He lost to France's Lucas Mazur 9-21, 13-21 in the gold medal match at the La Chapelle Arena Court 1. It took the Frenchman 34 minutes to beat Suhas.

Suhas, who is also the World No.1 won silver in Tokyo three years ago, and yet again, he fell short of a gold medal, this time in Paris.

SL4 is designed for players who experience limited movement on one side of the body, in both legs, or have a minor absence of a limb.

49. India's 19-year-old, Manisha Ramadass won the bronze medal in the women's singles SU5 category at the Paralympics 2024. She is related to which sport?

भारत की 19 वर्षीय मनीषा रामदास ने पैरालिंपिक 2024 में महिला एकल SU5 वर्ग में कांस्य पदक जीता। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Shooting
- (b) Badminton
- (c) Discus Throw
- (d) Archery
- (e) Wushu

Ans. b

Sol. Thulasimathi, Manisha claim badminton silver and bronze medals at Paralympics Indian shuttlers Thulasimathi Murugesan and Manisha Ramadass signed off with maiden silver and bronze medals respectively in women's singles SU5 category at the Paralympics.

The 22-year-old Thulasimathi, the number one seed, put up a fight before going down 17-21 10-21 against China's defending champion Yang Qiuxia in the final.

Second seed Manisha, playing at the adjacent court, outplayed Denmark's Cathrine Rosengren, seeded third, 21-12 21-8 to claim the bronze medal.

The SU5 category is for athletes with impairment on the upper limbs, which could be in the playing or the non-playing hand.

50. Star javelin thrower Sumit Antil became the first Indian man and second from the country to defend the title as he won the F64 category gold with Paralympics record of _____ at the Paris Games.

स्टार भाला फेंक खिलाड़ी सुमित अंतिल खिताब बचाने वाले पहले भारतीय पुरुष और देश के दूसरे खिलाड़ी बन गए, क्योंकि उन्होंने पेरिस खेलों में _____ के पैरालिंपिक रिकॉर्ड के साथ F64 श्रेणी का स्वर्ण पदक जीता।

- (a) 59.59m
- (b) 69.59m
- (c) 60.59m
- (d) 70.59m
- (e) 80.59m

Ans. d

Sol. Sumit Antil wins gold in javelin throw F64

Star javelin thrower Sumit Antil became the first Indian man and second from the country to defend the title as he won the F64 category gold with Paralympics record of 70.59m at the Paris Games.

The 26-year-old world record holder from Sonipat in Haryana bettered his own earlier Paralympic best of 68.55m set in Tokyo while winning the gold three years ago. Antil's world record stands at 73.29m.

Antil has also won gold in the World Para Athletics Championships in 2023 and 2024, besides standing on top of podium in last year's Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, China.

51. The Supreme Court has constituted a high-powered committee to amicably resolve the grievances of farmers agitating at the Shambhu border between Punjab and Haryana. Who will chair this committee?

ਪੰਜਾਬ और हरियाणा के बीच शंभू बॉर्डर पर आंदोलन कर रहे किसानों की शिकायतों को सौहार्दपूर्ण ढंग से हल करने के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक उच्चस्तरीय समिति का गठन किया है। इस समिति की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Justice Sanjiv Khanna
- (b) Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai
- (c) Justice Surya Kant
- (d) Justice Nawab Singh
- (e) Justice Bela M. Trivedi

Ans. d

Sol. Supreme Court sets up panel to amicably resolve farmers' agitation

The Supreme Court has constituted a high-powered committee chaired by former Punjab and Haryana High Court judge, Justice Nawab Singh, to amicably resolve the grievances of farmers agitating at the Shambhu border between Punjab and Haryana.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan directed the five-member committee to convene its first meeting within a week.

The court urged the protesting farmers to distance themselves from political parties and to not politicise the issue.

The farmers are agitating over a plethora of demands, including legal guarantee of minimum support price (MSP) for their produce.

Recent Committee in News

- Revenue Department in the finance ministry formed a panel to simplify the decades-old I-T Act. - chaired by V K Gupta
- GoI constitutes a committee to monitor the current situation on Indo-Bangladesh Border- headed by ADG of BSF
- Committee on Appointment of VC in Bengal; chaired by - UU Lalit
- To review and suggest reform in the examination process (restructuring NTA) - Chaired by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan
- RBI set up a committee to Mitigate Payment Fraud; chaired by AP Hota

52. Who has been appointed as Managing Director for the Philips Indian subcontinent?

फिलिप्स भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप के प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Gaurav Banerjee
- (b) Bharath Sesha
- (c) Raj Kumar Chaudhary

(d) Amardeep Singh Bhatia

(e) Rajesh Kumar Singh

Ans. b

Sol. Philips appoints Bharat Sesha as new MD for India

Bharath Sesha has been appointed as Managing Director for the Philips Indian subcontinent.

In this role, he will spearhead Philips' growth strategy in India, with a strong focus on enhancing customer satisfaction and driving operational excellence

He succeeds Daniel Mazon, who has moved to a global role at the Philips headquarters in the Netherlands.

Bharath Sesha brings over 20 years of global experience to his new role, with a deep understanding of the Indian market, particularly in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors.

Before joining Philips, he was the MD at Heubach Colorants India. Bharath holds a Master's in International Management from Thunderbird School of Global Management and an MBA from ITM.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** - V Satish Kumar (replace SM Vaidya)
- **Interim CMD of HPCL** - Rajneesh Narang (replace Pushp Kumar Joshi)
- **Chairman and CEO of Railway Board** - Satish Kumar (replace Jaya Varma Sinha)
- **Chairman of International Cricket Council (ICC)** - Jay Shah (replace Greg Barclay)
- **Chairperson of NASSCOM** - Sindhu Gangadharan
- **Chairman of Texas Economic Development Corporation** - Arun Agarwal
- **CEO of Nestlé** - Laurent Freixe (replace Mark Schneider)

53. In September 2024, The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB), a head-hunter for State-owned financial services entities, has recommended Rama Mohan Rao Amara for the position of MD of which bank?

सितंबर 2024 में, राज्य के स्वामित्व वाली वित्तीय सेवा संस्थाओं के लिए प्रमुख, वित्तीय सेवा संस्थान ब्यूरो (FSIB) ने राम मोहन राव अमारा को किस बैंक के एमडी के पद के लिए सिफारिश की है?

- (a) Canara Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) State bank of India
- (e) ICICI Bank

Ans. d

Sol. FSIB recommends Rama Mohan Rao Amara for SBI MD post

The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB), a head-hunter for State-owned financial services entities, has recommended Rama Mohan Rao Amara for the position of Managing Director of State Bank of India, the country's largest commercial bank.

Amara is currently Deputy Managing Director at SBI.

Amara is expected to fill the vacancy created due to elevation of C S Setty as Chairman of SBI.

Prior to getting transferred to SBI in July 2023, Amara was MD & CEO at SBI Card, the country's largest pure play credit card issuer. He was appointed as MD & CEO of SBI Card in January 2021.

54. Who has been appointed as MD of NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development?
राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक की पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी नैबकॉन्स (नाबार्ड कंसल्टेंसी सर्विसेज) के एमडी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajnish Kumar
- (b) Arun Bansal
- (c) Rajeev Agarwal
- (d) Y Haragopal
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty

Ans. d

Sol. Y Haragopal appointed MD of NABCONS

Y Haragopal has been appointed Managing Director of NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Prior to this elevation, he worked as the Chief Operating Officer of the Delhi-based consultancy firm. It has four Zonal offices in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, and Guwahati. Haragopal, who received his doctorate from the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) in New Delhi, joined NABARD in 1996 as a direct recruit officer and worked in different positions at the Head Office (Mumbai) for 14 years in the Refinance Department and at various regional offices in Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- MD & CEO of Shriram Capital Pvt Ltd. - Subhasri
- Deutsche Bank Head of global corp coverage for India, Sri Lanka - Manik Chhabra
- MD & CEO of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank - Salee Sukumaran Nair
- MD of SBI - Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh
- CEO of NPCI Bhim Services Ltd (NBSL) - Lalitha Nataraj
- MD & CEO of MCX - Praveena Rai's

55. Which company has collaborated with Gramophone, a leading agritech platform, to enable 2 million smallholder farmers on the Community Pass platform in India to have access to agri inputs?

किस कंपनी ने भारत में मास्टरकार्ड कम्युनिटी पास प्लेटफॉर्म पर 2 मिलियन छोटे किसानों को कृषि इनपुट तक पहुंच प्रदान करने के लिए अग्रणी एग्रीटेक प्लेटफॉर्म ग्रामोफोन के साथ सहयोग किया है?

- (a) American Express
- (b) VISA

- (c) SBI Card
- (d) Rupay
- (e) Mastercard

Ans. e

Sol. Mastercard collaborates with Gramophone to Boost Credit Access for 2 mn Farmers in India

Mastercard has collaborated with Gramophone, a leading agritech platform, to enable 2 million smallholder farmers on the Mastercard Community Pass platform in India with access to agri inputs.

The two entities will work towards powering offline payments for farmers in rural and remote areas through the Community Pass financial inclusion card.

Gramophone is also expected to enable their existing five lakh farmers with offline payments and credit.

Community Pass offers a digital ecosystem for purchasers seeking sustainable sources of high-quality produce at competitive market pricing and supply chain financing and smallholder farmers seeking reliable markets, fair prices, and credit.

The platform unites multiple agro-sector stakeholders in a centralised agricultural marketplace, enhancing their aggregate positive influence on farming communities.

Community Pass services will also feature an offline payment card and input credit, which will be available in the future months.

56. In August 2024, which of the following fintech companies launched the innovative Point-of-Sale (POS) software 'DigiPOS,' designed to elevate in-store payment experiences across Apple Premium Reseller outlets in India by leveraging iOS devices such as iPhones and iPads?

अगस्त 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस फिनटेक कंपनी ने अभिनव पॉइंट-ऑफ-सेल (POS) सॉफ्टवेयर 'डिजीपीओएस' लॉन्च किया, जिसे आईफोन और आईपैड जैसे आईओएस उपकरणों का लाभ उठाकर भारत में ऐप्पल प्रीमियम रीसेलर आउटलेट्स में इन-स्टोर भुगतान अनुभव को बढ़ाने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) Paytm
- (c) GooglePay
- (d) Razorpay
- (e) BharatPay

Ans. d

Sol. Razorpay launches DigiPOS – Elevating Apple Resellers In- Store Payment Experience

Razorpay has launched the innovative Point-of-Sale (POS) software, 'Razorpay DigiPOS'. This industry-first solution is set to revolutionize in-store payments across Apple Premium Reseller outlets in India by leveraging iOS devices such as iPhones and iPads. The integration of DigiPOS ensures a seamless, intuitive, and efficient payment experience, eliminating the need for traditional Android devices and enhancing the overall customer experience.

For the first time, Apple Premium Reseller stores can now process payments using their iPads and iPhones, whether for card transactions, no-cost EMIs, or UPI payments.

This collaboration with Apple Premium Reseller stores is poised to set a new benchmark in the retail payment landscape, making every transaction seamless.

57. In August 2024, which of the following has partnered with Microsoft to simplify tax filing for over 20 million gig workers in India?

अगस्त 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने भारत में 20 मिलियन से अधिक गिग श्रमिकों के लिए टैक्स फाइलिंग को आसान बनाने के लिए माइक्रोसॉफ्ट के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) H&R Block
- (b) ClearTax
- (c) QuickBooks
- (d) both a and b
- (e) both b and c

Ans. b

Sol. ClearTax Join hands with Microsoft to Ease Tax Filing for Over 20 Mn Indian Gig Workers

ClearTax, one of India's largest tax systems, has partnered with Microsoft to simplify tax filing for over 20 million gig workers in India.

This project attempts to improve workers' accessibility and convenience, particularly in fast-rising economies.

ClearTax is a user-friendly solution that allows gig workers to file their taxes over WhatsApp.

This innovative, frictionless, and user-friendly technique tackles a major issue for many blue-collar and gig workers in India's informal sector.

This policy has had a significant and immediate impact. In just 5 weeks of its inception, approximately 98,000 gig workers could file their taxes using this new system.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- YES Bank inks pact with Newtap Finance to offer financing solutions
- Piramal Finance and Central Bank of India partner to reach underserved markets
- Tata Power Solar Systems, ICICI Bank partner to finance solar units
- Jakson Engineers Limited signs MoU with SBI to promote solar projects

58. In September 2024, who among the following assumed the position of Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of Central Air Command?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने मध्य वायु कमान के एयर ऑफिसर कमांडिंग-इन-चीफ (AOC-in-C) का पद ग्रहण किया?

- (a) Anish Dayal Singh
- (b) Ashutosh Dixit
- (c) Vineet McCarty
- (d) Umesh Mishra
- (e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal

Ans. b

Sol. Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit takes over as AOC-In-C Central Air Command

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took charge as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command.

Dixit was commissioned into the fighter stream of Indian Air Force (IAF) on December 6, 1986. The Air Officer is an Experimental Test Pilot and a Qualified Flying Instructor with more than 3300 hours of flying experience on a variety of aircraft in the IAF inventory.

An alumnus of the prestigious National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College (Bangladesh), and National Defence College, Dixit has actively participated in numerous operations and exercises such as Op-Safed Sagar and Op-Rakshak.

In recognition of his meritorious services, he has been awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Vayu Sena Medal, and Vishisht Seva Medal, by the Hon'ble President of India.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- Deputy Chief of Air Staff - Air Marshal Tejinder Singh
- DG of Project Seabird - Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar (replace Tarun Sobti)
- DG of National Security Guard (NSG) - B Srinivasan (replace Nalin Prabhat)
- Additional DG of ITBP - Sanjeev Raina
- Chief of Enforcement Directorate (ED) - Rahul Navin

59. Which company has launched India's first Android-based Cash Recycling Machine (CRM), HPDx-BU01, which serves as a Digital Banking Unit offering a variety of services including QR-based UPI cash withdrawal and deposit, account opening, and credit card issuance?

किस कंपनी ने भारत की पहली एंड्रॉइड-आधारित कैश रीसाइक्लिंग मशीन (सीआरएम), एचपीडीएक्स-बीयू01 लॉन्च की है, जो एक डिजिटल बैंकिंग इकाई के रूप में कार्य करती है, जो क्यूआर-आधारित यूपीआई नकद निकासी और जमा, खाता खोलने और क्रेडिट कार्ड जारी करने सहित विभिन्न प्रकार की सेवाएं प्रदान करती है?

- (a) Razorpay Software Private Limited
- (b) Intellect Design Arena
- (c) Pine Labs
- (d) Hitachi Payment Services
- (e) AGS Transact Technologies

Ans. d

Sol. Hitachi Payment launches Country's First Android-Based Cash Recycling Machine Hitachi Payment Services, India's leading provider of payments and commerce solutions, announced India's first Android-based cash recycling machine, which also serves as a Digital Banking Unit, providing one-stop services in a modern digital banking environment.

The Android-Based Cash Recycling Machine, HPDx-BU01, is a big step towards improving customer convenience and experience while boosting operational and cost efficiency in banks.

The Android-Based Cash Recycling Machine was presented at GFF with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Its complete range of capabilities, which combine the benefits of traditional Cash Recycling Machines (CRMs) with the agility and flexibility of the Android platform, may be adapted to various financial needs.

Using an advanced technological platform, it enables banks to develop a bespoke digital banking environment, offering a variety of banking and non-banking services, based on business needs and local market demands. These services include QR-based UPI cash withdrawal and deposit, account opening, credit card issuance, personal loans, insurance, MSME loans, and FASTag application and recharge.

Among these services, the QR-based UPI cash deposit is a new feature in India.

60. Hayao Miyazaki has been honoured with the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2024 for his significant contributions to environmental protection and the promotion of peace through animation. He is from which country?

हयाओ मियाज़ाकी को पर्यावरण संरक्षण और एनीमेशन के माध्यम से शांति को बढ़ावा देने में उनके महत्वपूर्ण योगदान के लिए 2024 के प्रतिष्ठित रेमन मैग्सेसे पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) South Korea
- (b) Japan
- (c) Taiwan
- (d) USA
- (e) Russia

Ans. b

Sol. Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki honoured with 2024 Ramon Magsaysay Award

Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki has been honored with the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2024 for his significant contributions to environmental protection and the promotion of peace through animation.

This honor, often referred to as “Asia’s Nobel Prize,” underscores Miyazaki’s profound impact on both the art of animation and global cultural discourse.

The announcement was made by Studio Ghibli, the renowned animation studio co-founded by Miyazaki.

The global announcement of the 2024 Ramon Magsaysay Awardees was made by the Manila-based Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation.

This year’s recipients include three individuals and one group, all recognized for their exceptional contributions to society. The official award ceremony is scheduled to take place in Manila this November, according to The Japan Times.

Recent Award

- **Best Airport at the India Travel Awards** - Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad
- **Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2024** - Shaktikanta Das (A+ grade); 2nd year
- **Hilal-e-Imtiaz Award (Pakistan 2nd highest civilian award)** - Arshad Nadeem

- Grand Collar of Order of Timor Leste (Highest Civilian Award of Timor Leste) - President Droupadi Murmu
- Companion of the Order of Fiji (highest honour of Fiji) – President Droupadi Murmu

61. In September 2024, who among the following was awarded a gold medal for playing a key role in making the Olympic Games Paris 2024 a success?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसे ओलंपिक खेल पेरिस 2024 को सफल बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने के लिए स्वर्ण पदक से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) Abhinav Bindra
- (b) Nita Ambani
- (c) P. T. Usha
- (d) Rohit Brijnath
- (e) Emmanuel Macron

Ans. e

Sol. Olympic Order awarded to French President Emmanuel Macron

In recognition of his unstinting support for the success of the Olympic Games Paris 2024 and his attachment to the Olympic ideal dear to Pierre de Coubertin, President Emmanuel Macron was presented with the Olympic Order in gold.

This distinction pays tribute to his untiring engagement and vision for the Olympic Games, which made the edition in Paris an unforgettable event.

President Macron, in agreement with the Organising Committee and the French authorities, turned into spectacular reality, with a ceremony along the River Seine featuring iconic monuments like Notre-Dame, the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre.

62. The PM Narendra Modi-headed Cabinet Committee on Security, in its meeting, approved a proposal to procure 240 aero-engines (AL-31FP) for Russian-origin SU-30 MKI fighter aircraft from defence PSU _____ at a cost of over ₹26,000 crore.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता वाली सुरक्षा मामलों की मंत्रिमंडलीय समिति ने अपनी बैठक में रक्षा क्षेत्र की सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी _____ से रूसी मूल के एसयू-30 एमकेआई लड़ाकू विमान के लिए 26,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की लागत से 240 एयरो-इंजन (एएल-31एफपी) खरीदने के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी।

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- (c) Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited

Ans. a

Sol. Cabinet approves ₹26,000 cr deal with HAL for 240 aero-engines for SU-30 MKIs
PM Narendra Modi-headed Cabinet Committee on Security in its meeting approved a proposal for procurement of 240 aero-engines (AL-31FP) for Russian-origin SU-30 MKI

fighter aircraft from defence PSU Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at a cost of over ₹26,000 crore.

Earlier, the MoD had given nod to HAL for major upgrade of SU-30 MKI fleet of aircrafts of the Indian Air Force (IAF) to increase their operational lives which is worth ₹60,000 crore.

Through that, the aircraft will have new electronic warfare capabilities, weapon systems, radars and mission control systems. The comprehensive upgrades will add another two to three decades to the lives of aircraft whose body frame otherwise remains flying worthy for 50 years.

The Ministry of Defence said the proposal for upgrade of SU-30 MKI has been given nod under Buy (Indian) category and the delivery of these aero-engines would start after one year and complete over a period of eight years.

63. National Nutrition Week is observed from 1st September to 7th September every year. What is the theme of National Nutrition Week 2024?

राष्ट्रीय पोषण सप्ताह हर साल 1 सितंबर से 7 सितंबर तक मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय पोषण सप्ताह 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Celebrate a World of Flavors
- (b) Healthy diet going affordable for all
- (c) Feeding smart right from start
- (d) Eat Right, Bite by Bite
- (e) Nutritious Diets for Everyone

Ans. e

Sol. 1 - 7 September - National Nutrition Week

National Nutrition Week is observed from 1st September to 7th September every year. Objective - To raise awareness about the importance of nutrition and promote healthy eating habits.

Theme 2024 - Nutritious Diets for Everyone

This initiative focuses on educating the public, particularly women and children, about the benefits of a balanced diet, good nutrition, and an active lifestyle to improve overall health.

National Nutrition Week in India was first observed in 1982 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

64. World Coconut Day is celebrated annually on which day?

विश्व नारियल दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 September
- (b) 2 September
- (c) 3 September
- (d) 4 September
- (e) 5 September

Ans. b

Sol. 2nd September - World Coconut Day

World Coconut Day is celebrated annually on September 2nd.

Objective - To promote the importance of coconuts worldwide. This versatile fruit is crucial in agriculture, nutrition, and the economy in many tropical regions. World Coconut Day was established in 2009 by the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), an intergovernmental organization under the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

65. World Skyscraper Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व गगनचुंबी इमारत दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 September
- (b) 2 September
- (c) 3 September
- (d) 4 September
- (e) 5 September

Ans. c

Sol. 3rd September - World Skyscraper Day,

World Skyscraper Day is celebrated every year on September 3.

It is a tribute to the breathtaking structures that have transformed the cities. These structures are testaments to human creativity, engineering prowess and an unwavering drive to reach for the skies.

The World Skyscraper Day has its roots in the history of modern skyscrapers.

The date was decided to commemorate the birthday of Louis H. Sullivan, an American architect also known as the Father of Skyscrapers. His work includes stunning designs and layouts. He designed some of America's most iconic structures, including the Wainwright Building, Union Trust Building and Prudential Building.

66. Nithya Sre Sivan has won the Bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics in the Women's Singles _____ SH6 event.

नित्या श्री सिवान ने पेरिस पैरालिंपिक में महिला एकल _____ SH6 स्पर्धा में कांस्य पदक जीता है।

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Badminton
- (c) Archery
- (d) Shooting
- (e) Tennis

Ans. b

Sol. Badminton player Nithya Sre Sivan wins Bronze in Paris Paralympics

Para shuttler Nithya Sre Sivan has won the Bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics in the Women's Singles Badminton SH6 event.

The 'SH6' event has been newly introduced and features short-statured athletes.

The 19-year-old Nithya, who entered the tournament as a top seed, dominated her match against Indonesia's Rina Marlina, winning 21-14, 21-6 in just 23 minutes.

67. In September 2024, which of the following companies received Union Cabinet approval under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) to set up a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat, with a production capacity of 60 lakh chips per day?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी को गुजरात के साणंद में प्रतिदिन 60 लाख चिप्स की उत्पादन क्षमता वाली सेमीकंडक्टर इकाई स्थापित करने के लिए भारत सेमीकंडक्टर मिशन (आईएसएम) के तहत केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल की मंजूरी प्राप्त हुई?

- (a) Tata Electronics Private Limited
- (b) Bharat Electronics Limited
- (c) ABB India Limited.
- (d) Kaynes Semicon Pvt Ltd
- (e) Havells India Limited.

Ans. d

Sol. Cabinet approves fifth semiconductor unit in Sanad

The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the proposal of Kaynes Semicon Pvt Ltd to setup a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat, with the objective to develop a vibrant semiconductor ecosystem. The proposed unit will be setup with an investment of Rs 3,300 crore.

The capacity of this unit will be 60 Lakh chips per day. The chips produced in this unit will cater to a wide variety of applications which include segments such as industrial, automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, mobile phones, etc.

The Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India was notified on 21.12.2021 with a total outlay of Rs. 76,000 crore.

In June, 2023, the Union Cabinet had approved the first proposal for setting up a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat. In February, 2024, three more semiconductor units were approved.

Tata Electronics is setting up a semiconductor fab in Dholera, Gujarat and one semiconductor unit in Morigaon, Assam. CG Power is setting up one semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat.

68. In September 2024, The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi approved seven schemes to improve farmers' lives and increase their incomes at a total outlay of _____.

सितंबर 2024 में, प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने किसानों के जीवन को बेहतर बनाने और उनकी आय बढ़ाने के लिए कुल _____ परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी।

- (a) Rs 11,235.30 Crore
- (b) Rs 12,235.30 Crore
- (c) Rs 13,235.30 Crore
- (d) Rs 14,235.30 Crore
- (e) Rs 15,235.30 Crore

Ans. d

Sol. Cabinet approves 7 major schemes for improving farmers' lives and livelihoods with a total outlay of Rs 14,235.30 Crore

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi approved seven schemes to improve farmers' lives and increase their incomes at a total outlay of Rs 14,235.30 Crore.

1. Digital Agriculture Mission: based on the structure of Digital Public Infrastructure, Digital Agriculture Mission will use technology to improve farmers' lives. The Mission has a total outlay of Rs 2,817 crores.
2. Crop science for food and nutritional security: with a total outlay of Rs 3,979 crore. The initiative will prepare farmers for climate resilience and provide for food security by 2047.
3. Strengthening Agricultural Education, Management, and Social Sciences: with a total outlay of Rs 2,291 Crore the measure will prepare agriculture students and researchers for current challenges.
4. Sustainable livestock health and production: with a total outlay of Rs 1,702 crore, the decision aims to Increase farmers' income from livestock and dairy.
5. Sustainable development of Horticulture: with a total outlay of Rs 1129.30 crore, the measure aims to increase farmers' income from horticulture plants.
6. Strengthening Krishi Vigyan Kendra with an outlay of Rs 1,202 crore.
7. Natural Resource Management with an outlay of Rs 1,115 crore.

69. In September 2024, The Union Cabinet Committee chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the Digital Agriculture Mission with an outlay of _____, including the central share of Rs. 1940 Crore.

सितंबर 2024 में, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल समिति ने 1940 करोड़ रुपये के केंद्रीय हिस्से सहित _____ के परिव्यय के साथ डिजिटल कृषि मिशन को मंजूरी दी।

- (a) 2217 Crore
(b) 2517 Crore
(c) 2817 Crore
(d) 3117 Crore
(e) 3317 Crore

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves the Digital Agriculture Mission with an outlay of Rs. 2817 Crore
The Union Cabinet Committee chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the Digital Agriculture Mission with an outlay of Rs. 2817 Crore, including the central share of Rs. 1940 Crore.

The Mission is conceived as an umbrella scheme to support digital agriculture initiatives, such as creating Digital Public Infrastructure, implementing the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES), and taking up other IT initiatives by the Central Government, State Governments, and Academic and Research Institutions. For a similar transformation of the Agriculture Sector, the government announced the building of Digital Public Infrastructure for agriculture in the Union Budget 2023-24. Further, in the Budget 2024-25, the augmentation of the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) initiative for the agricultural sector has also been announced. The Digital Public

Infrastructure (DPI) for Agriculture aims to provide comprehensive and useful data on farmers comprising authenticated demographic details, land holdings, and crops sown. It will include cultivators & tenant farmers, as per the policy of the State Government. It would also connect to relevant Digital Public Infrastructure of the State Governments and Ministries of the Government of India to use data of farmers on livestock, fisheries, soil health, other vocations, family details, and schemes and benefits availed, leading to innovative farmer-centric digital services in the agriculture sector. Aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, the DPI for Agriculture forms the core of the Digital Agriculture Mission.

70. The World Bank revised its FY25 growth forecast for India to how much per cent from its previous estimate of 6.6%?

विश्व बैंक ने भारत के लिए वित्त वर्ष 2025 के विकास पूर्वानुमान को 6.6% के अपने पिछले अनुमान से संशोधित कर कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 6.8%
- (b) 7.0%
- (c) 7.2%
- (d) 7.4%
- (e) 7.5%

Ans. b

Sol. World Bank raises India growth forecast to 7% for current fiscal year from 6.6%
The World Bank revised its FY25 growth forecast for India to 7%, up from its previous estimate of 6.6%.

The upgrade reflects the Indian's government's continued capital expenditure on infrastructure, a rise in household investments in real estate, better-than-expected monsoon and agricultural output, and an increase in private consumption, it said. According to its projections, India's debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to decline from 83.9% in FY24 to 82% by FY27, while the current account deficit is anticipated to remain between 1% and 1.6% of GDP until FY27.

Moody's upgraded its economic growth forecast for India to 7.2% in 2024 and 6.6% in 2025, from earlier estimates of 6.8% and 6.4%, respectively, driven by broad-based growth.

Updated GDP List

- World Bank – 7% (FY25)
- Moody's – 7.2% (FY24), 6.6% (FY25)
- Goldman Sachs – 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)
- Deloitte – 7 - 7.2% (FY25)
- India Ratings – 7.5% (FY25)
- FICCI – 7% (FY25)
- ADB – 7% (FY25), 7.2%(FY26)

71. In September 2024, _____ launched a range of AI-enabled digital payment solutions, including the Risk Insight Decisioning Platform and the enhanced EVOK 3.0, designed to help banks and payment aggregators leverage cutting-edge technologies. सितंबर 2024 में, _____ ने एआई-सक्षम डिजिटल भुगतान समाधानों की एक श्रृंखला शुरू की, जिसमें रिस्क इनसाइट डिजीजनिंग प्लेटफॉर्म और उन्नत ईवीओके 3.0 शामिल हैं, जिन्हें बैंकों और भुगतान एग्रीगेटर्स को अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों का लाभ उठाने में मदद करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है।

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) GooglePay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) NPST
- (e) BharatPay

Ans. d

Sol. NPST launches Digital Payment Services at Global Fintech Fest 2024

NPST, a major digital banking and payments technology company unveiled a range of cutting-edge AI-enabled digital payment solutions at the Global Fintech Fest 2024. UPI rails are driving the exponential growth of India's fintech sector. These solutions are intended to help banks and payment aggregators benefit from the current momentum by utilising cutting-edge technologies, such as artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Risk Intelligence Decision-Making Platform: The Risk Insight Decisioning Platform learns and analyses transaction patterns by combining insight from numerous data sources. By forecasting and mitigating new threats, the platform allows merchant acquirers to efficiently foresee and prevent fraud.

EVOK 3.0 is an enhanced version of the EvoK platform that provides a complete payment solution for payment aggregators, payment gateway service providers, and retailers.

This comprehensive solution addresses all aspects of the payment lifecycle, including end-to-end transaction processing, risk and fraud management, reconciliation, dispute and chargeback management.

72. Krishnan Venkat Subramanian has been appointed as MD and CEO of which bank for three years?

कृष्णन वेंकट सुब्रमण्यन को तीन साल के लिए किस बैंक का एमडी और सीईओ नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Exim Bank
- (b) RBL Bank
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- (d) Federal Bank
- (e) DBS India

Ans. d

Sol. Krishnan Venkat Subramanian appoints as MD & CEO of Federal Bank

Federal Bank has approved the appointment of Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as Managing Director and CEO of the bank, effective September 23, 2024.

The decision was made during the bank's 93rd Annual General Meeting.

Subramanian brings extensive experience to Federal Bank, having previously served as the Joint Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank until April 30, 2024.

Throughout his tenure at Kotak Mahindra Bank, he led several key divisions, including Corporate Banking, Commercial Banking, Private Banking, and the Asset Reconstruction business.

About Federal Bank

- Founded- 23 April 1931
- Founder- K.P Hormis
- Headquarters - Kochi, Kerala.
- MD & CEO- Krishnan Venkat Subramanian (replace KVS Manian)

73. In September 2024, which of the following companies became the first in India to surpass Rs 10 lakh crore in annual revenue, achieving a record consolidated turnover of Rs 10,00,122 crore (USD 119.9 billion) for the financial year 2023-24?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी कंपनी वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 के लिए 10,00,122 करोड़ रुपये (USD 119.9 बिलियन) का रिकॉर्ड समेकित कारोबार हासिल करते हुए वार्षिक राजस्व में 10 लाख करोड़ रुपये को पार करने वाली भारत की पहली कंपनी बन जाएगी?

- (a) Tata Group
- (b) Adani Group
- (c) Infosys
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) Reliance Industries Limited

Ans. e

Sol. RIL becomes India's first company to surpass Rs 10 lakh crore in annual revenue. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has become the first Indian company to surpass Rs 10 lakh crore in annual revenue. This significant milestone was announced by RIL chairman Mukesh Ambani during the company's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

During the AGM, Ambani revealed that Reliance achieved a record consolidated turnover of Rs 10,00,122 crore (USD 119.9 billion), for the financial year 2023-24. For the same period, RIL reported an EBITDA of Rs 1,78,677 crore (USD 21.4 billion) and a net profit of Rs 79,020 crore (USD 9.5 billion).

The company also recorded exports amounting to Rs 2,99,832 crore (USD 35.9 billion), which accounted for 8.2% of India's total merchandise exports.

Additionally, the company remained the largest contributor to the national exchequer, contributing Rs 1,86,440 crore (USD 22.4 billion) through various taxes and duties during FY 2023-24. Over the past three years, RIL's total contribution to the exchequer has crossed Rs 5.5 lakh crore (USD 68.7 billion), the highest by any Indian corporate.

74. Who has been appointed as MD and CEO of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL)?

सेंट्रल डिपॉजिटरी सर्विसेज (इंडिया) लिमिटेड (सीडीएसएल) के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Krishnan Venkat Subramanian
- (b) Subhasri
- (c) Manik Chhabra
- (d) KVS Manian
- (e) Nehal Vora

Ans. e

Sol. Nehal Vora appoints as MD and CEO of CDSL

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved for the appointment of Nehal Vora as the MD & CEO of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL). Nehal Vora's transition to this leadership role marks a significant development for CDSL, especially as the company continues to focus on fortifying its leadership in alignment with its long-term strategic goals.

Previously serving as the Chief Regulatory Officer at the BSE, Vora is expected to bring valuable experience to CDSL, furthering its mission to enhance the depository services landscape in India.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- MD of State Bank of India - Rama Mohan Rao Amara (replace C S Setty)
- MD of NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services) - Y Haragopal
- MD & CEO of Shriram Capital Pvt Ltd. - Subhasri
- Deutsche Bank Head of global corp coverage for India, Sri Lanka - Manik Chhabra
- MD & CEO of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank - Salee Sukumaran Nair

75. Who has won the 2024 SAFF Men's U-20 Championship Football Tournament?

2024 SAFF पुरुष U-20 चैम्पियनशिप फुटबॉल टूर्नामेंट किसने जीता है?

- (a) India
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Sri Lanka
- (e) Bhutan

Ans. c

Sol. Bangladesh wins maiden SAFF U-20 Championship Football Tournament

Bangladesh won its maiden SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Men's U-20 Championship by defeating host Nepal 4-1 in the final.

The final was played at the ANFA Complex in Lalitpur, Nepal.

The Bangladeshi team, also famous as the Bengal Tigers, finally won the title in their fourth attempt at the finals. The Bangladeshi team appeared in the 2017, 2019 and 2022 finals without any success.

However, in this fourth attempt, they defeated the host country, Nepal, to win their maiden title.

The Bangladeshi team defeated the favourite and defending champion, India, 4-3, in the penalty shootout in the semi-final to progress to the final.

Nepal defeated Bhutan 4-1 in the penalty shoot-out in the other semi-final to reach the finals.

76. Which team has won its first Durand Cup title, defeating the defending champion Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) 4-3 in a penalty shootout in the final?

किस टीम ने फाइनल में पेनल्टी शूटआउट में गत चैंपियन मोहन बागान सुपर जायंट (एमबीएसजी) को 4-3 से हराकर अपना पहला डूरंड कप खिताब जीता है?

- (a) Kerala Blasters FC
- (b) Mumbai City FC
- (c) East Bengal FC
- (d) Jamshedpur FC
- (e) NorthEast United FC

Ans. e

Sol. NorthEast United FC wins its maiden Durand Cup beating Mohun Bagan

Guwahati-based NorthEast United Football Club won its first Durand Cup title, defeating the defending champion Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) 4-3 in a penalty shootout in the final.

The final of the 133rd edition of Asia's oldest football tournament was played at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Kolkata (West Bengal).

The 133rd edition of the Durand Cup was held in Kolkata, Kokrajhar (Assam), Jamshedpur (Jharkhand), and Shillong (Meghalaya).

Jamshedpur was hosting the matches of the Durand Cup for the first time.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant football club, the most successful team in the history of the Durand Cup, having won it 17 times, failed to defend its title.

77. Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rajwinder Singh Bhatti has been appointed as the Director General (DG) of which armed force?

भारतीय पुलिस सेवा (आईपीएस) अधिकारी राजविंदर सिंह भट्टी को किस सशस्त्र बल का महानिदेशक (डीजी) नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) BSF
- (b) CISF
- (c) CRPF
- (d) ITBP
- (e) SSB

Ans. b

Sol. IPS Officer Rajwinder Singh Bhatti takes Charge as DG of CISF

Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rajwinder Singh Bhatti took over the charge as Director General (DG) of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Rajwinder Singh Bhatti has been appointed as the 31st DG for the CISF.

Prior to his appointment as DG CISF, Bhatti was serving as the Director General of Bihar Police, where he was known for his strategic acumen and leadership in managing complex law and order challenges.

An IPS officer from the batch of 1990 in Bihar Cadre, Bhatti is a Chartered Accountant with an M.Phil degree.

Rajwinder Singh Bhatti was decorated with the President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service in 2006 and the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 2014.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command - Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- Deputy Chief of Air Staff - Air Marshal Tejinder Singh
- DG of Project Seabird - Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar (replace Tarun Sobti)
- DG of National Security Guard (NSG) - B Srinivasan (replace Nalin Prabhat)
- Additional DG of ITBP - Sanjeev Raina

78. Leading French cosmetic maker L'Oreal Paris has roped in Bollywood actress _____ as its new global brand ambassador.

प्रमुख फ्रांसीसी कॉस्मेटिक निर्माता लोरियल पेरिस ने बॉलीवुड अभिनेत्री _____ को अपना नया वैश्विक ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है।

- (a) Kareena Kapoor
- (b) Katrina Kaif
- (c) Sunny Leone
- (d) Ananaya Pandey
- (e) Alia Bhatt

Ans. e

Sol. L'Oreal Paris names Alia Bhatt as new global brand ambassador

Leading French cosmetic maker L'Oreal Paris has roped in Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt as its new global brand ambassador.

With this, Bhatt joins the brand's diverse roster of L'Oreal brand ambassadors like Viola Davis, Jane Fonda, Eva Longoria, Kendall Jenner, Elle Fanning, Camila Cabello, and many others.

She will star in the French beauty brand's campaigns, starting in September 2024.

Bhatt embodies the core values of L'Oreal Paris, representing inclusivity and empowerment, sharing the transformative power of self-belief with women all over the world.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Salman Khan - GRM Basmati Rice
- Dinesh Karthik - SA20 league
- Shikhar Dhawan - MotoGP India
- Aditya Roy Kapur - Bisleri Limonata
- PV Sindhu - Greenday's Better Nutrition
- PV Sindhu - Tobacco Control
- Shah Rukh Khan - Muthoot Pappachan Group
- Kareena Kapoor Khan - UNICEF India National Ambassador

79. India's Shot-Put thrower Sachin Sarjerao Khilari clinched the Silver medal in the Men's Shot Put -F46 Final, with a walloping throw of _____ at the Paris Paralympic Games.

भारत के शॉट पुट थ्रोअर सचिन सर्जेराव खिलाड़ी ने पेरिस पैरालंपिक खेलों में पुरुषों की शॉट पुट-एफ46 फाइनल में _____ का शानदार थ्रो करके रजत पदक जीता।

- (a) 14.32m
- (b) 15.32m
- (c) 16.32m
- (d) 17.32m
- (e) 18.32m

Ans. c

Sol. Shot put thrower Sachin Khilari wins silver in Paris Paralympics

2023 and 2024 world champion Sachin Khilari clinched silver in the Paris Paralympics. Khilari threw 16.32m in the men's shot put F46 - finishing behind Canada's Greg Stewart at Stade de France in Paris.

Khilari's throw was also the best effort an Asian has ever put in the men's F46 event. There were a total of three Indians participating in the event. Mohd Yasser and Rohit Kumar were not able to get into the podium contention, finishing 8th and 9th respectively with best throws of 14.21m and 14.10m.

80. Harvinder Singh created history by winning a Gold in the men's archery individual recurve open final at the Paris Paralympics 2024. He is from which state?

हरविंदर सिंह ने पेरिस पैरालंपिक 2024 में पुरुषों की तीरंदाजी व्यक्तिगत रिकर्व ओपन फाइनल में स्वर्ण जीतकर इतिहास रच दिया। वह किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Uttar Pradesh
- (e) Maharashtra

Ans. b

Sol. Harvinder Singh becomes first Indian archer to win Paralympic gold medal

At the Paris Paralympics 2024, Harvinder Singh from Haryana created history by winning a Gold in the men's archery individual recurve open final.

He became the first and only Indian archer to clinch a gold medal at the Paralympics or Olympics.

Harvinder defeated Poland's Lukasz Ciszek 6-0 with a dominant performance in the final of the Men's Individual Recurve Open to clinch India's 4th gold medal at the Paris Paralympics 2024.

81. India's Dharambir has won the gold medal in the men's F51 event of which sport in Paris Paralympics 2024?

भारत के धरमबीर ने पेरिस पैरालंपिक 2024 में किस खेल की पुरुषों की F51 स्पर्धा में स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

- (a) Discuss Throw
- (b) Club Throw
- (c) Javelin Throw
- (d) Archery

(e) Badminton

Ans. b

Sol. Dharambir sets Asian record to win gold, while Pranav secures silver in Paralympic Men's F51 club throw

India's Dharambir broke the Asian record to clinch the gold medal in the Paralympics 2024 while compatriot Pranav Soorma clinched the silver as Indian club throwers dominated the men's F51 event in the marquee event happening in Paris.

After four fouled attempts, the world championships bronze medallist from Sonapat, Dharambir hurled the club to a distance of 34.92m in his fifth attempt to claim the top spot.

Soorma, who sustained a spinal cord injury at 16 when a cement sheet fell on his head, launched a throw of 34.59 meters on his first attempt. Despite this impressive performance, the 29-year-old from Faridabad was unable to surpass Dharambir, resulting in a one-two finish for India.

82. In India, Teachers' Day is celebrated on September 5 to recognise the work done by educators including teachers, researchers and professors. This day is observed to honour Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna in which year?

भारत में, शिक्षक दिवस 5 सितंबर को शिक्षकों, शोधकर्ताओं और प्रोफेसरों सहित शिक्षाविदों द्वारा किए गए कार्यों को मान्यता देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। यह दिन डॉ. सर्वपल्ली राधाकृष्णन के सम्मान में मनाया जाता है। उन्हें भारत रत्न से किस वर्ष सम्मानित किया गया था?

(a) 1951

(b) 1952

(c) 1954

(d) 1959

(e) 1964

Ans. c

Sol. 5 September - National Teachers' Day

In India, Teachers' Day is celebrated on September 5 to recognise the work done by educators including teachers, researchers and professors.

This day is observed to honour Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who was born on September 5, 1888. He was also posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1954, the country's highest civilian honour.

Teachers' Day is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the first Vice-President of India and the second President of the nation.

83. Which organization will launch a \$100 million fund, Global Solar Facility, that will help catalysing up to \$1.5 billion in funding to expand decentralised solar power capacities across the least developed countries in Africa, where more than 700 million people have no access to electricity?

कौन सा संगठन 100 मिलियन डॉलर का फंड, ग्लोबल सोलर फैसिलिटी लॉन्च करेगा, जो अफ्रीका के सबसे कम विकसित देशों में विकेन्द्रीकृत सौर ऊर्जा क्षमताओं का विस्तार करने के लिए 1.5 बिलियन डॉलर तक के वित्त पोषण को उत्प्रेरित करने में मदद करेगा, जहां 700 मिलियन से अधिक लोगों के पास बिजली तक पहुंच नहीं है?

- (a) International Monetary Fund
- (b) Asian Development Bank
- (c) International Solar Alliance
- (d) African Development Bank
- (e) World Bank

Ans. c

Sol. ISA to launch \$100 million solar facility, insurance mechanism to accelerate solar power projects

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) will launch a \$100 million fund, Global Solar Facility, that will help catalysing up to \$1.5 billion in funding to expand decentralised solar power capacities across the least developed countries in Africa, where more than 700 million people have no access to electricity.

Besides, the international organisation aiming to electrify the global south is also working on creating an insurance mechanism, which will also aid in accelerating funding in poor countries.

The festival aims to catalyse global solar adoption by forging partnerships, unlocking innovative financing, deploying cutting-edge technology and boosting capacity in ISA member countries.

Aligning businesses, policymakers, and financial institutions, it will serve as a launchpad for collaborations that fast-track the world's transition to a future powered by affordable, reliable and sustainable solar energy.

84. Which country has signed an MoU with India to strengthen public-sector audit cooperation in September 2024?

किस देश ने सितंबर 2024 में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के लेखा परीक्षा सहयोग को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) UAE
- (b) USA
- (c) Qatar
- (d) Kazakhstan
- (e) Bhutan

Ans. a

Sol. UAE and India sign MoU to strengthen public sector audit cooperation

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India signed an MoU with the UAE Accountability Authority of the United Arab Emirates, Supreme Audit Institution, UAE during a bilateral meeting with the President of UAE Accountability Authority.

This MoU is a testament to the shared values and goals of our institutions and reinforces the strong ties between India and the UAE.

The MoU aims to foster collaboration between the two Supreme Audit Institutions, focusing on areas such as knowledge exchange, capacity building, and best practices in public sector auditing. By sharing expertise and experiences, both countries seek to strengthen their respective audit methodologies and improve overall governance.

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives sign Charter and MoU for establishment of Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat
- India and Ukraine sign agreements in agriculture, medicine, and cultural cooperation
- India-US ink pact for mutual supply of defence goods & services
- India-USA join hands to promote cooperation in MSMEs
- India & Israel join hands for new water technology centre at IIT Madras

85. India has signed four agreements with which country on semiconductors, digital cooperation, healthcare and medical research, and education and skill development?

भारत ने किस देश के साथ सेमीकंडक्टर, डिजिटल सहयोग, स्वास्थ्य सेवा और चिकित्सा अनुसंधान, तथा शिक्षा और कौशल विकास पर चार समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Singapore
- (c) Vietnam
- (d) Malaysia
- (e) USA

Ans. b

Sol. India, Singapore signed agreements on semiconductors, healthcare.

India and Singapore unveiled agreements for a semiconductor ecosystem partnership and greater interoperability between their digital economies even as they elevated their relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership.

India and Singapore announced four agreements on semiconductors, digital cooperation, healthcare and medical research, and education and skill development. The MoU on a semiconductor ecosystem partnership envisages cooperation to support India's growing semiconductor industry while facilitating Singapore's companies and supply chains to enter the Indian market.

The MoU on cooperation in digital technology will encourage greater interoperability between the digital economies of the two countries and build on earlier work such as linking the digital payment systems of India and Singapore. The main areas of cooperation under this MoU are data flows and data protection, digital utilities and digital public infrastructure.

Under the MoU on education and skill development, the two sides will cooperate on technical and vocational education and training, while the MoU on healthcare and medical research envisages cooperation in disease surveillance, pandemic preparedness, and prevention of communicable diseases.

86. President Droupadi Murmu has approved the constitution of the 23rd Law Commission of India for ____-year term.

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने ____ वर्ष के कार्यकाल के लिए भारत के 23वें विधि आयोग के गठन को मंजूरी दे दी है।

- (a) one
- (b) two

- (c) three
- (d) four
- (e) five

Ans. c

Sol. President Murmu approves constitution of 23rd Law Commission for three-year term

President Droupadi Murmu has approved the constitution of the 23rd Law Commission of India, with its term set from September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2027.

The commission will include a full-time chairperson, four members, and additional ex-officio and part-time members. The commission's mandate is to review and recommend legal reforms to enhance the Indian legal system.

The 22nd Law Commission's term ends 31 August 2024. The commission has been functioning without a chairperson for several months, delaying crucial reports, including those on the Uniform Civil Code and simultaneous elections.

In March 2024, Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, the then Chairman of the Law Commission, resigned after a 17-month tenure. While the report on simultaneous elections is ready, it cannot be submitted to the Law Ministry due to procedural requirements that stipulate the need for a chairperson.

87. Recently, which Small Finance Bank has submitted an application to the Reserve Bank of India to seek approval for the voluntary transition from a Small Finance Bank (SFB) to a Universal Bank?

हाल ही में, किस स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक ने स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक (एसएफबी) से यूनिवर्सल बैंक में स्वैच्छिक परिवर्तन के लिए अनुमोदन प्राप्त करने के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक को आवेदन प्रस्तुत किया है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank
- (e) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited

Ans. a

Sol. AU Small Finance Bank applies for transition to Universal Bank

AU Small Finance Bank has submitted an application to the Reserve Bank of India to seek approval for the voluntary transition from a Small Finance Bank (SFB) to a Universal Bank.

This application comes in the backdrop of Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB) amalgamating with and into AU SFB with effect from April 1, 2024, marking the first such consolidation in the SFB space.

In April 2024, the RBI issued a circular allowing the voluntary transition of Small Finance Banks to Universal Banks and AU SFB is the first Bank to seek regulatory approval for the transition.

To qualify, as per the RBI guidelines, SFBs need a five-year track record, strong financials, and a stock exchange listing among various other parameters.

88. Which state government recently introduced the "Brindavan Gram Scheme"?

हाल ही में किस राज्य सरकार ने "वृंदावन ग्राम योजना" शुरू की है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Punjab
- (e) Haryana

Ans. b

Sol. MP govt approves 'Brindavan Gram' scheme for rural areas

The Madhya Pradesh government has approved the 'Brindavan Gram' scheme, under which, 'gaushalas' and other schemes benefitting the villagers will be established.

This scheme is the flagship of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, a formal announcement was made on the occasion of Janmashtami.

The selected gram panchayats will be named – 'Brindavan Gram'. Madhya Pradesh has a total of 313 blocks, and one gram panchayat will be selected from each block. Gaushalas (cow sheds) will be established and milk production will be promoted.

About Madhya Pradesh

- Capital – Bhopal
- Chief Minister – Dr Mohan Yadav (replace Shivraj Singh Chauhan)
- Deputy CM - Jagdish Devda & Rajendra Shukla
- Speaker of Madhya Pradesh Assembly - Narendra Singh Tomar
- Governor – Mangubhai C. Patel

89. Which of the following states have recorded the highest growth in real gross state domestic product (GSDP) in FY24 among the 10 largest States ranked according to their GSDP?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने वित्त वर्ष 24 में अपने जीएसडीपी के अनुसार रैंक किए गए 10 सबसे बड़े राज्यों में वास्तविक सकल राज्य घरेलू उत्पाद (जीएसडीपी) में सबसे अधिक वृद्धि दर्ज की है?

- (i) Rajasthan
- (ii) Madhya Pradesh
- (iii) Uttar Pradesh
- (iv) Tamil Nadu
- (v) Telangana
- (vi) Andhra Pradesh

- (a) only i, ii and iii
- (b) only ii, iii and iv
- (c) only v, vi and i
- (d) only ii, iii and vi
- (e) only i, iv and v

Ans. e

Sol. Telangana, TN top in GSDP growth among 10 largest States

Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Rajasthan have recorded the highest growth in real gross state domestic product (GSDP) in FY24 among the 10 largest States ranked according to their GSDP.

This is revealed in the analysis of data on recent estimates put out by MoSPI.

In FY24, Telangana, the ninth biggest State, grew its economy at 9.2 percent to reach real GSDP of ₹7.9 lakh crore. This is faster than national GDP growth of 8.2 percent.

Tamil Nadu, which is the third largest State, grew its economy by 8.2 percent to reach ₹15.7 lakh crore in size. Rajasthan, at seventh spot, grew 8 percent.

Tamil Nadu's services sector, which holds 52 percent share in total GVA, grew 9 percent and Telangana's services sector with 63 percent share, grew 11 percent, MoSPI data show. Services underperformed in Maharashtra clocking just about 9 percent growth relative to 13 percent in FY23.

Maharashtra at ₹24.1 lakh crore real GSDP continues to be the largest economy in India.

Estimates for Gujarat, which was the second-largest in FY23, is not available yet, but based on its budget estimates, it is likely to hold second spot.

UP and Karnataka are neck-to-neck in fourth and fifth spot with UP's GSDP just ₹130 crore more than that of the latter.

90. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) for 2024-25?

2024-25 के लिए भारतीय विज्ञापन मानक परिषद (ASCI) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Gaurav Banerjee
- (b) Jetha Ahir
- (c) Partha Sinha
- (d) Amardeep Singh Bhatia
- (e) Rajesh Kumar Singh

Ans. c

Sol. Partha Sinha appointed as the new Chairman of ASCI

The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) has appointed Partha Sinha as its new Chairman for 2024-25.

Sinha is the President and Chief Brand Officer of Bennett Coleman & Company Limited.

Sinha, who has worked with companies like Ogilvy, Publicis, BBH, McCann, and Citibank, will take over from Saugata Gupta, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Marico Limited.

Recent Appointment

- **MD of Philips Indian subcontinent** - Bharath Sesha (replace Daniel Mazon)
- **Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** - V Satish Kumar (replace SM Vaidya)
- **Interim CMD of HPCL** - Rajneesh Narang (replace Pushp Kumar Joshi)
- **Chairman and CEO of Railway Board** - Satish Kumar (replace Jaya Varma Sinha)
- **Chairman of International Cricket Council (ICC)** - Jay Shah (replace Greg Barclay)

91. India will hold the second edition of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen from 11th to 13th September in which city?

भारत 11 से 13 सितंबर तक किस शहर में ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का दूसरा संस्करण आयोजित करेगा?

- (a) Chennai
- (b) Gandhinagar
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Chandigarh
- (e) Gurugram

Ans. c

Sol. India to hold 2nd edition of International Conference on Green Hydrogen from Sept 11-13

India will hold the second edition of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen from 11th to 13th September in New Delhi.

The goal of this three-day event is to deepen our understanding of the green hydrogen landscape and foster connections with global scientific communities and industries.

India as a whole also aims to reduce the emissions intensity of GDP by 45 per cent.

Finally, India commits to net-zero emissions by 2070.

New and Renewable Energy Minister - Pralhad Joshi

92. Celebrated football striker Luis Suarez has announced retirement from the national football team. He is from which country?

मशहूर फुटबॉल स्ट्राइकर लुइस सुआरेज़ ने राष्ट्रीय फुटबॉल टीम से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Germany
- (b) Argentina
- (c) Uruguay
- (d) France
- (e) Belgium

Ans. c

Sol. Luis Suarez retires from Uruguay national team

Celebrated football striker Luis Suarez is ending his historic run with the Uruguay national team.


The nation's all-time leading scorer with 69 goals, Suarez announced that he will retire from international duties following the FIFA 2026 World Cup qualifier against Paraguay in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Suarez has made 142 appearances for Uruguay, playing in four World Cups and winning the 2011 Copa America title.

In his debut MLS campaign, Suarez has posted two consecutive braces and is tied for third in the league with 16 goals through 20 matches for Inter Miami this season.

Recently Retired Players

- Barinder Sran (India) - International Cricket
- Shannon Gabriel (West Indies) - International Cricket

- Shikhar Dhawan (India) - All forms of Cricket
- Ilkay Gundogan (Germany) - International Football 
- Andy Murray (UK) – International Tennis
- PR Sreejesh (India) – International Hockey
- James Anderson (England) – International Test Cricket

93. The Global Textiles Expo—Bharat Tex 2025 will be held from February 14th to 17th next year in which city?

ग्लोबल टेक्सटाइल्स एक्सपो-भारत टेक्स 2025 अगले साल 14 से 17 फरवरी तक किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Kanpur
- (c) Greater Noida
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Faridabad

Ans. c

Sol. Global Textiles Expo Bharat Tex 2025 to held from February 14th to 17th next year
The Global Textiles Expo—Bharat Tex 2025 will be held from February 14th to 17th next year at Bharat Mandapam in the national capital and at the India Expo Centre and Mart in Greater Noida.

Over five thousand exhibitors and more than six thousand international buyers will participate in the Expo, which is a collaboration between the government and industry. The Expo focusses on the vision of 5F (Farm to Fibre, Fibre to Factory, Factory to Fashion, and Fashion to Foreign).

Through Bharat Tex, the Ministry of Textiles and industry stakeholders have created an umbrella that has attracted global attention.

Union Minister for Textiles - Giriraj Singh

94. Kapil Parmar has won bronze medal at Paris Paralympics 2024. He is related to which sport?

कपिल परमार ने पेरिस पैरालिंपिक 2024 में कांस्य पदक जीता है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Discus Throw
- (b) Club Throw
- (c) Shot put
- (d) Judo
- (e) Badminton

Ans. d

Sol. Kapil Parmar wins historic Judo bronze for India at Paralympics

At at Paris Paralympics 2024 India's JudoKa Kapil Parmar won bronze medal in Para Judo men's -60kg J1 category beating Brazil's Elielton de Oliveira .

This is the first medal in this event in India's history of Paralympics. The match ended in just 33 seconds.

Parmar produced a superlative performance, dominating his opponent from start to finish to record a 10-0 win in the bronze medal contest.

He had earlier lost to S Banitaba Khorram Abadi in the semifinals, beaten 0-10 by his Iranian opponent.

Parmar, who won the silver medal at the 2022 Asian Games in the same category, had earlier beaten Venezuela's Marco Dennis Blanco 10-0 in the quarterfinals.

The J1 class in para judo is for the athletes who suffer from no to very low visual activity. Athletes in this category wear red circles to indicate that they may need guided support before, during and after a contest.

95. In wrestling, Jyoti Berwal clinched a gold medal in the women's ____ freestyle category at the U20 World Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

कुश्ती में ज्योति बेरवाल ने स्पेन के पोटेवेद्रा में अंडर-20 विश्व चैंपियनशिप में महिलाओं की ____ फ्रीस्टाइल श्रेणी में स्वर्ण पदक जीता।

- (a) 52kg
- (b) 60kg
- (c) 65kg
- (d) 70kg
- (e) 76kg

Ans. e

Sol. Wrestler Jyoti Berwal wins gold medal in U20 World Championships

In wrestling, Jyoti Berwal clinched a gold medal in the women's 76 kg freestyle category at the U20 World Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

Jyoti defeated Ukraine's Mariia Orlevych in the final. On her way to the final, Jyoti defeated Mongolian, Chinese, and Turkish opponents.

This was India's second consecutive world U20 title in women's 76 kg after Priya Malik claimed it in the 2023 edition.

Indian grapplers won two more medals in the same category. Komal in 59 kg and Srithi in 68 kg bagged bronze medals.

96. Which insurance company has introduced India's first health insurance policy "Special Care Gold" in Braille to provide tailored health coverage for individuals with disabilities?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने विकलांग व्यक्तियों के लिए अनुकूलित स्वास्थ्य कवरेज प्रदान करने के लिए ब्रेल लिपि में भारत की पहली स्वास्थ्य बीमा पॉलिसी "स्पेशल केयर गोल्ड" पेश की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Star Health and Allied Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- (e) Universal Sampo General Insurance

Ans. b

Sol. Star Health launches India's first health insurance policy in Braille

Star Health and Allied Insurance has introduced an insurance policy in Braille.

This is aimed at empowering visually impaired individuals in India. This will allow the blind community to access health insurance information independently.

The new "Special Care Gold" policy provides tailored health coverage for individuals with disabilities.

The policy is designed to meet the specific needs of people with 40% or more disability, including physical, sensory, or cognitive impairments.

Star Health has also launched a financial inclusivity drive, offering visually impaired individuals the opportunity to become health insurance agents.

The initiative focuses on training and upskilling this marginalized group, allowing them to generate income while working from home.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Hitachi Payment launches Country's First Android-Based Cash Recycling Machine
- Razorpay launches DigiPOS – Elevating Apple Resellers In- Store Payment Experience
- ESAF Small Finance Bank to expand Dabba Savings Accounts campaign
- IOCL launched a co-branded credit card XTRA in partnership with RBL Bank.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank launches Inori RuPay Platinum Credit Card

97. The International Day of Charity is observed every on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दान दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 2 September
- (b) 3 September
- (c) 4 September
- (d) 5 September
- (e) 6 September

Ans. d

Sol. 5th September - International Day of Charity

The International Day of Charity is a global observance held annually on September 5th. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012.

The primary objective of this day is to increase awareness and create a shared platform for charity-related activities worldwide.

The International Day of Charity was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012, in response to a proposal by Hungary.

The date of September 5 was chosen to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who was a Nobel Peace Prize laureate for her work in helping the poor and sick. Mother Teresa was a Catholic nun who founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious congregation that provides care for the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying.

98. In September 2024, a 49-year-old swimmer, Siddhartha Agarwal became the oldest Indian swimmer to solo swim across the English Channel, completing the 42 km distance in 15 hours and six minutes, and surpassing the previous record held by Bengaluru's Srikanth Viswanathan, who was 46 years old. He is from which city?

सितंबर 2024 में, 49 वर्षीय तैराक सिद्धार्थ अग्रवाल इंग्लिश चैनल को अकेले पार करने वाले सबसे उम्रदराज भारतीय तैराक बन गए, उन्होंने 42 किलोमीटर की दूरी 15 घंटे और छह मिनट

में पूरी की और बेंगलुरु के श्रीकांत विश्वनाथन के पिछले रिकॉर्ड को पीछे छोड़ दिया, जो 46 साल के थे। वह किस शहर से हैं?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Guwahati
- (e) Mumbai

AnsG.1.(c)

Sol. Bengaluru's Siddhartha Aggarwal becomes oldest Indian to swim across English Channel solo

Siddhartha Agarwal, a 49-year-old swimmer from Bengaluru, has made history by becoming the oldest Indian to swim across the English Channel.

Agarwal successfully navigated the 42-km stretch between England and France, completing the grueling swim in an impressive 15 hours and six minutes.

Agarwal's quest in the freezing waters of the English Channel first began in 2018 when he crossed the Channel as part of an eight-member relay team. Incidentally, this was the same year when Srikanth Viswanathan, also from Bengaluru, entered the Limca Book of Records for becoming the oldest to swim the English Channel solo at the age of 46.

Six years later, Agarwal, affectionately known as "Sid" in the swimming community, surpassed his compatriot's record. The final 10 km of his swim presented the greatest challenge, as he battled rigid conditions and high tides, exacerbated by winds reaching approximately 25 miles per hour. Despite these obstacles, Agarwal successfully completed the swim, solidifying his place in the record books.

It was the mammoth preparations for the solo swim under a taskmaster of a coach Satish Kumar, a former international swimmer himself, that was the most challenging.

99. Who has launched the 'VisioNxt Fashion Forecasting Initiative' of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), and the India-specific Fashion Trend Book 'Paridhi 24x25'?

राष्ट्रीय फैशन प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (निफ्ट) की 'विज़ियोनेक्स्ट फैशन फोरकास्टिंग पहल' और भारत-विशिष्ट फैशन ट्रेंड बुक 'परिधि 24x25' को किसने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Piyush Goyal
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Ashwani Vaishnav
- (d) Giriraj Singh
- (e) Nitin Gadkari

Ans. d

Sol. Giriraj Singh launches India's first fashion forecasting initiative 'VisioNxt'

Union Minister of Textiles, Giriraj Singh has launched the 'VisioNxt Fashion Forecasting Initiative' of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), a bilingual web portal, and the India-specific Fashion Trend Book 'Paridhi 24x25'.

VisioNxt initiative will foster healthy global competition and elevate Indian culture and design to new heights on the global stage. The fashion industry will benefit from

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emotional Intelligence (EI) based trend insights offered by VisioNxt.

NIFT VisioNxt is India's first-ever initiative that combines AI and EI to generate fashion trend insights and forecasts. Its mission is to identify, map, and analyse geo-specific trends, reflecting the positive plurality, cultural diversity, and socio-economic nuances of India while collating comprehensive trends and insights.

VisioNxt—a Trend Insights and Forecasting Initiative—was conceived and established at NIFT Delhi (Creative Lab) and NIFT Chennai (Insights Lab), with the support of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, in 2018.

The initiative, now centralized in Chennai, focuses on delivering trend insights and forecasting for the Indian fashion and retail market. It also offers various trend related consultancy services, academic courses, workshops etc.

100. Indian Navy and which country's navy have signed an implementation agreement to enhance submarine rescue support cooperation?

भारतीय नौसेना और किस देश की नौसेना ने पनडुब्बी बचाव सहायता सहयोग बढ़ाने के लिए एक कार्यान्वयन समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Japan
- (b) South Africa
- (c) USA
- (d) Russia
- (e) France

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Navy and South African Navy sign agreement to enhance submarine rescue support cooperation

The navies of India and South Africa have signed an implementation agreement to enhance submarine rescue support cooperation that ensures the “safety of the South African Navy’s submarine crew in times of distress or accident.”

Under this agreement, the Indian Navy will provide assistance by deploying its Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV) when required, further strengthening the collaborative ties between the two navies.

The agreement was signed by Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi and Vice Admiral Monde Lobese, Chief of the South African Navy.

The DSRV is designed for ease of transportation in case of any exigency. For this purpose, the entire system has been divided into 24 components which can be easily transported by road, sea or air. The system is attached to a mother ship INS Sabarmati of the Ship Building Corporation, or it can also be transported by heavy transport aircraft like IL-76 and C-17.

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives sign Charter and MoU for establishment of Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat
- UAE and India sign MoU to strengthen public sector audit cooperation

- India and Ukraine sign agreements in agriculture, medicine, and cultural cooperation
- India-US ink pact for mutual supply of defence goods & services
- India-USA join hands to promote cooperation in MSMEs

101. President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 'National Teachers' Award to how many educators from across institutions, during a ceremony held at Vigyan Bhavan on the occasion of Teacher's Day?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने शिक्षक दिवस के अवसर पर विज्ञान भवन में आयोजित एक समारोह के दौरान विभिन्न संस्थानों के कितने शिक्षकों को 'राष्ट्रीय शिक्षक' पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया?

- (a) 49
- (b) 57
- (c) 82
- (d) 95
- (e) 101

Ans. c

Sol. President Murmu confers National Teachers Award 2024 to 82 teachers

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 'National Teachers' Award to 82 educators from across institutions, during a ceremony held at Vigyan Bhavan on the occasion of Teacher's Day.

50 of the total 82 awardees are attached with schools, 16 (higher education), and 16 (Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship).

Each award carries a certificate of merit, a cash award of 50 thousand rupees and a silver medal.

Among the recipients is Urfana Amin from Jammu & Kashmir, who teaches at BHSS Soura, Hawal, Srinagar. Amin, an expert in English, Entrepreneurship, and teacher training, provided radio classes during the COVID-19 pandemic and developed educational materials such as FLN modules and e-content for DIKSHA.

102. Which Small Finance Bank has partnered with Tarrakki, a new fintech platform, to develop and offer digital fixed deposits?

किस लघु वित्त बैंक ने डिजिटल सावधि जमा को विकसित करने और पेश करने के लिए एक नए फिनटेक प्लेटफॉर्म, टारराक्की के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank
- (e) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited

Ans. c

Sol. Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with Tarrakki to offer digital fixed deposits
Suryoday Small Finance Bank has partnered with Tarrakki, a new fintech platform, to develop and offer digital fixed deposits.

Through this relationship, Tarrakki will assist in developing tech products that surpass older systems, allowing SSFB to swiftly onboard new customers and offer digital fixed deposit products.

This collaboration will take the shape of software development kits (SDKs) and white-label services. Suryoday Small Finance Bank is a premier new-age digital bank in India, committed to digital products that improve client centricity.

This next-generation platform, driven by Tarrakki, will reduce the cost and time necessary for product launches by the bank and its partners.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Mastercard collaborates with Gramophone to Boost Credit Access for 2 mn Farmers in India
- ClearTax Join hands with Microsoft to Ease Tax Filing for Over 20 Mn Indian Gig Workers
- YES Bank inks pact with Newtap Finance to offer financing solutions
- Piramal Finance and Central Bank of India partner to reach underserved markets
- Tata Power Solar Systems, ICICI Bank partner to finance solar units
- Jakson Engineers Limited signs MoU with SBI to promote solar projects

103. Which bank has launched a fixed deposit scheme called 'Star Dhan Vriddhi Fixed Deposit' that will have a term limit of 333 days?

किस बैंक ने 'स्टार धन वृद्धि फिक्स्ड डिपॉजिट' नामक एक सावधि जमा योजना शुरू की है, जिसकी अवधि सीमा 333 दिन होगी?

- (a) Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Bank of Maharashtra
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Axis Bank

Ans. a

Sol. BOI launches 333-Day Star Dhan Vriddhi FD

Bank of India (BOI) has launched a fixed deposit scheme called 'Star Dhan Vriddhi Fixed Deposit' that will have a term limit of 333 days. These revised rates are effective September 1, 2024.

The Star Dhan Vriddhi Fixed Deposit offers an interest rate of 7.90 per cent per annum for the so-called super senior citizens.

Senior citizens can benefit from an interest rate of 7.75 per cent per annum, while the general public is offered a rate of 7.25 per cent per annum.

Customers can also avail of additional benefits such as loans against fixed deposit and premature withdrawal facilities, adding to the flexibility of this investment option.

Customers can open this fixed deposit through any Bank of India branch or via the BOI Omni Neo App and internet banking.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Star Health and Allied Insurance introduced India's first health insurance policy **"Special Care Gold"** in Braille
- Hitachi Payment launches Country's **First Android-Based Cash Recycling Machine**
- Razorpay launches **DigiPOS – Elevating Apple Resellers In-Store Payment Experience**
- ESAF Small Finance Bank to expand **Dabba Savings Accounts** campaign
- IOCL launched a co-branded **credit card XTRA** in partnership with RBL Bank.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank launches **Inori RuPay Platinum Credit Card**
- Tata AIA Life launches '**Sampoorna Raksha Promise**' product with ₹3 lakh instant payout feature

104. Recently, who was announced as the first Indian ambassador of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)?

हाल ही में, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय टेबल टेनिस महासंघ (आईटीटीएफ) के पहले भारतीय राजदूत के रूप में किसे घोषित किया गया?

- (a) Manu Bhaker
- (b) Sathiyam Gnanasekaran
- (c) Srihari Nataraj
- (d) Nikhat Zareen
- (e) Sharath Kamal

Ans. e

Sol. Sharath Kamal named first Indian ambassador of ITTF Foundation

Ace paddler Sharath Kamal has been named the first Indian ambassador of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Foundation.

The announcement was made during day 11 of the Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) season five at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium.

Sharath was elected to the ITTF's Athlete's Commission in November 2022. He will promote table tennis for development, especially among children from underprivileged backgrounds.

He holds the record for the most medals in Commonwealth Games history for table tennis, including 13 medals with three golds at the 2022 Birmingham Game.

105. Kotak General Insurance has re-branded itself as Zurich Kotak General Insurance, following the Zurich Insurance Group's acquisition of a majority stake in the insurer, which was completed on 18 June 2024. Who is the MD and CEO of Zurich Kotak General Insurance?

कोटक जनरल इश्योरेंस ने ज्यूरिख इश्योरेंस ग्रुप द्वारा बीमा कंपनी में बहुलांश हिस्सेदारी के अधिग्रहण के बाद, जो 18 जून 2024 को पूरा हुआ, ज्यूरिख कोटक जनरल इश्योरेंस के रूप में खुद को पुनः ब्रांड किया है। ज्यूरिख कोटक जनरल इश्योरेंस के एमडी और सीईओ कौन हैं?

- (a) Tapan Goyal
- (b) Suresh Agarwal
- (c) Ayush Agrawal
- (d) Shivali Singh

(e) Siddharth Agnihotri

Ans. b

Sol. Kotak General Insurance rebrands as Zurich Kotak General Insurance

Kotak General Insurance has re-branded itself as Zurich Kotak General Insurance, following the Zurich Insurance Group's acquisition of a majority stake in the insurer, which was completed on 18 June 2024.

Reflecting the shared vision of the Zurich Kotak entity, the new brand symbolizes the collective commitment to trust, innovation, integrity, and customer excellence.

The legal name of the entity changes from Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited to Zurich Kotak General Insurance Company (India) Limited.

Zurich Kotak General Insurance is fully committed to fostering the development and expansion of India's insurance sector in keeping with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) goal of achieving "Insurance for All" by 2047.

MD and CEO of Zurich Kotak General Insurance - Suresh Agarwal

106. India's Ajeet Singh and Sundar Singh Gurjar won the silver and bronze medals, respectively, at the Paris Paralympics 2024. Both of them are related to which sport?

भारत के अजीत सिंह और सुंदर सिंह गुर्जर ने पेरिस पैरालिंपिक 2024 में क्रमशः रजत और कांस्य पदक जीते। ये दोनों किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

(a) Javelin throw

(b) Shot put

(c) Discus throw

(d) Archery

(e) Shooting

Ans. a

Sol. Ajeet Singh clinches silver medal in javelin throw, Sundar Singh Gurjar wins bronze at Paris Paralympics

India's Ajeet Singh and Sundar Singh Gurjar won the silver and bronze medals, respectively, in the men's javelin throw F46 class at the Paris 2024 Paralympics.

Ajeet Singh, 30, won the silver medal with his penultimate throw of the night which measured 65.62m at the Stade de France.

Sundar Singh Gurjar was in second position after his fourth throw landed at 64.96m but was pushed down to third after Ajeet Singh's late comeback.

Cuba's Guillermo Varona Gonzalez hit the 66.14m mark on his second throw and went on to win the gold medal.

107. In September 2024, The IRDAI has asked insurance companies to enable their IT systems to interact with Digilocker, allowing policyholders to use the service effectively. Which among the following statement(s) is/are CORRECT in context of the same?

(i). According to the circular only general insurers are mandated to provide an essential summary of important information.

(ii) Insurers have to provide a customer information sheet (CIS) for all insurance segments, outlining key policy features, benefits, and exclusions.

(iii) Both life and general insurers will give policyholders a 20-day free look period to review the terms and conditions of the policy.

- (a) only i
- (b) only ii
- (c) Both i and ii
- (d) Both ii and iii
- (e) all are correct

Ans. b

Sol. IRDAI asks insurance companies to integrate IT systems with Digilocker

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has asked insurance companies to enable their IT systems to interact with Digilocker, allowing policyholders to use the service effectively.

Both life and general insurers are mandated to provide an essential summary of important information at different stages of the insurance contract.

In its Master Circular on Protection of Policyholders' Interests under the Irdai (Protection of Policyholders' Interests, Operations, and Allied Matters of Insurers) Regulations, 2024, replacing 30 circulars, the regulator consolidated policyholder entitlements into a single reference document and emphasised measures towards providing a seamless, faster, and hassle-free claims settlement experience to a policyholder and enhance service standards to foster a climate of trust and transparency within the insurance sector. This includes guidance for prospects, policyholders, and customers prior to sale, at the proposal stage, upon receiving policy documents, during the policy's term.

Insurers have to provide a customer information sheet (CIS) for all insurance segments, outlining key policy features, benefits, and exclusions.

The proposal form and CIS must be made available in regional languages upon the customer's request. Both life and general insurers will give policyholders a 30-day free look period to review the terms and conditions of the policy.

108. Michel Barnier, who was seen in the news recently, is the Prime Minister of which country?

हाल ही में खबरों में रहे मिशेल बार्नियर किस देश के प्रधानमंत्री हैं?

- (a) Spain
- (b) France
- (c) USA
- (d) Ukraine
- (e) Russia

Ans. b

Sol. President Emmanuel Macron appoints Michel Barnier as new French PM

French President Emmanuel Macron appointed Michel Barnier, the European Union's former Brexit negotiator, as his new prime minister.

Michel Barnier led the EU's talks with Britain over its exit from the bloc from 2016-2021. Prior to that, the conservative politician held roles in various French governments and was also EU Commissioner.

At 73, Barnier is the oldest prime minister in France's modern political history, taking over from Gabriel Attal, who was the youngest.

About France

- **Capital-** Paris
- **President-** Emmanuel Macron
- **Prime Minister-** Michel Barnier
- **Official language-** French

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- PM of Thailand - Paetongtarn Shinawatra (youngest PM of country)
- President of Rwanda - Paul Kagame (4th time)
- PM of Bulgaria - Goritsa Gruncharova-Kozhareva
- PM of Tunisia - Kamel Madouri
- Head of Bangladesh's interim government - Muhammad Yunus
- President of Iran - Masoud Pezeshkian

109. In September 2024, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and which organization signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to collaborate on strengthening systems and engaging communities for social change?

सितंबर 2024 में, पंचायती राज मंत्रालय और किस संगठन ने सामाजिक परिवर्तन के लिए प्रणालियों को मजबूत करने और समुदायों को शामिल करने पर सहयोग करने के लिए एक आशय पत्र (LoI) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- United Nations Populations Fund
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
- United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization and
- World Bank

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Panchayati Raj and UNICEF signed Letter of Intent to strengthen Systems for Social Change

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj and UNICEF India signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to collaborate on strengthening systems and engaging communities for social change.

This partnership aims to set up and institutionalize mechanisms for effective communication between the Ministry, Elected Representatives & Field Functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Rural Communities.

The collaboration will help accelerate progress on localized Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by enabling better communication with citizens, particularly women and children and improving the delivery of services to rural citizens.

About United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

- **Founded - 1946**

- Headquarters - New York City, USA
- Director General - Catherine M. Russell
- Membership - 192

110. Star athlete Praveen Kumar bagged a gold medal in the Men's High Jump T64 final with a brilliant effort of _____ at the Paris Paralympic Games 2024.

स्टार एथलीट प्रवीण कुमार ने पेरिस पैरालंपिक गेम्स 2024 में _____ के शानदार प्रयास के साथ पुरुषों की ऊंची कूद T64 फाइनल में स्वर्ण पदक जीता।

- (a) 1.08m
- (b) 2.88m
- (c) 2.08m
- (d) 2.18m
- (e) 2.28m

Ans. c

Sol. Praveen Kumar wins gold medal in Men's High Jump T64 final

At the Paris Paralympic Games, star athlete Praveen Kumar bagged a gold medal in the Men's High Jump T64 final.

Praveen secured the top spot on the podium with a brilliant effort of 2.08m, setting a new Area record. In a tightly contested final, Praveen made seven successful jumps in a row to claim the number one position.

Loccident Derek of the USA won the silver medal, while Giyazov Temurbek of Uzbekistan took home the bronze.

111. Hokato Hotozhe Sema won the bronze medal in the men's F57 shot put event in Paris Paralympic 2024. He is from which state?

होकाटो होटोज़े सेमा ने पेरिस पैरालंपिक 2024 में पुरुषों की F57 शॉट पुट स्पर्धा में कांस्य पदक जीता। वह किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Nagaland
- (e) Andaman Nicobar

Ans. d

Sol. Hokato Hotozhe Sema on winning bronze medal in Men's F57 shot put

Hokato Hotozhe Sema has won the bronze medal in the men's F57 shot put event in Paris Paralympic 2024.

The 40-year-old from Dimapur made himself the first-ever medallist from Nagaland to win a bronze at the Paralympic Games for shotput, with a career-best throw of 14.65 meters.

Hokato, a Havildar with 9 Assam Regiment, reportedly lost his leg due to a landmine explosion during an operation at the Line of Control in 2002. Currently, he is ranked 7th in the world.

112. Legend Luis Ayala passed away recently at the age of 91. He was related to which sport?

दिग्गज लुइस अयाला का हाल ही में 91 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस खेल से संबंधित थे?

- (a) Cricket
- (b) Football
- (c) Tennis
- (d) Badminton
- (e) Hockey

Ans. c

Sol. Tennis Legend Luis Ayala passes away

Chilean tennis legend Luis Ayala, who reached two French Open finals, has died at the age of 91.

Ayala, a Santiago native, was a prominent figure in the sport and won 46 singles titles throughout his career, including significant achievements on clay courts.

Ayala, born in Santiago, was an iconic figure in his home country's sport scene. Over his illustrious career, he secured 46 singles titles and was celebrated for his prowess on clay courts, notably being a finalist at Roland Garros in 1958 and 1960.

113. Consider the following points about the AgriSure Fund for Agriculture Start-ups that was recently launched by Shivraj Singh Chouhan-

- (i) The fund will be managed by NABARD (National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development).
- (ii) The AgriSure Fund or Agri Fund for Start-ups & Rural Enterprises is a Category -II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) registered with the Reserve Bank of India.
- (iii) The total corpus of the AgriSure Fund will be Rs 750 crore.
- (iv) The Fund is a closed-ended scheme and has a duration of 5 years which can be extended by 2 years.

How many of the point(s) is/are INCORRECT?

- (a) only one
- (b) only two
- (c) only three
- (d) all are correct
- (e) all are incorrect

Ans. b

Sol. Shivraj Singh Chouhan launches AgriSure Fund for Agriculture Start ups

The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Minister for Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, launched the AgriSURE fund in New Delhi.

The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in her 2022-23 Union Budget speech, announced the creation of a dedicated fund to finance startups for agriculture and rural enterprises.

About AgriSure Fund

- The AgriSure Fund or Agri Fund for Start-ups & Rural Enterprises is a Category -II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) registered with the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- The fund will be managed by NABARD.
- It will be under the regulation of the capital market regulator SEBI.
- The total corpus of the AgriSure Fund will be Rs 750 crore. The government of India, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, will contribute Rs 250 crore, NABARD will contribute Rs 250 crore, and banks, insurance companies, private investors, etc., will invest the rest of the amount.
- The Fund is a closed ended scheme and has a duration of 10 years which can be extended by 2 years.
- The Fund targets to support about 85 Start-ups by the end of the Fund life with maximum investment of Rs 25 crore under the two schemes of the Fund.

114. Which state government has signed an MoU with the World Trade Centres' Association for the establishment of a World Trade Centre in the proposed AI City?

किस राज्य सरकार ने प्रस्तावित एआई सिटी में विश्व व्यापार केंद्र की स्थापना के लिए विश्व व्यापार केंद्र संघ के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Karnataka
- (e) Maharashtra

Ans. a

Sol. Telangana signs MoU for World Trade Centre at AI City

Telangana government has signed an MoU with the World Trade Centres' Association for the establishment of a World Trade Centre in the proposed AI City near Hyderabad.

The WTC at AI City will feature 1 million square feet of built-up space to house firms at the forefront of AI and emerging technologies.

World-class office spaces, trade services, training facilities, retail and entertainment zones, co-living spaces, a luxury hotel and primary healthcare facilities will form part

of the campus, in line with a vision to develop an integrated mini smart city embodying the walk-to-work concept.

The event featured more than 2,500 delegates, over 20 renowned speakers from around the world and provided a forum for major announcements, including the AI City.

About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – Revanth Reddy (replace K. Chandrashekar Rao)
- **Deputy CM** - Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- **Governor** – C. P. Radhakrishnan

115. According to a new report from Counterpoint Research, India has emerged as the world's second-largest market for 5G smartphones overtaking the US.

Which among the following countries has the largest market for 5G smartphones?

काउंटरपॉइंट रिसर्च की एक नई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत अमेरिका को पछाड़कर 5G स्मार्टफोन के लिए दुनिया का दूसरा सबसे बड़ा बाजार बन गया है। निम्नलिखित में से किस देश में 5G स्मार्टफोन का सबसे बड़ा बाजार है?

- (a) China
- (b) USA
- (c) Japan
- (d) South Korea
- (e) Vietnam

Ans. a

Sol. India emerges as second-largest global 5G smartphone market, overtakes US According to a new report from Counterpoint Research, India has emerged as the world's second-largest market for 5G smartphones, trailing only behind China. 5G smartphones are becoming increasingly prominent across various price ranges in India.

India became the second-biggest 5G handset market during the first half, overtaking the US.

The strong shipments from Xiaomi, Vivo, Samsung, and other brands in the budget segment were the main reasons for this trend. China maintains the leading position with a 32 per cent share of the global 5G smartphone market, while India holds 13 per cent.

116. Which Small Finance Bank has partnered with state-owned United India Insurance Company (UIIC) to distribute general insurance solutions to the bank's customers?

किस लघु वित्त बैंक ने बैंक के ग्राहकों को सामान्य बीमा समाधान वितरित करने के लिए राज्य के स्वामित्व वाली यूनाइटेड इंडिया इश्योरेंस कंपनी (UIIC) के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank
- (e) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited

Ans. a

Sol. AU Small Finance inks pact with United India Insurance Co for distribution of insurance products

AU Small Finance Bank has partnered with state-owned United India Insurance Company (UIIC) to distribute general insurance solutions to the bank's customers. It includes motor insurance, personal accident insurance, crop insurance, property insurance, shopkeeper insurance, cyber incident insurance, and more.

This collaboration positions AU SFB as a preferred choice for its diverse customer base across 21 states and 4 union territories, offering reliable and affordable general insurance solutions.

The partnership leverages UIIC's vast network of branches in over 1,000 tier 2 and tier 3 locations, aligning with AU SFB's expanding infrastructure and growing customer portfolio.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Max Life Insurance Company Ltd partnered with CSB bank to boost insurance reach and market growth, aligning with their strategic goals
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with Tarrakki to offer digital fixed deposits
- Mastercard collaborates with Gramophone to Boost Credit Access for 2 mn Farmers in India
- ClearTax Join hands with Microsoft to Ease Tax Filing for Over 20 Mn Indian Gig Workers
- YES Bank inks pact with Newtap Finance to offer financing solutions
- Piramal Finance and Central Bank of India partner to reach underserved markets

117. Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. (Max Life) has partnered with which bank to boost insurance reach and market growth, aligning with their strategic goals?

मैक्स लाइफ इंश्योरेंस कंपनी लिमिटेड (मैक्स लाइफ) ने अपने रणनीतिक लक्ष्यों के अनुरूप बीमा पहुंच और बाजार विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) DSB Bank
- (b) CSB Bank
- (c) Citi Bank
- (d) Yes Bank
- (e) Axis Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Max Life enters into bancassurance partnership with CSB Bank

Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. (Max Life) has entered into a bancassurance partnership with CSB Bank (CSB), a private sector bank in India.

The partnership plans to incorporate Max Life's insurance products into CSB Bank's channels, giving customers easy access to insurance alongside banking services.

CSB Bank is one of Kerala's oldest private banks, with 801 branches in the country.

This collaboration uses the strengths of both Max Life and CSB Bank to boost insurance reach and market growth, aligning with their strategic goals.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with Tarrakki to offer digital fixed deposits
- Mastercard collaborates with Gramophone to Boost Credit Access for 2 mn Farmers in India
- ClearTax Join hands with Microsoft to Ease Tax Filing for Over 20 Mn Indian Gig Workers
- YES Bank inks pact with Newtap Finance to offer financing solutions
- Piramal Finance and Central Bank of India partner to reach underserved markets

118. _____ were recently honoured in Time magazine's prestigious "100 Most Influential People in AI 2024" list.

_____ को हाल ही में टाइम पत्रिका की प्रतिष्ठित "एआई 2024 में 100 सबसे प्रभावशाली लोगों" की सूची में सम्मानित किया गया।

- (a) Ashwini Vaishnaw and Anil Kapoor
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw and Shashi Tharoor
- (c) Rahul Gandhi and Anil Kapoor
- (d) Amitabh Bachchan and Alia Bhatt

(e) Ashwini Vaishnaw and Nitin Gadkari

Ans. a

Sol. Ashwini Vaishnaw, Anil Kapoor among Times 100 most influential people in AI Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw and actor Anil Kapoor are among Indians who have been honoured in Time magazine's prestigious list of the 100 "Most Influential People in AI 2024".

The list highlights the most impactful figures in the field of artificial intelligence (AI). The list features a diverse group of global figures, from tech titans to researchers, policymakers, and artists. Some of the most prominent names include:

- Sundar Pichai: CEO of Google and Alphabet
- Satya Nadella: CEO of Microsoft
- Sam Altman: CEO of OpenAI
- Jensen Huang: CEO of Nvidia
- Rohit Prasad: SVP and head scientist of Artificial General Intelligence at Amazon.

119. In September 2024, _____ based Fintech Paysharp has received final authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to act as a payment aggregator (PA).

सितंबर 2024 में, _____ आधारित फिनटेक पेशार्प को भुगतान एग्रीगेटर (पीए) के रूप में कार्य करने के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आरबीआई) से अंतिम प्राधिकरण प्राप्त हुआ है।

(a) Bengaluru

(b) Chennai

(c) Kochi

(d) Mumbai

(e) Kolkata

Ans. b

Sol. Paysharp received final authorisation from RBI to act as a payment aggregator Chennai based Fintech Paysharp has received final authorisation from the Reserve Bank Of India (RBI) to act as a payment aggregator (PA).

Paysharp is an existing PA, which received RBI final authorisation on 30th August 2024 followed by the in-principal PA license on December 2022.

Paysharp is a 5 years old startup, raised two rounds of funding sum of 23 crores, last funding round was on March 2023 with the valuation of 200 crores. Paysharp holds ISO 27001:2022 and SOC 2 accreditations.

With RBI's final PA authorization, Paysharp is part of Indi's Payment System, it helps Paysharp to extend to more merchants. Paysharp is one of authorised Payment

Aggregator from Tamil Nadu. As on date RBI has authorized 36 payment aggregators including Razorpay, Cashfree and Stripe.

Paysharp is providing flat pricing to merchant's alternative to percentage based pricing followed by other PAs. Paysharp is focusing on non-card-based payments like UPI and Virtual account-based solution for NEFT / IMPS / RTGS collection. Paysharp also provides products such as Link Payment and Payment Pages powered by UPI.

120. Who among the following has been named India's flag-bearers for the closing ceremony of the Paris Paralympic Games?

निम्नलिखित में से किसे पेरिस पैरालंपिक खेलों के समापन समारोह के लिए भारत का ध्वजवाहक नामित किया गया है?

(i) Harvinder Singh

(ii) Sheetal Devi

(iii) Preeti Pal

(iv) Avani Lekhara

(a) only i and ii

(b) Only ii and iii

(c) Only iii and iv

(d) Only iv and i

(e) Only i and iii

Ans. e

Sol. Harvinder, Preeti named India's flag-bearers for Paralympics closing ceremony Gold medal-winning archer Harvinder Singh and sprinter Preeti Pal, who made history by becoming the first Indian woman to win two medals at the Paralympics, have been named India's flag bearers for the closing ceremony of the Paris Paralympic Games.

Harvinder, 33, etched his name in history as the first Indian archer to clinch a gold at the Paralympics, adding to the bronze he secured in Tokyo in 2021.

Preeti, 23, achieved a milestone by securing bronze medals in the women's T35 100m and 200m races, with personal best times of 14.21 and 30.01 seconds, respectively.

Satya Prakash Sangwan, the chef de mission of the Indian contingent, highlighted the significance of their achievements and their impact on future generations.

121. In wrestling, Nitika won the silver medal in the women's ___ freestyle category at the U20 World Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

कुश्ती में, नितिका ने स्पेन के पोंटेवेद्रा में अंडर-20 विश्व चैंपियनशिप में महिलाओं की ___ फ्रीस्टाइल श्रेणी में रजत पदक जीता।

(a) 50kg

(b) 52kg

- (c) 55kg
- (d) 60kg
- (e) 62kg

Ans. e

Sol. Nitika wins silver medal in women's 62 kg freestyle category at U20 World Championships

In wrestling, Nitika won the silver medal in the women's 62 kg freestyle category at the U20 World Championships in Pontevedra, Spain. She lost to Ukrainian wrestler Iryna Bondar 1-4 in the final.

Last year, Nitika won a gold medal at the U20 Asian Championships.

Neha clinched the bronze medal, beating Hungarian grappler Gerda Terek 10-8 in the women's 57 kg freestyle division. She had won the yellow metal in the U17 World Championships last month.

122. India has carried out a successful launch of an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-4, from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha. The Agni missiles are long-range _____ ballistic missiles developed by India.

भारत ने ओडिशा के चांदीपुर स्थित एकीकृत परीक्षण रेंज से मध्यम दूरी की बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल अग्नि-4 का सफल प्रक्षेपण किया है। अग्नि मिसाइलें भारत द्वारा विकसित लंबी दूरी की _____ बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल हैं।

- (a) surface-to-surface
- (b) surface-to-air
- (c) air-to-surface
- (d) air-to-air
- (e) None of above

Ans. a

Sol. India successfully carries out launch of Agni-4 ballistic missile at Chandipur
India has carried out a successful launch of an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-4, from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.

In April this year, India successfully tested the new-generation nuclear-capable Agni-Prime ballistic missile from the Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha. It met all the trial objectives, validating its reliable performance.

The Agni missiles are long-range, nuclear weapons-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missiles developed by India.

123. In September 2024, which Indian Navy's frontline warship participated in the 22nd edition of India-France Bilateral Exercise VARUNA in the Mediterranean Sea?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारतीय नौसेना के किस अग्रिम पंक्ति के युद्धपोत ने भूमध्य सागर में भारत-फ्रांस द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास वरुण के 22वें संस्करण में भाग लिया?

- (a) INS Satpura
- (b) INS Sahyadri
- (c) INS Suvarna
- (d) INS Tabar
- (e) INS Karma

Ans. d

Sol. INS Tabar participates in 22nd Indo French VARUNA naval exercise in Mediterranean

The Indian Navy's frontline warship INS Tabar participated in the 22nd edition of India-France Bilateral Exercise VARUNA in the Mediterranean Sea.

The Indian Navy was represented by the shipborne helicopter LRMR Aircraft P8I, whereas the French side was represented by FS Provence, Submarine Suffren, Aircraft F20, Atlantique 2, fighters MB339, and helicopters NH90, Dauphin.

VARUNA highlights the commitment of Indian and French Navies towards enhancing interoperability through collaborative efforts.

The bilateral exercise VARUNA began in 2001 to strengthen the India-France relationship and has evolved significantly over the years towards exchanging best practices.

124. Where was the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative launched by the Prime Minister virtually in September 2024?

सितंबर 2024 में प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा वर्चुअली जल संचय जन भागीदारी पहल कहाँ शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Gandhinagar
- (c) Surat
- (d) Jaisalmer
- (e) Gurugram

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi virtually launches Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually launched the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari initiative in Surat, Gujarat in the presence of Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti CR Patil and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

About the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative

- The Jan Sanchay and Jan Bhagidari Initiative is a joint scheme of the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Gujarat government.

- The initiative aims to enhance the state's water conservation efforts by constructing rainwater harvesting structures across the state and recharging the underground aquifers.
- The initiative aims to construct around 24,800 rainwater harvesting structures across the state.
- The initiative seeks to build upon the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti's "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" scheme.

125. The Uttar Pradesh Forest Department has set up the first conservation and breeding centre for the Asian King Vulture in collaboration with whom?

उत्तर प्रदेश वन विभाग ने किसके सहयोग से एशियाई किंग वल्चर के लिए पहला संरक्षण और प्रजनन केंद्र स्थापित किया है?

- (a) **Bombay Natural History Society**
- (b) **Maritime History Society**
- (c) **Naturalis Foundation**
- (d) **World Wide Fund For Nature India**
- (e) **Both a and d**

Ans. a

Sol. World's 1st breeding centre for Asian King Vultures inaugurated in UP
 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated the Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre in the Bharivaisi, Campierganj Range of the Gorakhpur Forest Division. It is the world's first conservation and breeding centre for the Asian King Vulture or the red-headed vulture.

The Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, in collaboration with the Bombay Natural History Society, has established the Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre in Maharajganj.

The Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre spread over 1.5 hectares of land in the Gorakhpur Forest division, was built for Rs 2.8 crore.

The centre has multiple bird cages, a nursery for juveniles, a hospital and recovery facility for birds needing medical help, and a food processing centre.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

126. Navdeep Singh won a gold in the men's javelin throw F41 class at Paris Paralympics 2024 with a new Paralympic record of ____.

नवदीप सिंह ने पेरिस पैरालिंपिक 2024 में पुरुषों की भाला फेंक F41 वर्ग में ____ के नए पैरालिंपिक रिकॉर्ड के साथ स्वर्ण पदक जीता।

- (a) 47.32m
- (b) 48.32m
- (c) 49.32m
- (d) 50.32m
- (e) 51.32m

Ans. a

Sol. Navdeep Singh wins gold medal at the Paris Paralympics

Navdeep Singh won a gold in the men's javelin throw F41 class at Paris 2024 with a new Paralympic record of 47.32m to register India's first-ever medal in the category. Navdeep's medal-winning throw eclipsed the previous Paralympic record of 47.13m, set by Sun Pengxiang of the People's Republic of China at Tokyo 2020.

Although Sadegh Beit Sayah of the Islamic Republic of Iran pipped the Indian athlete with a throw of 47.64m in his penultimate attempt, he was later disqualified due to a breach of rules pertaining to unsporting or improper conduct.

127. On which day is the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies commemorated annually?

नीले आसमान के लिए स्वच्छ वायु का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 September
- (b) 7 September
- (c) 8 September
- (d) 9 September
- (e) 10 September

Ans. b

Sol. 7th September - International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies

The International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies is commemorated annually on 7 September.

Objective - To raise awareness and drive action on combating air pollution.

By resolution 74/212 of 22 January 2020, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) designated the Day to emphasize the need to make further efforts to improve air quality, including reducing air pollution, to protect human health.

According to the Health Effects Institute, there were 8.1 million deaths due to air pollution in 2021. Poor air quality is the biggest external threat to health, according to the Air Quality Life Index (AQLI).

128. How many medals have been won by India at the 17th Paralympic Games in Paris?

पेरिस में आयोजित 17वें पैरालंपिक खेलों में भारत ने कितने पदक जीते हैं?

- (a) 29 medals- 7 Gold, 8 Silver, and 14 Bronze

| S.No | Para-Athletes | Sport | Event | Medal |
|---------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------------|--------|
| GOLD Medal | | | | |
| 1 | Avani Lakhera | Shooting | Women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 | Gold |
| 2 | Nitesh Kumar | Badminton | Men's singles SL3 class | Gold |
| 3 | Sumit Antil | Athletics | Javelin throw F64 | Gold |
| 4 | Harvinder Singh | Archery | Men's individual recurve open | Gold |
| 5 | Dharambir | Athletics | Men's club throw F51 class | Gold |
| 6 | Praveen Kumar | Athletics | Men's high jump T 64 | Gold |
| 7 | Navdeep Singh | Athletics | Men's javelin throw F41 | Gold |
| SILVER Medal | | | | |
| 1 | Manish Narwal | Shooting | Men's 10m air pistol SH1 | Silver |
| 2 | Nishad Kumar | Athletics | Men's high jump T47 | Silver |
| 3 | Yogesh Kathuniya | Athletics | Men's discus throw F56 | Silver |
| 4 | Thulasimathi Murugesan | Badminton | Women's singles SU5 | Silver |
| 5 | Suhas Yathiraj | Badminton | Men's singles SL4 | Silver |
| 6 | Sharad Kumar | Athletics | Men's high jump T63 | Silver |
| 7 | Ajeet Singh | Athletics | Men's javelin throw F46 | Silver |
| 8 | Sachin Khilari | Athletics | Men's shot put F46 | Silver |
| 9 | Pranav Soorma | Athletics | Men's club throw F51 class | Silver |
| BRONZE Medal | | | | |
| 1 | Mona Agarwal | Shooting | Women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 | Bronze |
| 2 | Preethi Pal | Athletics | Women's 100m T35 | Bronze |
| 3 | Rubina Francis | Shooting | Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1 | Bronze |
| 4 | Preethi Pal | Athletics | Women's 200m T35 | Bronze |
| 5 | Manisha Ramadass | Badminton | Women's singles SU5 | Bronze |
| 6 | Rakesh Kumar & Sheetal Devi | Archery | Mixed team compound open | Bronze |

| | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------|
| 7 | Nithya Sre Sivan | Badminton | Women's singles SH6 | Bronze |
| 8 | Deepthi Jeevanji | Athletics | Women's 400m T20 | Bronze |
| 9 | Mariyappan Thangavelu | Athletics | Men's high jump T63 | Bronze |
| 10 | Sundar Singh Gurjar | Athletics | Men's javelin throw F46 | Bronze |
| 11 | Kapil Parmar | Judo | Men's Judo -60kg J1 Class | Bronze |
| 12 | Hokato Hotozhe Sema | Athletics | Men's shot put F57 | Bronze |
| 13 | Simran | Athletics | Women's 200m T12 | Bronze |

(b) 29 medals- 8 Gold, 8 Silver, and 13 Bronze

(c) 29 medals- 8 Gold, 9 Silver, and 12 Bronze

(d) 29 medals- 8 Gold, 10 Silver, and 11 Bronze

(e) 29 medals- 7 Gold, 9 Silver, and 13 Bronze

Ans. e

Sol. India secures record 29 medals at Paris Paralympics 2024

The Indian contingent concluded its historic Paris Paralympics campaign with 29 medals, including seven gold, nine silver, and 13 bronze medals, marking the country's best performance in the competition's history.

India also crossed the 50-medal mark in Paralympic Games history with this impressive performance.

With this landmark achievement, India has surpassed its previously most successful campaign at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics, where they secured 19 medals, including five golds, eight silver, and six bronze medals.

A record 84 para-athletes represented the tricolour from August 28 to the conclusion of the event, competing across 12 disciplines, compared to just nine in Tokyo 2020.

India also made its debut in three sports in Paris: paracycling, para rowing, and blind judo.

The 29 medals were won across five sports, with a remarkable 17 coming from track and field events. This ensured that India finished in the top 20 of the medal standings at the mega-event, which was once again dominated by China.

China topped the Paralympics medals table with 220 medals, including 94 golds.

China has led the medal standings at every Paralympics since Athens 2004. Great Britain finished second in Paris with 49 golds, followed by the United States, which claimed 36 titles.

| Position | Country | Gold Medal | Silver Medal | Bronze Medal | Total Medal |
|----------|---------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1 | China | 94 | 74 | 50 | 220 |
| 2 | Great Britain | 49 | 44 | 31 | 124 |
| 3 | USA | 36 | 42 | 27 | 105 |
| 4 | Netherlands | 27 | 17 | 12 | 56 |
| 5 | Brazil | 25 | 26 | 38 | 89 |
| 18 | India | 7 | 9 | 13 | 29 |

Complete List of Medal winners of India Medal's Tally

129. In September 2024, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi announced that the state's second AIIMS will be built in _____.

सितंबर 2024 में, ओडिशा के मुख्यमंत्री मोहन चरण माझी ने घोषणा की कि राज्य का दूसरा एम्स _____ में बनाया जाएगा।

- (a) Cuttack
- (b) Bhubaneswar
- (c) Puri
- (d) Rourkela
- (e) Sambalpur

Ans. e

Sol. Odisha's second AIIMS will come up in Sambalpur

Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has announced that the state's second AIIMS will be built in Sambalpur.

The state got its first All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in 2014 during the UPA regime.

Meanwhile, Majhi also launched 'CM-KISAN Yojana' on the occasion of the Nuakhai festival at Odisha's Sambalpur.

The scheme aims to provide 925 crores financial assistance to 46 lakhs small and marginal farmers who are not covered under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) yojana.

Eligible farmers will receive a total of Rs 4,000 in two phases. The first instalment of Rs 2,000 will be distributed on Nuakhai, which begins from September 8, and the remaining Rs 2,000 will be provided on Akshaya Tritiya.

About Odisha

- **Capital** – Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Mohan Charan Majhi (replace Naveen Patnaik)
- **Deputy CM** - KV Singhdeo and Pravati Parida
- **Governor** – Raghubar Das
- **Legislative Assembly Seat** - 147

130. In September 2024, The Indian Army and Indian Air Force signed an MoU with _____, to enhance the skills and capability building of their personnel, and this monumental partnership towards further strengthening the logistics backbone of the Armed Forces in sync with the vision of 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence.

सितंबर 2024 में, भारतीय सेना और भारतीय वायु सेना ने अपने कर्मियों के कौशल और क्षमता निर्माण को बढ़ाने के लिए _____ के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए, और रक्षा में 'आत्मनिर्भरता' के दृष्टिकोण के अनुरूप सशस्त्र बलों की रसद रीढ़ को और मजबूत करने की दिशा में यह महत्वपूर्ण साझेदारी है।

- (a) National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
- (b) National Highways Authority of India
- (c) Rail India Technical and Economic Service
- (d) Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya
- (e) Larsen & Toubro

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Army & Indian Air Force ink MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya

To enhance the skills and capability building of their personnel, the Indian Army and Indian Air Force signed an MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, Vadodara in the presence of Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh and Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi.

The MoU will enable the two Services to acquire higher expertise in logistics. It will ensure the development of in-house expertise on various facets of logistics operations and contribute effectively towards the national development plans - PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan 2021 and National Logistics Policy 2022.

Raksha Mantri described the collaboration as a monumental partnership towards further strengthening the logistics backbone of the Armed Forces in sync with the vision of 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence. He emphasized that logistics is no longer just a support function of the Armed Forces, but is emerging as an important factor in military operations and national security.

Recent MoU

- Ministry of Panchayati Raj and UNICEF signed Letter of Intent to strengthen Systems for Social Change
- Visa and the Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council inked a 3-year partnership of up to \$1 million USD
- ICAR-CIFE and VAMNICOM Sign MoU to Enhance Cooperative Management in Fisheries
- Petronet LNG (PLL) has entered into an MoU with LTL Holdings of Sri Lanka, for supply of LNG to LTL's dual fuelled power plants in Kerawalapitiya, Colombo.
- JNCASR partners with HZL to scale up indigenous Zn-ion battery technologies

131. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has appointed former Election Commissioner Arun Goel as India's next ambassador to which country?

विदेश मंत्रालय (MEA) ने पूर्व चुनाव आयुक्त अरुण गोयल को किस देश में भारत का अगला राजदूत नियुक्त किया है?

- (a) Chad
- (b) Croatia
- (c) Cambodia
- (d) Canada
- (e) Cameroon

Ans. b

Sol. Arun Goel appointed ambassador to Croatia

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has appointed former Election Commissioner Arun Goel as India's next ambassador to Republic of Croatia.

The retired bureaucrat earlier served as the Election Commissioner of India.

He was appointed as the Election Commissioner in November 2022. He resigned from the post in March 2024.

Prior to his appointment as the Election Commissioner, he had taken voluntary retirement after serving as a 1985-batch IAS officer of the Punjab cadre.

About Croatia

- Capital- Zagreb
- Currency - Kuna

- Official language- Croatian
- Prime minister- Andrej Plenković
- President- Zoran Milanović

132. The Reserve Bank has imposed penalties of _____ on Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company—housing finance company' in September 2024.

रिज़र्व बैंक ने सितंबर 2024 में 'गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनी-हाउसिंग फाइनेंस कंपनी' पर निर्देशों के कुछ प्रावधानों का पालन न करने के लिए हाउसिंग एंड अर्बन डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड पर _____ का जुर्माना लगाया है।

- (a) Rs 2.5 lakh
- (b) Rs 3.5 lakh
- (c) Rs 4.5 lakh
- (d) Rs 5.5 lakh
- (e) Rs 6.5 lakh

Ans. b

Sol. RBI imposes penalties on Housing and Urban Development Corporation, 2 others

The Reserve Bank has imposed penalties on three entities, including Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd, for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company - housing finance company'.

A penalty of Rs 3.5 lakh has been imposed on Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited.

RBI has also imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Godrej Housing.

The Reserve Bank of India has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

In each case, the RBI added that penalties are based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and are not intended to be pronounced upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the companies.

Recent Penalties imposed on Banks by RBI

- UCO Bank (2.68 crore)- for contravention of certain provisions, including on opening of current accounts, interest rate on deposits and frauds classification
- Cent Bank Home Finance Ltd (2.1 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of KYC directions.
- Muthoot Finance Limited (1.9 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provision of KYC Directions, 2016' issued by RBI.
- Bank of Maharashtra (1.27 crore) - for violating its directions, including on KYC

- Poonawalla Fincorp Limited, Pune (10 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of the NBFC - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016.

133. Which among the following has launched an online tool Daava Sookhak for depositors to track their claim status?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने जमाकर्ताओं के लिए उनके दावे की स्थिति पर नज़र रखने हेतु एक ऑनलाइन टूल 'दावा सूचना' लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC)
- (b) Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)
- (c) Reserve Bank Information Technology Private Limited (ReBIT)
- (d) Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS)
- (e) Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)

Ans. a

Sol. DICGC introduces Daava Sookhak for depositors to track claim status

The Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has launched an online tool Daava Sookhak for depositors to track their claim status.

The DICGC's mandate since its inception has been the reimbursement of insured amounts to depositors of failed banks.

Daava Sookhak, a user-friendly online tool, is part of DICGC's ongoing commitment to improving the services provided for depositors.

Depositors can now track the status of their claims by entering their mobile number (registered with their bank) on the DICGC website.

To begin with, depositors can view the status of their claims for banks placed under All Inclusive Directions (AID) post-April 01, 2024.

The corporation ensures that all categories of deposits with banks except institutional deposits. The deposit insurance coverage limit has been enhanced six times since 1962, from Rs 1,500 per depositor held in the same right and same capacity at all the branches of the insured bank to Rs 5,00,000 on February 04, 2020.

At present, 97.8 per cent of the total deposit accounts are fully protected. Of the remaining 2.2 per cent of accounts, deposits are insured up to the limit of Rs 5 lakh. In terms of value, 43.1 per cent of the deposits were insured as of March 2024.

134. In September 2024, SBI Foundation has launched which edition of its Asha Scholarship Program, supporting 10,000 meritorious students from underprivileged backgrounds?

सितंबर 2024 में, एसबीआई फाउंडेशन ने वंचित पृष्ठभूमि के 10,000 मेधावी छात्रों का समर्थन करते हुए अपने आशा छात्रवृत्ति कार्यक्रम का कौन सा संस्करण लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) first
- (b) second
- (c) third
- (d) fourth
- (e) fifth

Ans. c

Sol. SBI Foundation launches 3rd Edition of Asha Scholarship Program

The SBI Foundation has launched the 3rd edition of its Asha Scholarship Program, supporting 10,000 meritorious students from underprivileged backgrounds.

Scholarships ranging from 15 thousand to 2 lakh rupees are available for students from Class 6 to postgraduate level.

The program includes categories for those in IITs, IIMs, and a special 'Study Abroad' category for SC and ST students. Applications are open until October 1, 2024.

Additionally, students belonging to the SC and ST categories intending to move outside the country for higher studies can avail the benefits of the 'Study Abroad' scheme.

135. Who has become the first Indian president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)?

एशियाई ओलंपिक परिषद (OCA) के पहले भारतीय अध्यक्ष कौन बने हैं?

- (a) Nita Ambani
- (b) Jay Shah
- (c) PT Usha
- (d) Gurucharan Singh
- (e) Randhir Singh

Ans. e

Sol. Randhir Singh becomes first Indian to be elected OCA president

Former shooter and veteran sports administrator Raja Randhir Singh became the first Indian president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

The appointment was made official at the 44th General Assembly held at the Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

The Olympic Council of Asia is the governing body for sports in Asia. It is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

A five-time Olympian, the 77-year-old Randhir Singh's tenure will run from 2024 till 2028.

Raja Randhir Singh, who hails from Patiala Punjab, was born into a family of sportspersons. His uncle, Maharaja Yadavindra Singh, played Test cricket for India and

was an IOC member. His father, also a first-class cricketer, Bhalindra Singh, was also an IOC Member between 1947 and 1992.

About Olympic Council of Asia

- Formation - 16 November 1982
- Headquarters - Kuwait City, Kuwait
- Membership - 45 National Olympic Committees
- President - Raja Randhir Singh

136. In September 2024, Senior bureaucrat Tuhin Kanta Pandey has been appointed as the new _____.

सितंबर 2024 में वरिष्ठ नौकरशाह तुहिन कांता पांडे को नया _____ नियुक्त किया गया है।

- (a) Revenue Secretary
- (b) Expenditure Secretary
- (c) Cabinet Secretary
- (d) Home Secretary
- (e) Finance Secretary

Ans. e

Sol. Tuhin Kanta Pandey appointed new Finance Secretary

Senior bureaucrat Tuhin Kanta Pandey has been appointed as the new Finance Secretary.

Pandey, a 1987-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Odisha cadre, is currently the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) secretary.

The vacancy was created following the appointment of T V Somanathan as the Cabinet secretary last month.

Other Important Secretaries

- **Ministry of Corporate Affairs Secretary** - Deepti Gaur Mukherjee (replace Manoj Govil)
- **Foreign Secretary** - Vikram Misri (replace Vinay Mohan Kwatra)
- **Home Secretary** - Govind Mohan (replace Ajay Kumar Bhalla)
- **Cabinet Secretary** – T V Somanathan (replace Rajiv Gauba)
- **Secretary of DPIIT** - Amardeep Singh Bhatia
- **Revenue Secretary** - Sanjay Malhotra
- **Defence Secretary** - Giridhar Aramane
- **Economic Affairs Secretary** - Ajay Seth
- **MoSPI Secretary** - Dr. G. P. Samanta

137. Abdelmadjid Tebboune has been reelected as the President of which country?

अब्देलमदजीद तेब्बौने को किस देश के राष्ट्रपति के रूप में फिर से चुना गया है?

- (a) Algeria
- (b) Albania
- (c) Angola
- (d) Armenia
- (e) Argentina

Ans. a

Sol. Abdelmadjid Tebboune re-elected as Algerian President

78-year-old incumbent President Abdelmadjid Tebboune of Algeria was re-elected with a landslide victory.

According to Mohamed Charfi, head of the National Independent Authority for Elections, President Abdelmadjid Tebboune secured 94.65 per cent of the valid votes.

President Abdelmadjid Tebboune was elected for a second five-year term.

President Abdelmadjid Tebboune was first elected as the President of Algeria in 2019, which was boycotted by the opposition.

About Algeria

- Capital- Algiers
- Currency-Algerian Dinar
- Continent - Africa
- President - Abdelmadjid Tebboune

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- PM of France - Michel Barnier
- PM of Thailand - Paetongtarn Shinawatra (youngest PM of country)
- President of Rwanda - Paul Kagame (4th time)
- PM of Bulgaria - Goritsa Gruncharova-Kozhareva
- PM of Tunisia - Kamel Madouri

138. Moeen Ali has recently announced his retirement from international cricket. For which country did he play cricket?

मोईन अली ने हाल ही में अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। उन्होंने किस देश के लिए क्रिकेट खेला?

- (a) England
- (b) South Africa
- (c) Netherlands
- (d) Pakistan

(e) Afghanistan**Ans. a****Sol.** Moeen Ali announces retirement from international cricket

Moeen Ali, the versatile England all-rounder, has officially announced his retirement from international cricket.

Moeen made his international debut in 2014 against West Indies. He scored 6678 international runs and picked 366 wickets. He won the 2019 Cricket World Cup and 2022 T20 World Cup with the senior men's side.

Recently Retired Players

- Shannon Gabriel (West Indies) – International Cricket
- Dawid Malan (England) – International Cricket
- Vinesh Phogat (Haryana, India) - Wrestling
- Rohan Bopanna (Karnataka, India) – International Tennis
- Thomas Muller (Germany) - International Football
- Shikhar Dhawan (India) - All forms of Cricket
- Ilkay Gundogan (Germany) - International Football ⚽

139. India's ancient sport, Yogasana, has been included as a demonstration event in the 2026 Asian Games. 2026 Asian Games will be held in which country?

भारत के प्राचीन खेल योगासन को 2026 एशियाई खेलों में एक प्रदर्शन कार्यक्रम के रूप में शामिल किया गया है। 2026 एशियाई खेल किस देश में आयोजित किए जाएंगे?

- (a) South Korea
- (b) Japan
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) China
- (e) India

Ans. b**Sol.** OCA includes Yogasana as demonstration sport in 2026 Asian Games

India's ancient sport, yogasana was included as a demonstration event at the 2026 Asian Games to be held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

Yogasana's inclusion in the Asian Games calendar as a demonstration sport was unanimously passed at the 44th General Assembly of Olympic Council of Asia.

About Olympic Council of Asia

- Formation - 16 November 1982
- Headquarters - Kuwait City, Kuwait
- Membership - 45 National Olympic Committees
- President - Raja Randhir Singh

140. On which day is the International Literacy Day observed?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय साक्षरता दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 7 September
- (b) 8 September
- (c) 9 September
- (d) 10 September
- (e) 11 September

Ans. c

Sol. 9 September - International Literacy Day

International Literacy Day is observed every year on 9 September.

The day is observed to remind the public, the government, and other stakeholders about the importance of literacy, its contribution to developing a person's personality, and also its role in creating a just and equitable society.

Theme 2024 - Promoting multilingual education: Literacy for mutual understanding and peace'.

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in 2022, around one out of seven adults above 15 years of age were illiterate, and around 25 crore children of the 6- 18 age group were out of school.

141. When is World Physical Therapy Day observed?

विश्व भौतिक चिकित्सा दिवस कब मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 7 September
- (b) 8 September
- (c) 9 September
- (d) 10 September
- (e) 11 September

Ans. b

Sol. 8 September - World Physical Therapy Day

World Physical Therapy Day is observed every year on 8 September.

The day raises awareness amongst the public and other stakeholders about the role physiotherapists play in keeping people well, mobile, and independent.

Theme 2024 - LBP (Low Back Pain) and the role of physiotherapy in its prevention and management

On 8 September 1951, the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) was founded by 11 national physiotherapy associations in London, United Kingdom. The name WCPT was later changed to World Physiotherapy in 2020.

In 1996, the World Confederation for Physical Therapy decided to observe its foundation day, the 8th of September, as World Physical Therapy Day.

142. Aryna Sabalenka, who won the women's singles title of the 2024 US Open Tennis Championship, belongs to which country?

2024 यूएस ओपन टेनिस चैंपियनशिप का महिला एकल खिताब जीतने वाली आर्यना सबालेनका किस देश से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) USA
- (b) Belarus
- (c) Italy
- (d) France
- (e) Germany

Ans. b

Sol. Jannik Sinner, Aryna Sabalenka wins 2024 US Open Singles title

Jannik Sinner of Italy has won the men's singles titles of the 2024 US Open Grand Slam Tennis tournament.

While, Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus won the women's singles titles of the 2024 US Open Grand Slam Tennis tournament.

It was the first US Open title for Jannik Sinner and Aryna Sabalenka. It was the second Grand Slam title for Jannik Sinner and the third Grand Slam title for Aryna Sabalenka. Jannik Sinner defeated Taylor Fritz of the USA 6-3, 6-4, 7-5. While, World no.2 ranked Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus defeated the American Jessica Pegula in the final of the US Open 7-5, 7-5.

Complete List of Open Title 2024-

Australian Open title 2024

Men's Singles

- Winner – Jannik Sinner (Italy)
- Runner Up - Daniil Medvedev (Russia)

Women's Singles

- Winner - Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)
- Runner Up - Zheng Qinwen (China)

Men's Doubles

- Winner - Rohan Bopanna (India) & Matthew Ebden (Australia)
- Runner Up - Simone Bolelli (Italy) and Andrea Vavassori (Italy)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - Hsieh Su-Wei (Taiwan) & Elise Mertens (Belgium)
- Runner Up - Jelena Ostapenko (Latvia) and Lyudmyla Kichenok (Ukraine)

Mixed Doubles title

- Winner - Hsieh Su-wei (Taiwan) & Jan Zielinski (Poland)
- Runner Up - Desirae Krawczyk (USA) & Neal Skupski (Britain)

French Open title 2024**Men's Singles**

- Winner – Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
- Runner Up - Alexander Zverev (Germany)

Women's Singles

- Winner - Iga Świątek (Poland)
- Runner Up - Jasmine Paolini (Italy)

Men's Doubles

- Winner -Marcelo Arevalo (El Salvador) & Mate Pavic (Croatia)
- Runner Up - Simone Bolelli (Italy) and Andrea Vavassori (Italy)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - Coco Gauff (USA) & Katerina Siniakova (Czech)
- Runner Up - Sara Errani (Italy) & Jasmine Paolini (Italy)

Mixed Doubles title

- Winner - Laura Siegemund (Germany) and Edouard Roger-Vasselin (France)
- Runner Up -Desirae Krawczyk (USA) and Neal Skupski (Britain)

Wimbledon Open title 2024**Men's Singles**

- Winner – Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
- Runner Up - Novak Djokovic (Serbia)

Women's Singles

- Winner - Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic)
- Runner Up - Jasmine Paolini (Italy)

Men's Doubles

- Winner - Henry Patten (British) & Harri Heliövaara (Finland)
- Runner Up -Max Purcell (Australia) & Jordan Thompson (Australia)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - Taylor Townsend (USA) & Katerina Siniakova (USA)
- Runner Up - Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) & Erin Routliffe (New Zealand)

Mixed Doubles title

- Winner - Hsieh Su-Wei (Taiwan) & Jan Zielinski (Poland)
- Runner Up - Santiago Gonzalez (Mexico) & Giuliana Olmos (Mexico)

US Open title 2024**Men's Singles**

- Winner – Jannik Sinner (Italy)
- Runner Up - Taylor Fritz (USA)

Women's Singles

- Winner - Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)
- Runner Up - Jessica Pegula (USA)

Men's Doubles

- Winner - Max Purcell (Australia) and Jordan Thompson (Australian)
- Runner Up - Kevin Krawietz (Germany) and Tim Puetz (Germany)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - Lyudmyla Kichenok (Ukraine) and Jelena Ostapenko (Latvia)
- Runner Up - Kristina Mladenovic (France) and Zhang Shuai (China)

Mixed Doubles

- Winner - Sara Errani (Italy) and Andrea Vavassori (Italy)
- Runner Up - Donald Young (USA) and Taylor Townsend (USA)

143. In September 2024, which among the following Union Minister released the documentary film Mumbai Samachar- 200 Not Out, which chronicles the remarkable 200-year journey of Asia's oldest newspaper?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस केंद्रीय मंत्री ने डॉक्यूमेंट्री फिल्म मुंबई समाचार- 200 नॉट आउट जारी की, जो एशिया के सबसे पुराने समाचार पत्र की उल्लेखनीय 200 साल की यात्रा को दर्शाती है?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) S Jaishankar
- (c) Ashwani Vaishnaw
- (d) Nitin Gadkari
- (e) JP Nadda

Ans. a

Sol. Amit Shah releases documentary on Mumbai Samachar's 200-year journey
Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah released the documentary film Mumbai Samachar- 200 Not Out, which chronicles the remarkable 200-year journey of Asia's oldest newspaper.

Entering its 203rd year of publication, Mumbai Samachar has become an integral part of Mumbai's identity.

Mumbai Samachar- 200 Not Out delves into the newspaper's pivotal role in the freedom movement, its unwavering commitment to unbiased reporting, and the secrets behind its enduring success.

The documentary was released simultaneously in 40 countries, offering a historical perspective not only for Mumbai Samachar but also for the entire newspaper industry.

Hormusji N Cama, the managing director of the Mumbai Samachar, was present at the event. The trailer for Mumbai Samachar- 200 Not Out was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the newspaper's bicentenary event in June 2022.

144. In September 2024, which state government approved 33% reservation for women in the police force by deciding to amend the State Police Subordinate Service Rules, 1989?

सितंबर 2024 में, किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य पुलिस अधीनस्थ सेवा नियम, 1989 में संशोधन करने का निर्णय लेकर पुलिस बल में महिलाओं के लिए 33% आरक्षण को मंजूरी दी?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Rajasthan
- (e) Madhya Pradesh

Ans. d

Sol. Rajasthan Cabinet approves 33% reservation for women in police force
Rajasthan Cabinet has approved 33% reservation for women in the police force by deciding to amend the State Police Subordinate Service Rules, 1989.

The State Cabinet took the decision at its meeting held here, fulfilling a promise made by the BJP in its manifesto for the 2023 Assembly election to increase the representation of women.

This will enable the police to work with more sensitivity in matters related to women, while this decision will also provide more employment opportunities to women.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital** – Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Bhajan Lal Sharma (replace Ashok Gehlot)
- **Deputy Chief Minister** – Diya Kumari and Premchand Bairwa
- **Speaker of Rajasthan Assembly** - Vasudev Devnani
- **Governor** – Haribhau Bagade

145. In September 2024, financial infrastructure platform Blossom has partnered with which small finance bank to innovate digital fixed deposits, streamline same-day customer onboarding, and help expand the bank's reach through digital channels?

सितंबर 2024 में, वित्तीय अवसंरचना मंच, ब्लॉस्टेम ने डिजिटल सावधि जमा को नया रूप देने, एक ही दिन में ग्राहक ऑनबोर्डिंग को सुव्यवस्थित करने और डिजिटल चैनलों के माध्यम से बैंक की पहुंच का विस्तार करने में मदद करने के लिए किस लघु वित्त बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank

- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank
(e) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited

Ans. c

Sol. Blostem Partners with Suryoday SFB to Revamp Digital Fixed Deposits

Blostem, a financial infrastructure platform, has partnered with Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB) to transform the client experience.

This agreement allows SSFB to benefit from Blostem's expertise in quick product development and deployment, deliver novel digital fixed deposit products, and reduce customer onboarding to a single day.

This relationship demonstrates SSFB's commitment to digital innovation and growth. The agreement would also assist the Bank in expanding its reach through digital media. With a customer-centric approach to digital banking, the Bank strives to simplify the overall banking experience for its clients.

The bank is also noted for providing attractive fixed deposit (FD) offerings among its peers, with interest rates of up to 9.10%, various tenure options, and hassle-free withdrawals.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- AU Small Finance inks pact with United India Insurance Co for distribution of insurance products
- Max Life Insurance Company Ltd partnered with CSB bank to boost insurance reach and market growth, aligning with their strategic goals
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with Tarrakki to offer digital fixed deposits
- Mastercard collaborates with Gramophone to Boost Credit Access for 2 mn Farmers in India
- ClearTax Join hands with Microsoft to Ease Tax Filing for Over 20 Mn Indian Gig Workers
- YES Bank inks pact with Newtap Finance to offer financing solutions

146. In September 2024, who among the following was unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसे सर्वसम्मति से संसदीय राजभाषा समिति के अध्यक्ष के रूप में पुनः चुना गया?

- (a) Om Birla
(b) Narendra Modi
(c) Amit Shah
(d) Rahul Gandhi
(e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. c

Sol. Amit Shah unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah has been unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language.

After the formation of the new government, a committee meeting was held in New Delhi to reconstitute the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language.

Amit Shah has also served as the Chairperson of the committee from 2019 to 2024.

The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was constituted under the provisions of Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, in the year 1976.

The committee comprises 30 members of Parliament, out of which 20 are from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairperson of Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR** - Rajesh Verma
- **State Mission Director of National Health Mission (NHM)** - Vinay Goyal (replace K. Jeevan Babu)
- **Chairman of Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) for 2024-25** - Partha Sinha
- **MD of Philips Indian subcontinent** - Bharath Sesha (replace Daniel Mazon)
- **Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** - V Satish Kumar (replace SM Vaidya)

147. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in NCR?

एनसीआर में वायु गुणवत्ता प्रबंधन आयोग (सीएक्यूएम) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Vipin Mishra
- (b) Anshika Singh
- (c) Sanjeev Mehta
- (d) Vinay Goyal
- (e) Rajesh Verma

Ans. e

Sol. Rajesh Verma takes charge as Chairperson of Commission for Air Quality Management

Rajesh Verma, an officer of the 1987 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Odisha Cadre, took charge as the new full-time Chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM).

He also served as the Secretary to the President of India, Smt. Draupadi Murmu before his superannuation on August 31, 2024.

Rajesh Verma succeeds Dr. M.M. Kutty, who has completed his tenure as the full-time Chairperson of CAQM.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairperson of NASSCOM** - Sindhu Gangadharan
- **Chairman of Texas Economic Development Corporation** - Arun Agarwal
- **CEO of Nestlé** - Laurent Freixe (replace Mark Schneider)
- **Chairman of Cognizant India** - Rajesh Varrier (replace Rajesh Nambiar)
- **President of NASSCOM** - Rajesh Nambiar (replace Debjani Ghosh) effect from Oct 2024
- **Chairman of Airports Authority of India** - M Suresh (replace Sanjeev Kumar)

148. In September 2024, who has been appointed as the State Mission Director of the National Health Mission (NHM)?

सितंबर 2024 में राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन (एनएचएम) का राज्य मिशन निदेशक किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Arun Goel
- (b) Vinay Goyal
- (c) Parul Goyal
- (d) Parul Tyagi
- (e) Abhinav Mishra

Ans. b

Sol. Vinay Goyal to be State Mission Director of NHM

Vinay Goyal has assumed office as the State Mission Director of the National Health Mission (NHM).

He takes over from K. Jeevan Babu, who has moved to the Kerala Water Authority as Managing Director.

A native of Haryana, Dr. Goyal, belongs to the 2016 IAS batch. He has formerly held the posts of CEO, of Thiruvananthapuram Smart City;

Managing Director of Kerala Rapid Transit Corporation Ltd. (KRTCL); Director of Backward Classes Development department; Secretary, Kerala State Housing Board among others.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) for 2024-25** - Partha Sinha
- **MD of Philips Indian subcontinent** - Bharath Sesha (replace Daniel Mazon)

- **Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** - V Satish Kumar (replace SM Vaidya)
- **Interim CMD of HPCL** - Rajneesh Narang (replace Pushp Kumar Joshi)
- **Chairman and CEO of Railway Board** - Satish Kumar (replace Jaya Varma Sinha)
- **Chairman of International Cricket Council (ICC)** - Jay Shah (replace Greg Barclay)

149. Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Company Limited?

इफको टोकियो जनरल इश्योरेंस कंपनी लिमिटेड के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Nehal Vora
- (b) Rama Mohan Rao
- (c) Subrata Mondal
- (d) Subhasri
- (e) Y Harigopal

Ans. c

Sol. Subrata Mondal appointed as MD & CEO of IFFCO Tokio General Insurance Company Limited (IFFCO Tokio) has appointed Subrata Mondal as its new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Mondal, who has been associated with the company since 2001, brings over 36 years of experience in the insurance industry to his new leadership role.

IFFCO-Tokio General is a 51:49 joint venture between the Indian Farmers Fertilisers Co-operative (IFFCO) and Tokio Marine Group – one of the world's largest insurance companies based in Japan.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Central Depository Services (India) Limited** - Nehal Vora
- **MD & CEO of Federal Bank** - Krishnan Venkat Subramanian
- **MD of State Bank of India** - Rama Mohan Rao Amara (replace C S Setty)
- **MD of NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services)** - Y Haragopal
- **MD & CEO of Shriram Capital Pvt Ltd.** - Subhasri

150. In September 2024, which Indian bank became the first major to sign the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), aligning itself with global climate risk management efforts and aiming to measure and manage its financed emissions?

सितंबर 2024 में, कौन सा भारतीय बैंक कार्बन अकाउंटिंग फाइनेंसियल्स (PCAF) के लिए साझेदारी पर हस्ताक्षर करने वाला पहला प्रमुख बैंक बन गया, जो वैश्विक जलवायु जोखिम प्रबंधन प्रयासों के साथ खुद को संरेखित करेगा और अपने वित्तपोषित उत्सर्जन को मापने और प्रबंधित करने का लक्ष्य रखेगा?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Punjab National Bank
- (c) Canara Bank
- (d) Union Bank of India
- (e) Axis Bank

Ans. d

Sol. Union Bank of India becomes first major Indian Bank to sign PCAF

Union Bank of India announced its decision to become a signatory to the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF).

This step aligns with the growing global emphasis on climate risk management and the recent draft guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on climate risk disclosures.

PCAF is a global partnership of financial institutions working to develop and implement a harmonized approach to assess and disclose greenhouse gas emissions associated with loans and investments.

By joining PCAF, Union Bank of India demonstrates its commitment to measuring and managing its financed emissions, a crucial aspect of climate risk management for banks.

Financed emissions, referred to as Scope 3 emissions, represent the indirect emissions that result from a Bank's lending and investment activities. These emissions can significantly outweigh a Bank's operational emissions and pose substantial risks to its portfolio in the face of climate change and evolving regulations.

About Union Bank of India (UBI)

- Founded- 11 November 1919
- Headquarters- Mumbai
- CEO- A. Manimekhalai

151. In September 2024, which of the following country was approved for membership in the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), a financial institution with the aim of supporting projects in emerging markets and developing countries?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस देश को ब्रिक्स न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक (NDB) में सदस्यता के लिए मंजूरी दी गई थी, जो उभरते बाजारों और विकासशील देशों में परियोजनाओं का समर्थन करने के उद्देश्य से एक वित्तीय संस्थान है?

- (a) Azerbaijan
- (b) Egypt
- (c) UAE
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) Algeria

Ans. e

Sol. Algeria joins BRICS New Development Banks

Algeria has been approved as the newest member of the BRICS New Development Bank, joining other nations in seeking alternatives to international financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF.

The decision was taken and announced by NDB chief Dilma Rousseff at a meeting in Cape Town, South Africa. The bank of the BRICS group of nations -- whose name derives from the initials of founding members Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Membership in the BRICS bank will offer Algeria -- Africa's leading exporter of natural gas -- "new prospects to support and strengthen its economic growth in the medium and long term.

Created in 2015, the NDB's main mission is to mobilize resources for projects in emerging markets and developing countries.

The NDB has expanded its membership to include Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates in 2021, and Egypt in 2023.

About New Development Bank (NDB)

- **Founded** - 2015
- **Headquarters** - Shanghai, China
- **Membership (9)** - Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, UAE, Uruguay & Egypt
- **President** - Dilma Rousseff (Brazil)
- **Vice President** - Anil Kishora (Indian)

152. Which country has won the 4th Intercontinental Cup men's football tournament?

किस देश ने चौथा इंटरकांटीनेंटल कप पुरुष फुटबॉल टूर्नामेंट जीता है?

- (a) India
- (b) Mauritius
- (c) Syria
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) Sri Lanka

Ans. c

Sol. Syria wins the 4th Intercontinental Cup Men's Football Tournament

Syria defeated India 3-0 in the last round-robin match to win the 4th Intercontinental Cup men's football championship. India, the defending champions, could not score a single goal in the match.

Mahmoud Al-Mawas, Syrian captain, received the winners' trophy and was named the Syed Abdul Rahim Player of the Tournament.

The

All-India Football Federation organised the 4th Intercontinental Cup football championship at the GMC Balayogi Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad, Telangana.

153. In September 2024, where was the first India-Gulf Cooperation Council Joint Ministerial Meeting for Strategic Dialogue held?

सितंबर 2024 में, रणनीतिक वार्ता के लिए पहली भारत-खाड़ी सहयोग परिषद संयुक्त मंत्रिस्तरीय बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) New Delhi, India
- (b) Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- (c) Manama, Bahrain
- (d) Muscat, Oman
- (e) Doha, Qatar

Ans. b

Sol. 1st India GCC Joint Ministerial Meeting for Strategic Dialogue held in Riyadh

The first India -GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) Joint Ministerial Meeting for Strategic Dialogue was held in Riyadh, the Saudi Arabian capital.

This was the first Foreign Minister level meeting between India and the six-member GCC.

The first India-GCC Joint Ministerial Meeting for Strategic Dialogue was co-chaired by Indian External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar and Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Qatar. Qatar holds the Presidency of the GCC.

About the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

- The Gulf Cooperation Council was formed in May 1981 as a political and economic alliance of six Islamic Arab countries -Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- The Presidency of the GCC rotates annually amongst the member countries.
- Headquarters - Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

154. National Forest Martyrs Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय वन शहीद दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 9 September

(b) 10 September

(c) 11 September

(d) 12 September

(e) 13 September

Ans. c

Sol. 11 September - National Forest Martyrs Day

National Forest Martyrs Day is celebrated every year on September 11 in India to pay tribute to those who died for the protection of the forest and wildlife of the country. The day honours protective environmentalists and personnel of the forest who have experienced certain risks in the process of conservation of natural resources.

Theme 2024 - Honoring the Guardians of Our Forests

The day goes back to the memory of the Khejarli Massacre, which took place in 1730 in the Marwar Kingdom. The then Maharaja Abhai Singh demanded Khejri trees from the Bishnoi village of Khejarli to be cut down to provide timber for his new palace. However, his action was resisted by the Bishnoi community, which has always been very sensitive towards the natural community.

155. Which state will host the 4th Global Renewable Energy Investors Meet and Expo (RE-INVEST) from September 16 to 18?

कौन सा राज्य 16 से 18 सितंबर तक चौथे वैश्विक अक्षय ऊर्जा निवेशक सम्मेलन और एक्सपो (री-इन्वेस्ट) की मेजबानी करेगा?

(a) Uttar Pradesh

(b) Gujarat

(c) Madhya Pradesh

(d) Maharashtra

(e) Haryana

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat to host 4th RE-INVEST meet on September 16-18

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 4th Global RE-INVEST Renewable Energy Investors Meet and Expo at Gandhinagar, on September 16.

A three-day flagship event of the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, at Mahatma Mandir will bring together key players in the renewable energy sector.

The event will have a plenary session of all chief ministers on the first day and a similar session of all state energy ministers on the second day.

Representatives from Germany, Australia, Norway, Denmark, among others will be in attendance. Sessions will be held on topics including Green Hydrogen, Innovative Models for round the clock renewable energy, making India a hub in Battery energy storage and mainstreaming offshore wind in India.

156. India will organize the first Global Cooperative Conference from 25th to 30th November in which city?

भारत 25 से 30 नवंबर तक पहला वैश्विक सहकारी सम्मेलन किस शहर में आयोजित करेगा?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Gurugram
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Hyderabad

Ans. b

Sol. India to organize First Global Cooperative Conference in November

India will organize the first Global Cooperative Conference in New Delhi from 25th to 30th November.

This five-day conference will focus on exploring innovative solutions, technologies, and best practices for the cooperative movement.

This will be the first time in the 130-year history of the International Cooperative Alliance that the conference will be held in India.

157. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)?

ओपन नेटवर्क फॉर डिजिटल कॉमर्स (ONDC) का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Nehal Vora
- (b) Rama Mohan Rao
- (c) RS Sharma
- (d) Subhasri
- (e) Y Harigopal

Ans. c

Sol. RS Sharma appoints as Chairperson of ONDC

A former chief of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and chief executive of National Health Authority (NHA), RS Sharma has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).

Sharma, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS), 1978 batch officer with a distinguished career across the Central and state governments, is credited with leading reforms and leveraging Information Technology (IT) to simplify administrative processes.

158. World Suicide Prevention Day is observed every year on 10 September. What is the theme of World Suicide Prevention Day 2024?

विश्व आत्महत्या रोकथाम दिवस हर साल 10 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व आत्महत्या रोकथाम दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Creating hope through action

- (b) Working Together to Prevent suicide.
- (c) Suicide prevention.
- (d) Working together to prevent suicide
- (e) Changing the Narrative on Suicide – Start the Conversation

Ans. e

Sol. 10 September - World Suicide Prevention Day

World Suicide Prevention Day is observed every year on 10 September.

The day gives a reminder that suicide prevention is a public health priority and urgent action is required to make sure suicide mortality rates are reduced.

Theme 2024 - 'Changing the Narrative on Suicide – Start the Conversation

The World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) was established in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO). The day gives a clear message that suicides are preventable. Suicide is a major public problem with far-reaching social, emotional and economic consequences. Suicide remains a critical global issue, affecting individuals and communities worldwide.

159. Which IIT has signed an MoU with the National Health Authority (NHA) for development of digital public goods for AI in healthcare?

किस आईआईटी ने हेल्थकेयर में एआई के लिए डिजिटल सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं के विकास के लिए राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण (एनएचए) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) IIT Guwahati
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Kanpur
- (d) IIT Bhubaneswar
- (e) IIT Roorkee

Ans. c

Sol. National Health Authority and IIT Kanpur sign MoU for development of digital public goods for AI in Healthcare

The National Health Authority (NHA) and IIT Kanpur signed an MoU in the presence of Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra.

The MoU was signed by Ms. L. S. Changsan, Addl. Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare & CEO, NHA, and Prof. Manindra Agrawal, Director, IIT Kanpur.

Under this MoU, a federated learning platform across a variety of machine learning model pipelines, a quality-preserving database, an open benchmarking platform for comparing & validating AI models, and a consent management system for research under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) would be developed by IIT Kanpur.

IITs in News

- IIT Bhubaneswar inks pact with IG Drones on disaster management R&D
- IIT Madras Partners with IDBI Bank to Launch Cybersecurity Lab
- C-DOT partners with IIT Roorkee and Mandi to boost 6G standardization, connectivity
- IIT Kanpur launched UDAAN programme to boost drone startups
- IIT Dharwad Unveils Innovative Fire Rescue Drone

160. The government will launch the PAIR programme designed to elevate research capabilities in higher education institutions (HEIs) by linking top-tier research institutions with those where research capability is limited, creating a collaborative mentorship environment. What is the meaning of 'P' in 'PAIR' Programme?

सरकार उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों (HEI) में शोध क्षमताओं को बढ़ाने के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए PAIR कार्यक्रम को लॉन्च करेगी, जिसमें शीर्ष-स्तरीय शोध संस्थानों को उन संस्थानों के साथ जोड़ा जाएगा जहाँ शोध क्षमता सीमित है, जिससे एक सहयोगी मेंटरशिप वातावरण का निर्माण होगा। 'PAIR' कार्यक्रम में 'P' का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Performance
- (b) Partnerships
- (c) Photogrammetry
- (d) Prescriptive
- (e) Privacy

Ans. b

Sol. Govt to launch PAIR programme to boost research in higher education institutions

The government will launch the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme designed to elevate research capabilities in higher education institutions (HEIs) by linking top-tier research institutions with those where research capability is limited, creating a collaborative mentorship environment.

The decision was taken during the inaugural Governing Board meeting of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Prof Abhay Karandikar, Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology.

Through PAIR, ANRF will link top-tier research institutions with those where research capability is limited, creating a collaborative mentorship environment.

The goal is to create a "Hub and Spoke" framework that will enable these institutions to systematically enhance their research excellence. Additionally, ANRF is set to launch the Mission for Advancement in High-impact Areas (MAHA) to focus on critical areas of research.

The ANRF, established through the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Act 2023, aims to propel India to the forefront of global scientific and technological advancement.

To further elevate India's global standing in scientific research, the ANRF will establish world-class Centres of Excellence under the ANRF Centre of Excellence (ACE) initiative.

161. In September 2024, which country has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance-ISA as a full member?

सितंबर 2024 में, कौन सा देश पूर्ण सदस्य के रूप में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन-आईएसए में शामिल होने वाला 101वां देश बन गया है?

- (a) Bhutan
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Afghanistan
- (e) Vietnam

Ans. b

Sol. Nepal Becomes 101st Member of International Solar Alliance

Nepal has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance-ISA as a full member.

The Ministry of External Affairs said that Nepal handed over its Instrument of Ratification to the ISA in New Delhi.

The Instrument of Ratification was exchanged during a meeting between Nepal's Charge d' Affairs Dr. Surendra Thapa and Joint Secretary.

The ISA initiative aims to increase solar energy technology deployment in its member countries. The goal is to improve energy access, security, and transition. India and France launched the ISA at the Conference of the Parties (COP 21) in Paris to support the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

About International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- Founded- 30 November 2015
- Headquarters - Gurugram, Haryana
- President- R. K. Singh

162. In September 2024, the Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of _____ on Axis Bank and _____ on HDFC Bank for non-compliance with regulations.

सितंबर 2024 में, भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने नियमों का पालन न करने पर एक्सिस बैंक पर _____ और HDFC बैंक पर _____ का जुर्माना लगाया है।

- (a) ₹1.91 crore; ₹ 2 crore

- (b) ₹1.91 crore; ₹1 crore
- (c) ₹1 crore; ₹1.91 crore
- (d) ₹2.91 crore; ₹1.91 crore
- (e) ₹1.91 crore; ₹2.91 crore

Ans. b

Sol. RBI imposed penalty on HDFC Bank, and Axis Bank for non-compliance with regulations

The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of ₹1.91 crore on Axis Bank and ₹1 crore on HDFC Bank for non-compliance with regulations.

Both banks opened certain savings deposit accounts in the name of ineligible entities. The monetary penalty on Axis Bank pertains to violations done in FY23.

The bank allotted multiple customer identification codes to certain customers instead of a unique customer identification code for each customer and obtained collateral security for agricultural loans up to ₹1.60 lakh in certain cases. Besides, Axis Bank's wholly-owned subsidiary undertook business as a technology service provider, which is a violation of the Banking Regulation Act.

Recent Penalties imposed on Banks by RBI

- Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd (3.5 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company
- Godrej Housing (5 lakh)- for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company
- Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd. -(5 lakh)- for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company
- UCO Bank (2.68 crore)- for contravention of certain provisions, including on opening of current accounts, interest rate on deposits and frauds classification
- Cent Bank Home Finance Ltd (2.1 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of KYC directions.
- Muthoot Finance Limited (1.9 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provision of KYC Directions, 2016' issued by RBI.
- Bank of Maharashtra (1.27 crore) - for violating its directions, including on KYC

163. In September 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the merger of Tata Motor Finance with Tata Capital, a merger announced in June 2024 that will see Tata Capital issue equity shares to this company, resulting in its holding a _____ stake in the newly merged entity.

सितंबर 2024 में, भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) ने टाटा मोटर फाइनेंस के टाटा कैपिटल के साथ विलय को मंजूरी दे दी, जून 2024 में विलय की घोषणा की गई, जिसके तहत टाटा

कैपिटल इस कंपनी को इक्विटी शेयर जारी करेगा, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप नव विलयित इकाई में इसकी _____ हिस्सेदारी होगी।

- (a) 4.1%
- (b) 4.3%
- (c) 4.5%
- (d) 4.7%
- (e) 4.9%

Ans. d

Sol. CCI approves Tata Motors Finance merger with Tata Capital

The Competition Commission of India has approved the merger of Tata Motor Finance with Tata Capital.

The merger, announced in June, will see Tata Capital issue its equity shares to the shareholders of Tata Motor Finance resulting in Tata Motors effectively holding a 4.7% stake in the merged entity.

In a filing to the exchanges, Tata Motors said that the Board of Directors of Tata Motors, Tata Capital, and Tata Motors Finance have approved a merger of Tata Motor Finance with Tata Capital through an NCLT scheme of arrangement.

164. In September 2024, how many nurses were awarded the National Florence Nightingale Award by the President of India Draupadi Murmu?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत की राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू द्वारा कितनी नर्सों को राष्ट्रीय फ्लोरेंस नाइटिंगेल पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) 10
- (b) 15
- (c) 20
- (d) 23
- (e) 13

Ans. b

Sol. President confers National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024 to 15 Awardees at Rashtrapati Bhavan

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu presented the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the year 2024 to the nursing professionals at a function held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

In all, 15 nurses were conferred the award in recognition of their outstanding commitment to duty and service to the community.

The National Florence Nightingale Award was instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in the year 1973 as a mark of recognition

for the meritorious services rendered by the nurses and nursing professionals to the society.

The award is given to outstanding nursing personnel employed in Central, State/UTs, and Voluntary Organizations.

The nurse in her/his regular job in the hospital or community setting, educational or administrative setting is eligible for the national award. Each award consists of a Certificate of Merit, Cash Award of Rs.1,00,000/- and a medal.

165. In September 2024, India hosted _____ edition of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation co-organized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Ministry of Civil Aviation in New Delhi.

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत ने नई दिल्ली में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नागरिक विमानन संगठन (ICAO) और नागरिक विमानन मंत्रालय द्वारा सह-आयोजित नागरिक विमानन पर एशिया-प्रशांत मंत्रिस्तरीय सम्मेलन के _____ संस्करण की मेजबानी की।

- (a) first
- (b) second
- (c) third
- (d) fourth
- (e) fifth

Ans. b

Sol. India hosts 2nd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation

Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, addressed the media regarding the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation 2024, at Rajeev Gandhi Bhawan New Delhi.

The 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, India.

The event is co-hosted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India. The first Ministerial Conference of the Asia Pacific region was organized in 2018 in Beijing, China. During the first conference, India volunteered to host the second Conference in 2020, however, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference was postponed.

Highlighting the importance of the conference, Shri Naidu said "It will focus on unlocking this potential, building robust partnerships, and addressing critical challenges such as infrastructure development, market gaps, sustainability, and workforce shortages.

166. Consider the following points about the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - IV (PMGSY-IV)-

(i) Cabinet approves implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - IV (PMGSY-IV) during FY 2024-25 to 2028-29.

(ii) The total outlay of this scheme will be Rs. 70,125 crore.

(iii) Under this scheme 62,500 Km of all-weather roads will be provided to unconnected habitations.

Which of the following point(s) is/are CORRECT regarding this scheme?

(a) only i and ii

(b) only ii and iii

(c) only iii and i

(d) all are correct

(e) all are incorrect

Ans. d

Sol. Cabinet approves implementation of the PMGSY-IV during FY 2024-25 to 2028-29

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the proposal of the Department of Rural Development for "Implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana - IV (PMGSY-IV) during FY 2024-25 to 2028-29".

The financial assistance is to be provided for the construction of 62,500 Kms road for providing new connectivity, to eligible 25,000 unconnected habitations and construction/upgradation of bridges on the new connectivity roads. The total outlay of this scheme will be Rs. 70,125 crore.

The details of the approval given by the Cabinet are as follows:

i. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana -IV is launched for the financial year 2024-25 to 2028-29. The total outlay of this scheme is Rs. 70,125 crore (Central Share of Rs. 49,087.50 crore and State Share of Rs. 21,037.50 crore).

ii. Under this scheme 25,000 unconnected habitations of population size 500+ in plains, 250+ in NE & Hill States/UTs, special category areas (Tribal Schedule V, Aspirational Districts/Blocks, Desert areas), and 100+ in LWE affected districts, as per Census 2011 will be covered.

iii. Under this scheme 62,500 Km of all-weather roads will be provided to unconnected habitations. Construction of required bridges along the alignment of the all-weather road will also be provided.

25,000 unconnected habitations will be provided all weather road connectivity.

The PMGSY -IV will incorporate international benchmarks and best practices under road constructions such as Cold Mix Technology and Waste Plastic, Panelled Cement concrete, Cell-filled concrete, Full Depth Reclamation, use of construction waste and other wastes such as Steel Slag, etc.

PMGSY -IV road alignment planning will be undertaken through the PM Gati Shakti portal.

167. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved 'Mission Mausam' with an outlay of _____ over two years.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय कैबिनेट ने दो वर्षों में _____ के परिव्यय के साथ 'मिशन मौसम' को मंजूरी दी है।

- (a) Rs.1,000 crore
- (b) Rs.2,000 crore
- (c) Rs.3,000 crore
- (d) Rs.4,000 crore
- (e) Rs.5,000 crore

Ans. b

Sol. Cabinet approves 'Mission Mausam' to create a more weather-ready and climate-smart Bharat

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved 'Mission Mausam' with an outlay of Rs.2,000 crore over two years.

Mission Mausam, to be chiefly implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, is envisaged to be multi-faceted and transformative initiative to tremendously boost India's weather and climate-related science, research, and services.

The mission's focus will include improving observations and understanding for providing highly accurate and timely weather and climate information across temporal and spatial scales, including monsoon forecasts, alerts for air quality, extreme weather events and cyclones, weather interventions for managing fog, hail, and rain, etc., capacity building and generating awareness.

Critical elements of Mission Mausam will include the deployment of next-generation radars and satellite systems with advanced sensors and high-performance supercomputers, the development of improved Earth system models and a GIS-based automated Decision Support System for real-time data dissemination.

Three Ministry of Earth Sciences institutes: the India Meteorological Department, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, and the National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting will primarily implement Mission Mausam. These institutions will be supported by other MoES institutions (Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, and National Institute of Ocean Technology), along with collaborating national and international Institutes, Academia and Industries, furthering India's leadership in weather and climate sciences and services.

168. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the India Defence Aviation Exposition (IDAX-24) in which city?

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने किस शहर में भारत रक्षा विमानन प्रदर्शनी (IDAX-24) का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Chennai
- (b) Jodhpur
- (c) Visakhapatnam
- (d) Kochi
- (e) Bangalore

Ans. b

Sol. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates IDAX-24 Expo in Jodhpur
The India Defence Aviation Exposition (IDAX-24) was officially inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at Jodhpur.

This major event coincides with Exercise Tarang Shakti-24, one of the largest multinational air exercises hosted by the Indian Air Force (IAF). IDAX-24 highlights the significant advancements and contributions of the Indian aviation industry. This edition of IDAX at Jodhpur will have grand participation from industry and host a wide range of products, and technologies. This will be an opportunity for the FFCs and Indian audiences to witness, experience, and interact with participants from the Indian Aviation Industry including DPSUs, DRDO, Private Industries (Tier-I, II, III), and top-notch Start-Ups.

169. Consider the following points about the "PM-eBus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) scheme" that was recently approved by the Union Cabinet-

- (i) This scheme will support the deployment of more than 38,000 electric buses (e-Buses) from FY 2024-25 to FY 2029-30.
- (ii) The scheme will support the operation of e-buses for up to 15 years from the deployment date.
- (iii) PM- eBus Seva PSM scheme approved with an outlay of Rs. 3,435.33 crore.

Which of the following point(s) is/are INCORRECT regarding this scheme?

- (a) only i and ii
- (b) only ii and iii
- (c) only i and iii
- (d) all are correct
- (e) all are incorrect

Ans. a

Sol. Cabinet approves PM-eBus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) scheme for procurement and operation of e-buses

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the "PM-eBus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) scheme" for the procurement and operation of e-buses by Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) with an outlay of Rs. 3,435.33 crore.

This scheme will support the deployment of more than 38,000 electric buses (e-Buses) from FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29.

The scheme will support the operation of e-buses for a period of up to 12 years from the date of deployment.

At present, the majority of buses operated by Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) run on diesel/CNG, causing adverse environmental impacts. On the other hand, e-buses are environment friendly and have lower operational costs.

However, it was anticipated that Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) would find it challenging to procure and operate e-buses because of high upfront costs and lower realization of revenue from operations.

To address the high capital cost of e-buses, Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) induct these buses through Public Private Partnership on Gross Cost Contract (GCC) model.

170. Deepali Thapa, who was seen in news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

सितंबर 2024 में उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए सुर्खियों में रही दीपाली थापा निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से संबंधित है?

- (a) Boxing
- (b) Weightlifting
- (c) Badminton
- (d) Archery
- (e) Shooting

Ans. a

Sol. Indian boxer Deepali Thapa becomes 1st ever Asian Schoolgirl Champion
Indian boxer Deepali Thapa has made history by becoming the first-ever Asian Schoolgirl Champion in Al Ain, UAE.

Her victory led India to secure seven female titles at the Asian Championships. In the 33 kg weight category, Thapa defeated Ukraine's Liudmyla Vasylenko in the final.

In the 35 kg category, Bhoomi defeated Kazakhstan's Assel Jalimbekova in the final to secure India's second title. Nischal Sharma continued India's winning streak in the 37 kg weight class, overcoming Ukraine's Maria Matsiura in a closely contested final that claimed India's third title.

In the 43 kg title, Rakhi beat Ukraine's Veronika Holub using close-distance strategies and finishing the bout strong to earn India's fourth title.

In the 52kg final, Naitik won against Kazakhstan's Arina Orazymbet, adding another title to India's tally. In the 67kg final, India's Trushana Vinayak Mohite secured a comfortable victory over Ukraine's Anna Hornostal.

The day concluded with India's Gurseerat Kaur winning the last of the 15 titles in the schoolgirls' category.

171. The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved the proposal of Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) for implementation of a scheme titled 'PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme' for promotion of electric mobility in the country. The scheme has an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore over _____.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने देश में इलेक्ट्रिक मोबिलिटी को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 'पीएम इलेक्ट्रिक ड्राइव रिवोल्यूशन इन इनोवेटिव व्हीकल एन्हांसमेंट (पीएम ई-ड्राइव) स्कीम' नामक योजना के कार्यान्वयन के लिए भारी उद्योग मंत्रालय (एमएचआई) के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी है। इस योजना का _____ पर 10,900 करोड़ रुपये का परिव्यय है।

- (a) 1 year
- (b) 2 years
- (c) 3 years
- (d) 4 years
- (e) 5 years

Ans. b

Sol. Cabinet approves PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the proposal of Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) for implementation of a scheme titled 'PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme' for promotion of electric mobility in the country.

The scheme has an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore over two years.

Subsidies/Demand incentives worth Rs.3,679 crore have been provided to incentivize e-2Ws, e-3Ws, e-ambulances, e-trucks and other emerging EVs. The scheme will support 24.79 lakh e-2Ws, 3.16 lakh e-3Ws, and 14,028 e-buses.

MHI is introducing e-vouchers for EV buyers to avail of demand incentives under the scheme.

The scheme allocates Rs.500 crore for the deployment of e-ambulances. This is a new initiative of Govt of India to promote the use of e-ambulance for comfortable patient transport. The performance and safety standards of e-ambulances will be formulated in consultation with MoHFW, MoRTH, and other relevant stakeholders.

A sum of Rs.4,391 crore has been provided for procurement of 14,028 e-buses by STUs/public transport agencies. The demand aggregation will be done by CESL in the nine cities with more than 40 lakh population namely Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Surat, Bangalore, Pune and Hyderabad. Intercity and Interstate e-buses will also supported in consultation with states.

The trucks are a major contributor to air pollution. The scheme will promote the deployment of e-trucks in the country. Rs.500 crores has been allocated for incentivising e-trucks. Incentives will be given to those who have a scrapping certificate from MoRTH-approved vehicles scrapping centers (RVSF).

The scheme proposes the installation of 22,100 fast chargers for e-4 Ws, 1800 fast chargers for e-buses and 48,400 fast chargers for e-2W/3Ws. The outlay for EV PCS will be Rs.2,000 crore.

172. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved health coverage to all senior citizens aged _____ and above irrespective of income under the flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने प्रमुख योजना आयुष्मान भारत प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना (एबी पीएम-जेएवाई) के तहत आय की परवाह किए बिना _____ वर्ष और उससे अधिक आय के सभी वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को स्वास्थ्य कवरेज को मंजूरी दे दी है।

- (a) 60 years
- (b) 65 years
- (c) 70 years
- (d) 75 years
- (e) 80 years

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves ₹5 lakh health insurance for senior citizens above 70 years

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved health coverage to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above irrespective of income under the flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

This aims to benefit approximately 4.5 Crore families with six (6) crore senior citizens, with 5 Lakh rupees free health insurance cover on a family basis.

With this approval, all senior citizens of the age 70 years and above irrespective of their socio-economic status would be eligible to avail the benefits of AB PM-JAY. The eligible senior citizens would be issued a new distinct card under AB PM-JAY.

The senior citizens aged 70 years and above belonging to families already covered under AB PM-JAY will get an additional top-up cover up to ₹5 lakh per year for themselves (which they do not have to share with the other members of the family who are below the age of 70 years). All other senior citizens of the age 70 years and above will get a cover up to ₹5 lakh per year, on a family basis.

Senior citizens aged 70 years and above who are already availing benefits of other public health insurance schemes such as Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS), Ayushman Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) may either choose their existing scheme or opt for AB PMJAY.

It has been clarified that senior citizens of 70 years and above who are under private health insurance policies or Employees' State Insurance scheme will be eligible to avail benefits under AB PM-JAY.

AB PM-JAY is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme which provides health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and, tertiary care hospitalization to 55 crore individuals corresponding to 12.34 crore families. All members of the eligible families irrespective of age are covered under the scheme. The scheme has covered 7.37 Crore hospital admissions including 49 percent women beneficiaries. The public has benefited to the extent of over Rs. 1 Lakh crore under the scheme.

The AB PM-JAY scheme has witnessed continuous expansion of the beneficiary base. Taking the mission ahead, AB PM-JAY would now provide free healthcare coverage of Rs 5 lakh to all citizens aged 70 years and above in the country.

173. In September 2024, Paralympic champions _____ and _____ were announced as the Election Commission of India's national icons for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), aiming to inspire voters and raise awareness about the importance of electoral participation.

सितंबर 2024 में, पैरालिंपिक चैंपियन _____ और _____ को विकलांग व्यक्तियों (PwDs) के लिए भारत के चुनाव आयोग के राष्ट्रीय प्रतीक के रूप में घोषित किया गया था, जिसका उद्देश्य मतदाताओं को प्रेरित करना और चुनावी भागीदारी के महत्व के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाना था।

- (a) Avani Lekhara; Bhavina Patel
 - (b) Rakesh Kumar; Sheetal Devi
 - (c) Sheetal Devi; Avani Lekhara
 - (d) Bhavina Patel; Sheetal Devi
 - (e) Rakesh Kumar; Avani Lekhara
- Ans. b**

Sol. Sheetal Devi & Rakesh Kumar team up as ECI National PwD Icons for voter awareness

Paralympic archery champions Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar team up to inspire voters nationwide as ECI's national icons for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

In an event organised at Nirvachan Sadan, CEC Shri Rajiv Kumar along with ECs Shri Gyanesh Kumar and Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu felicitated Arjuna Awardee and ECI's national PwD icon, Ms. Sheetal Devi, And her mixed doubles team partner Shri Rakesh Kumar, in recognition of their outstanding achievement in winning a bronze medal in Archery at the Paris Summer Paralympics 2024.

On the occasion, the Commission also announced Shri Rakesh Kumar, renowned Paralympian as the ECI National icon for PwDs.

174. An Indian-origin lecturer Prasanthi Ram at Nanyang Technological University has won the prestigious Singapore Literature Prize for English fiction with her debut short story collection, _____.

नानयांग टेक्नोलॉजिकल यूनिवर्सिटी में भारतीय मूल की लेक्चरर, प्रशांति राम ने अपने पहले लघु कहानी संग्रह, _____ के लिए अंग्रेजी कथा साहित्य के लिए प्रतिष्ठित सिंगापुर साहित्य पुरस्कार जीता है।

- (a) The Tiger Moth Review Issue
- (b) Food Republic: A Singapore Literary Banquet
- (c) Habitation
- (d) 11 Years ago
- (e) Nine Yard Sarees

Ans. e

Sol. Indian-origin lecturer wins Singapore Literature Prize for English fiction, 'Nine Yard Sarees'

An Indian-origin lecturer at Nanyang Technological University has won the prestigious Singapore Literature Prize for English fiction with her debut short story collection, Nine Yard Sarees.

Prasanthi Ram, 32, saw her work published in late 2023. Her collection explores the lives of a Tamil Brahmin family spread across cities like Singapore, Sydney, New York, and Connecticut.

The award for best English creative non-fiction went to Shubigi Rao, an Indian-origin artist, for her book Pulp III: An Intimate Inventory Of The Banished Book (2022). This book is the third part of her decade-long project on banned literature.

175. In September 2024, which of the following banks entered into a strategic partnership with DMI Finance to launch a co-branded credit card, aimed at expanding credit card access across metro and non-metro cities in India?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने भारत में मेट्रो और गैर-मेट्रो शहरों में क्रेडिट कार्ड पहुंच का विस्तार करने के उद्देश्य से एक सह-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च करने के लिए डीएमआई फाइनेंस के साथ रणनीतिक साझेदारी की?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) RBL Bank
- (e) UCO Bank

Ans. d

Sol. RBL Bank & DMI Finance Launches Co-Branded Credit Card

RBL Bank and DMI Finance Private Limited ("DMI"), part of the DMI Group, announced a strategic agreement to provide co-branded credit cards to DMI Finance's existing customers.

This collaboration intends to increase credit card access to clients in India's metro and non-metro cities by combining RBL Bank's extensive credit card experience, with DMI's proven track record of enabling digital financial inclusion at scale.

The credit card will offer spend-driven perks such as expedited reward points, no-cost EMI alternatives, and discounts at popular merchants.

This partnership will enhance financial inclusion in India by bringing credit card access to underserved, creditworthy individuals across the country.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Bank of India launched a 333 days fixed deposit scheme called '**Star Dhan Vriddhi Fixed Deposit**'
- Star Health and Allied Insurance introduced India's first health insurance policy '**Special Care Gold**' in Braille
- Hitachi Payment launches Country's **First Android-Based Cash Recycling Machine**
- Razorpay launches **DigiPOS – Elevating Apple Resellers** In- Store Payment Experience
- ESAF Small Finance Bank to expand **Dabba Savings Accounts** campaign

176. The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. What is the theme of SEMICON India 2024?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने उत्तर प्रदेश के ग्रेटर नोएडा में इंडिया एक्सपो मार्ट में SEMICON India 2024 का उद्घाटन किया। SEMICON India 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Shaping Future for India
- (b) Catalysing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem

(c) Shaping the Semiconductor Future

(d) India@2027

(e) Shaping Semiconductor Ecosystem

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates SEMICON India 2024 in Greater Noida

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

The three-day conference showcase India's semiconductor strategy and policy which envisions making India a global hub for semiconductors.

With India's electronics sector now valued at over \$150 billion, the Prime Minister outlined a larger goal to grow the country's electronics sector, to \$500 billion and create 6 million jobs by the end of this decade.

Under this vision, SEMICON India 2024 is being organized with the theme "Shaping the Semiconductor Future".

About Uttar Pradesh

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

177. Which of the following has launched Saarthi, a reference application designed to assist businesses in creating their own customised buyer-side apps, co-developed with Bhashini?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने सारथी लॉन्च किया है, जो एक संदर्भ एप्लिकेशन है जिसे व्यवसायों को अपने स्वयं के अनुकूलित खरीदार-पक्ष ऐप बनाने में सहायता करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है, जिसे भाषिणी के साथ सह-विकसित किया गया है?

- (a) Life Insurance Company
- (b) Reserve Bank of India
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Election Commission of India
- (e) Open Network for Digital Commerce

Ans. e

Sol. ONDC launches Saarthi reference app for businesses to create multilingual buyer apps

Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) has launched Saarthi, a reference application designed to assist businesses in creating their own customised buyer-side apps, co-developed with Bhashini.

As a reference tool, Saarthi supports network participants in building buyer apps with multilingual features.

The app initially supports Hindi, English, Marathi, Bangla and Tamil, with plans to scale up to all 22 languages provided by Bhashini.

The launch of Saarthi is a pivotal development in our journey towards a more inclusive digital commerce landscape. By providing a reference application that enables businesses to create multilingual buyer apps, we are breaking down language barriers and opening up new avenues for engagement and growth. This initiative aligns with our commitment to democratize access to e-commerce, ensuring that businesses of all sizes can connect with customers across India's diverse linguistic spectrum.

178. MongoDB has partnered with which of the following to upskill 500,000 students?

MongoDB ने 500,000 छात्रों को कौशल प्रदान करने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) University Grants Commission
- (b) National Assessment and Accreditation Council
- (c) National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning
- (d) National Board of Accreditation
- (e) All-India Council for Technical Education

Ans. e

Sol. MongoDB partners with AICTE; to upskill 500,000 students

MongoDB has announced the expansion of MongoDB for Academia in India, including a new partnership with the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Ministry of Education, Government of India.

The company stated this partnership will be supported by SmartBridge's SmartInternz learning platform to give over 150,000 Indian students access to virtual internships and to gain the skills required to use MongoDB Atlas—a multi-cloud developer data platform.

The program aims to provide full-stack development skills to the students, with each internship including 60 hours of experiential learning, boot camps, courses, and project work, and simulated corporate environments.

This collaboration will make the MongoDB Developer Learning Path available to the platform's 25 million registered users and is expected to reach more than 100,000 aspiring developers.

179. Which state government has signed an MoU with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), aimed at increasing the milk production in the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में दूध उत्पादन बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से राष्ट्रीय डेयरी विकास बोर्ड (NDDB) के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Rajasthan
- (e) Haryana

Ans. b

Sol. MP govt inks MoU with NDDB for promoting milk production

Madhya Pradesh government has signed an MoU with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), aimed at increasing the milk production in the state. This step will help to increase milk production in the state," CM Yadav said, adding that NDDB and the state government would set up dairies for milk production as a pilot project.

The chief minister said with this step, more than 11,000 villages would be able to get a fair milk price.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital** – Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Dr Mohan Yadav (replace Shivraj Singh Chauhan)
- **Deputy CM** - Jagdish Devda & Rajendra Shukla
- **Speaker of Madhya Pradesh Assembly** - Narendra Singh Tomar
- **Governor** – Mangubhai C. Patel

180. World First Aid Day is observed annually on the second _____ of September.

विश्व प्राथमिक चिकित्सा दिवस हर साल सितंबर के दूसरे _____ को मनाया जाता है।

- (a) Thursday
- (b) Friday
- (c) Saturday
- (d) Sunday
- (e) Monday

Ans. c

Sol. 14 September 2024- World First Aid Day

World First Aid Day is observed annually on the second Saturday of September to highlight the importance of first aid in saving lives. This year, World First Aid Day falls on September 14.

The day aims to educate people about the crucial role first aid plays in tackling medical emergencies and encouraging them to come forward when a situation arises.

Theme 2024 - First Aid and Sports

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) declared the second Saturday of September the World First Aid Day in 2001.

181. Which city will host the Irani Cup 2024 from October 1 to 5?

कौन सा शहर 1 से 5 अक्टूबर तक ईरानी कप 2024 की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Lucknow
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Indore
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Kanpur

Ans. a

Sol. Irani Cup 2024 to be played in Lucknow from October 1-5

The 2024/25 Irani Cup game, which was supposed to be held in Mumbai from October 1 to 5, has been shifted to Lucknow.

The match will be played between current Ranji Trophy winners Mumbai and a Rest of the India side selected by the national selection committee.

Last year, Rest of India won the Irani Cup after beating Saurashtra by 175 runs in Rajkot.

The inaugural edition of the Irani Cup was played in March 1960, and is named after Zal R Irani, who served as Treasurer and President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Rest of India has won the trophy 26 times, while Mumbai has emerged victorious 14 times.

182. Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched the "Rangeen Machhli" mobile app at ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar. What is the name of the Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying minister?

केंद्रीय मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री ने भुवनेश्वर स्थित आईसीएआर-केंद्रीय मीठे पानी के जलीय कृषि संस्थान (आईसीएआर-सीआईएफए) में "रंगीन मछली" मोबाइल ऐप लॉन्च किया है। मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Virendra Kumar
- (b) Sarbananda Sonowal
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Manohar Lal Khattar
- (e) Rajiv Ranjan Singh

Ans. e

Sol. Rajiv Ranjan Singh launches 'Rangeen Machhli' App.

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Rajiv Ranjan Singh Alias Lalan Singh, launched the "Rangeen Machhli" mobile app at ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar.

Developed by ICAR-CIFA with support from the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), the app is designed to meet the growing needs of the ornamental fisheries sector, providing crucial knowledge resources for hobbyists, aquarium shop owners, and fish farmers.

The "Rangeen Machhli" app provides multilingual information on popular ornamental fish species in eight Indian languages, making it accessible to a wide audience. Whether hobbyists are seeking guidance on fish care or farmers looking to diversify their breeds, the app offers comprehensive details on care, breeding, and maintenance practices.

One of its key features is the "Find Aquarium Shops" tool, which allows users to locate nearby aquarium shops through a dynamic directory updated by shop owners, promoting local businesses and connecting users with reliable sources for ornamental fish and aquarium-related products.

183. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has launched a dedicated web portal to monitor the progress of Special Swachhata Campaign 4.0. via video conferencing. The government has decided to observe special campaigns every year from _____ to _____ to institutionalize Swachhata and reduce pendency.

केंद्रीय मंत्री डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से विशेष स्वच्छता अभियान 4.0 की प्रगति की निगरानी के लिए एक समर्पित वेब पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है। सरकार ने स्वच्छता को संस्थागत बनाने और लंबित मामलों को कम करने के लिए हर साल _____ से _____ तक विशेष अभियान चलाने का फैसला किया है।

(a) 2 October – 10 October

(b) 2 October – 15 October

(c) 2 October – 20 October

(d) 2 October – 24 October

(e) 2 October – 31 October

Ans. e

Sol. Dr. Jitendra Singh launch dedicated web-portal for Special Campaign 4.0

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has launched a dedicated web portal to monitor the progress of Special Swachhata Campaign 4.0. via video conferencing.

The Special Campaign aims to institutionalize Swachhata in all central government offices using a saturation approach.

The government has decided to observe special campaigns every year from October 2nd to 31st to institutionalize Swachhata and reduce pendency.

184. In September 2024, which of the following digital platforms has launched by Adani Airports Holdings Ltd to offer passengers real-time access to various airport-related information, such as wait times at security checks, gate changes, baggage tracking, and other updates, with the goal of enhancing airport operations management and passenger experience across its network of seven operational airports in India?

सितंबर 2024 में, अडानी एयरपोर्ट्स होल्डिंग्स लिमिटेड ने यात्रियों को विभिन्न हवाई अड्डे से संबंधित जानकारी, जैसे सुरक्षा जांच में प्रतीक्षा समय, गेट परिवर्तन, सामान ट्रैकिंग और अन्य अपडेट तक वास्तविक समय तक पहुंच प्रदान करने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च किया है, जिसका लक्ष्य भारत में सात परिचालन हवाई अड्डों के अपने नेटवर्क में हवाई अड्डा संचालन प्रबंधन और यात्री अनुभव को बढ़ाना है?

(a) SkyRack

(b) AirFlow

(c) RTGS

(d) Aviiio

(e) Aero

Ans. d

Sol. Adani Airports launches 'aviio' to give passengers real-time access data
Adani Airports Holdings Ltd, the Adani group firm that operates seven airports in the country, has launched 'aviio' digital platform to provide passengers with real-time data on a variety of airport accesses - from wait times to gate change and bags on belts.

Aviiio aspires to bring the aviation community together to collaborate and serve passengers better.

By enabling airport stakeholders to access real-time data, passengers can expect easier access to airport information in the form of updates related to security checks, wait times, gate change, and bags on belts, among other aspects.

AAHL's vision for 'aviio' encompasses the development of a cutting-edge Smart Airport Operations System, conceived as a replicable model of an 'Airport-in-a-Box'. This next-generation Airport Planning and Operation Centre (APOC) has 10x more features that help in arriving at data-driven decisions.

185. Which insurance company has joined hands with Policybazaar to launch 'SUPER STAR', a personalized long-term health insurance plan designed to provide more client value?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने अधिक ग्राहक मूल्य प्रदान करने के लिए डिज़ाइन की गई व्यक्तिगत दीर्घकालिक स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना 'सुपर स्टार' लॉन्च करने के लिए पॉलिसीबाज़ार के साथ हाथ मिलाया है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Star Health and Allied Insurance
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. d

Sol. Star Health Insurance & Policybazaar join hands to launch SUPER STAR
Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited (Star Health Insurance) has joined hands with Policybazaar to launch 'SUPER STAR', a personalized long-term health insurance plan designed to provide more client value.

This game-changing product is designed to satisfy policyholders' evolving needs while providing unrivaled flexibility and customisation.

The 5-year policy period applies to both individuals and families. The Super Star Insurance plan represents a paradigm shift in the health insurance landscape by providing modular coverage that adjusts to consumers' changing life phases.

The Super Star plan offers numerous sum insured options ranging from ₹5 lakhs to ₹1 crore, as well as an unlimited SI option, allowing consumers to select the best plan for their needs. The SUPER STAR plan offers a huge step forward in India's health insurance system, bridging the gap between cost and comprehensive coverage.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Blostem Partners with Suryoday SFB to Revamp Digital Fixed Deposits
- AU Small Finance inks pact with United India Insurance Co for distribution of insurance products
- Max Life Insurance Company Ltd partnered with CSB bank to boost insurance reach and market growth, aligning with their strategic goals
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with Tarrakki to offer digital fixed deposits
- Mastercard collaborates with Gramophone to Boost Credit Access for 2 mn Farmers in India

186. Who has been elected the president of the International Hockey Federation (FIH)?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हॉकी महासंघ (FIH) का अध्यक्ष किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Roger Binny
- (b) P. T. Usha
- (c) Anju Bobby George
- (d) Milkha Singh
- (e) Tayyab Ikram

Ans. e

Sol. Tayyab Ikram to continue as FIH chief for second consecutive term

Incumbent International Hockey Federation (FIH) president Tayyab Ikram is set to be elected unopposed as the head of the world body at its 49th Congress in Muscat, Oman.

The nominations for FIH elections were received by the August 31 deadline for the positions to be elected by the National Associations that are members of the FIH at its Statutory Congress.

The former Pakistan and China hockey coach is a member of the IOC Olympic Solidarity Commission and has been an Executive Board member of the FIH since 2016. On 5 November 2022, he was elected as the 13th President of FIH.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairperson of Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** - RS Sharma
- **Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language** - Amit Shah
- **Chairperson of Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR** - Rajesh Verma
- **State Mission Director of National Health Mission (NHM)** - Vinay Goyal (replace K. Jeevan Babu)
- **Chairman of Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) for 2024-25** - Partha Sinha

187. In September 2024, which of the following Indian naval assets deployed to participate in Exercise Kakadu, a large-scale maritime warfare exercise held in Darwin, Australia?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस भारतीय नौसैनिक संपत्ति को ऑस्ट्रेलिया के डार्विन में आयोजित बड़े पैमाने पर समुद्री युद्ध अभ्यास, अभ्यास काकाडू में भाग लेने के लिए तैनात किया गया है?

- (a) P18I aircraft
- (b) P80I aircraft
- (c) P8J aircraft
- (d) J8I aircraft
- (e) P8I aircraft

Ans. e

Sol. Indian Navy's P8I aircraft reaches Australia's Darwin to participate in Exercise Kakadu

The Indian Navy's P8I aircraft, led by Commanding Officer Captain Ajay Kanwar, has reached Australia's Darwin to participate in the 16th edition of Exercise Kakadu 2024. The Indian Navy will participate in the exercise alongside more than 30 nations with the theme of 'Regional Cooperation through Trusted and Proven Partnerships.' Australia's biggest warfare exercise- Kakadu, incorporates warships, helicopters, and maritime patrol aircraft from attending countries.

Kakadu is an important exercise hosted by RAN as it deepens relationships and interoperability between participating armed forces. Australia is a maritime nation that like its neighbours, derives prosperity from access to the sea-backed.

188. Recently, which city has been renamed as "Shri Vijayapuram"?

हाल ही में किस सिटी का नाम बदलकर "श्री विजयपुरम" कर दिया गया है?

- (a) Daman and Diu
- (b) Port Blair
- (c) Kavaratti
- (d) Pamban Island
- (e) Havelock Island

Ans. b

Sol. Port Blair to be renamed as 'Sri Vijaya Puram

Union home minister Amit Shah has announced that Andaman and Nicobar Island's capital Port Blair has been renamed as "Sri Vijaya Puram."

The government decided to free the nation from the colonial imprints. He said, Sri Vijaya Puram symbolises the victory achieved in the country's freedom struggle. Andaman and Nicobar Islands have an unparalleled place in the country's freedom struggle and history. The island territory that once served as the naval base of the Chola Empire is today poised to be the critical base for our strategic and development aspirations.

It is also the place that hosted the first unfurling of the Tiranga by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and also the cellular jail in which Veer Savarkar and other freedom fighters struggled for an independent nation.

189. Recently, which country has become the first country to allow voters to elect judges at all levels?

हाल ही में, कौन सा देश मतदाताओं को सभी स्तरों पर न्यायाधीशों को चुनने की अनुमति देने वाला पहला देश बन गया है?

- (a) Finland

- (b) Mexico
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Germany
- (e) Poland

Ans. b

Sol. Mexico became the first country in the world to allow voters to elect judges at all levels

Mexico became the world's first country to allow voters to elect judges at all levels after protesters invaded the upper house and suspended debate on the issue.

The reform was approved with 86 votes in favor and 41 against, garnering the two-thirds majority needed to amend the constitution, in an upper chamber dominated by the ruling Morena party and its allies.

A two-thirds majority was required to amend the constitution, and the reform achieved this threshold.

About Mexico

- Capital- Mexico City
- Currency – Peso
- President- Andrés Manuel López Obrador
- Continent- North America

190. Which state government has decided to celebrate September 17th as Praja Palana Day?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 17 सितंबर को प्रजा पालन दिवस के रूप में मनाने का निर्णय लिया है?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Kerala

Ans. b

Sol. Telangana government has decided to celebrate September 17 as Praja Palan Day

The Telangana State government has decided to celebrate September 17th, the day on which Hyderabad State was integrated into the Indian Union in 1948, as the Telangana Praja Palana Day, the Day of People's Governance.

On that day in 1948, the then-Hyderabad state merged with the Indian Union.

In 2023, the then-BRS government decided to celebrate September 17 as National Integration Day. The Union government, on the other hand, decided to celebrate it as

Hyderabad Liberation Day, and the Ministry of Home Affairs issued a gazette notification to this effect.

Hyderabad merged with the Indian Union on September 17, 1948, following a “police action” under Operation Polo. While some describe it as liberation from Nizam rule, others call it a merger with the Indian Union.

About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – Revanth Reddy (replace K. Chandrashekar Rao)
- **Deputy CM** - Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- **Governor** – C. P. Radhakrishnan

191. As measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), how much percent retail inflation was recorded in August 2024?

उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (सीपीआई) के अनुसार, अगस्त 2024 में खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति कितने प्रतिशत दर्ज की गई?

- (a) 3.45%
- (b) 3.55%
- (c) 3.65%
- (d) 3.75%
- (e) 3.85%

Ans. c

Sol. India's retail inflation at 3.65 per cent in August 2024

India's retail inflation rose to 3.65 percent in August, slightly higher than the 3.6 percent reported in July this year.

According to data released today, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) highlighted that this is the second-lowest retail inflation in the past five years.

The inflation rate was within the Reserve Bank of India's tolerance band of 2-6 percent. Meanwhile, the food inflation rate for August 2024, based on the All India Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), is provisionally reported at 5.66 percent, making it the second-lowest since June 2023.

Several subgroups, including spices, meat and fish, and pulses and products, have experienced a decrease in inflation.

Previous Months CPI-based Retail inflation

- **January 2024** – 5.10%
- **February 2024** – 5.09%
- **March 2024** – 4.85%

- April 2024 – 4.83%
- May 2024 – 4.75%
- June 2024 – 5.08%
- July 2024 – 3.54%

192. Which company has signed an MoU with L&T Semiconductor Technologies (SiLT) to co-develop advanced processors for edge devices, hybrid cloud systems and areas like mobility, industrial, energy, and servers?

किस कंपनी ने एज डिवाइसेस, हाइब्रिड क्लाउड सिस्टम और मोबिलिटी, औद्योगिक, ऊर्जा और सर्वर जैसे क्षेत्रों के लिए उन्नत प्रोसेसर के सह-विकास के लिए एलएंडटी सेमीकंडक्टर टेक्नोलॉजीज (SiLT) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) IBM
- (b) HCL
- (c) Infosys
- (d) Wipro
- (e) TCS

Ans. a

Sol. IBM & L&T Partner to Develop Advanced Processors

IBM and L&T Semiconductor Technologies (SiLT) have signed an agreement to co-develop advanced processors for edge devices, hybrid cloud systems and areas like mobility, industrial, energy, and servers.

This partnership will boost India's semiconductor capabilities by creating competitive products for global markets.

Recent MoU

- Indian Army and Indian Air Force signed an MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, Vadodara will enable the two Services to acquire higher expertise in logistics
- Ministry of Panchayati Raj and UNICEF signed Letter of Intent to strengthen Systems for Social Change
- Visa and the Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council inked a 3-year partnership of up to \$1 million USD
- ICAR-CIFE and VAMNICOM Sign MoU to Enhance Cooperative Management in Fisheries
- Petronet LNG (PLL) has entered into an MoU with LTL Holdings of Sri Lanka, for supply of LNG to LTL's dual fuelled power plants in Kerawalapitiya, Colombo.
- JNCASR partners with HZL to scale up indigenous Zn-ion battery technologies

193. Hindi Diwas is observed every year on 14 September. In which year first Hindi Diwas was observed?

हिंदी दिवस हर साल 14 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। पहली बार हिंदी दिवस किस वर्ष मनाया गया था?

- (a) 1952
- (b) 1953
- (c) 1975
- (d) 1999
- (e) 2000

Ans. b

Sol. 14 September - Hindi Diwas

Hindi Diwas is observed every year on 14 September.

In 2024, the country is celebrating the 75th year (diamond jubilee) of the adoption of Hindi as India's official language.

On 14 September 1946, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted Hindi in Devnagari script as the official language (Raj Bhasha) of the Indian government, based on the K, M Munshi-N.G Iyenger formula.

However, the first Hindi Diwas was observed on 14 September 1953 by the government of India. Since then, every year, 14 September has been observed as Hindi Diwas.

On this occasion, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs organised the 4th Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan and launched Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag to promote the Hindi language.

World Hindi Diwas is observed on 10 January every year to promote the Hindi language in the world. The first World Hindi Diwas was observed on 10 January 2006.

194. The United Nations International Day of South-South Cooperation is celebrated every year on which day?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दक्षिण-दक्षिण सहयोग दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 11 September
- (b) 12 September
- (c) 13 September
- (d) 14 September
- (e) 15 September

Ans. b

Sol. 12 September - International Day of South-South Cooperation

The United Nations International Day of South-South Cooperation is celebrated every year on 12 September.

Theme 2024 - A better tomorrow through South-South Cooperation

The South-South cooperation is a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

195. Which company will manufacture the VL-SRSAM missile being developed by DRDO?

डीआरडीओ द्वारा विकसित की जा रही वीएल-एसआरएसएम मिसाइल का निर्माण कौन सी कंपनी करेगी?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- (c) Bharat Dynamic Limited
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited

Ans. c

Sol. VL-SRSAM missile successfully test-fired by DRDO & Indian Navy

The Indian Navy, in partnership with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has successfully tested the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).

The test was carried out at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur island off the coast of Odisha.

This is the second successful missile test by the DRDO in the past week. On 6 September 2024, the DRDO successfully conducted the user trial of its nuclear-capable intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM Agni-4).

During the test, the missile equipped with an advanced radio frequency seeker was launched from a land-based vertical launcher, which successfully intercepted a high-speed aerial target flying at a low altitude.

DRDO is developing the VL-SRAM, which will be manufactured by the central government-owned Bharat Dynamic Limited.

The DRDO-developed missile is likely to replace the Israeli Barak-1 missile currently deployed by the Indian Navy.

196. What is the name of the bilateral military exercise between the Indian Army and the Royal Oman Army?

भारतीय सेना और रॉयल ओमान सेना के बीच द्विपक्षीय सैन्य अभ्यास का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Garuda Shakti
- (b) Shakti
- (c) Hand in Hand
- (d) Eastern Bridge

(e) AL NAJAH**Ans. e****Sol.** Oman hosts Indo-Oman Eastern Bridge VII & Al Najah V Exercise

The Indian Army and the Indian Air Force contingent have arrived in Oman to participate in the AL NAJAH -V and Exercise Eastern Bridge -VII, respectively.

Exercise Eastern Bridge VII

- The seventh edition of the bilateral military exercise Exercise Eastern Bridge between the Indian Air Force and the Royal Oman Air Force commenced at the Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.
- The Indian Air Force has sent a contingent of MiG-29s, Jaguar fighter planes, and C-17 Globemaster III transport planes.

Exercise AL NAJAH 2024

- The 5th edition of the bilateral military exercise AL NAJAH between the Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman will be held at the Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.
- The 60-member Indian Army contingent consists of a Battalion of the Mechanised Infantry Regiment.
- The military exercise will focus on executing counterterrorism operations as per the United Nations Charter. It will be undertaken in desert conditions, which is expected to increase the desert warfare capabilities of both armies.

Recent Exercise

- **Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield** between South Korea and USA
- **Exercise Udara Shakti 2024** between Indian Air Force and Malaysia Air Force - Kuantan, Malaysia
- Ex Pitch Black 2024 between India and Australia - Darwin, Australia
- 28th edition of **Malabar Exercise** between India, USA, Japan, Australia - Bay of Bengal (October 2024)
- 16th edition of Joint Military **Exercise Nomadic Elephant** between India and Mongolia - Umroi, Meghalaya
- 13th edition of Joint military **Exercise MAITREE** between India and Thailand - Fort Vachirapakan in Tak Province of Thailand.

197. Who has launched the website for the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav?**अष्टलक्ष्मी महोत्सव के लिए वेबसाइट किसने लॉन्च की है?****(a) Amit Shah****(b) Narendra Modi****(c) JP Nadda**

(d) Jyotiraditya Scindia

(e) Jitendra Singh

Ans. d

Sol. Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia launches 'Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav' website
Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Hon'ble Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), has officially launched the website for the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav.

The launch, held at Sanchar Bhawan in New Delhi, highlights the government's dedication to showcasing Northeast India's cultural and economic richness on both national and international platforms.

The Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav, to be held from December 6th to 8th, 2024, at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, is set to be a landmark celebration.

The festival draws inspiration from the eight Northeastern states—Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura—collectively known as the "Ashtalakshmi," representing eight forms of prosperity.

The website, www.ashtalakshmimahotsav.com, will serve as a one-stop resource for event updates, schedules, and participation details, ensuring seamless engagement for attendees from across the country.

198. Prime Minister Modi released the first installment of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Gramin in Jharkhand to beneficiaries. Rupees _____ was digitally transferred to the bank account of the beneficiaries.

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने झारखंड में लाभार्थियों को प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना-ग्रामीण की पहली किस्त जारी की। लाभार्थियों के बैंक खाते में _____ रुपये डिजिटल तरीके से ट्रांसफर किए गए।

(a) 22 crore

(b) 32 crore

(c) 42 crore

(d) 52 crore

(e) 62 crore

Ans. b

Sol. PM releases 1st installment of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Gramin to beneficiaries

Prime Minister Modi released the first installment of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Gramin in Jharkhand to beneficiaries.

Rupees 32 crore was digitally transferred to the bank account of the beneficiaries. Besides sanction letters of 32,000 houses were distributed.

He also virtually handed over keys to 46,000 beneficiaries of PMAY-G across the country. The Centre has approved 1,13,400 houses for the poor in Jharkhand under the PMAY-G scheme

199. The GST Council constituted a 13-member Group of Ministers (GoM) to suggest GST rates on various health and life insurance product premiums. It will submit its report by October 30. Who will chair this Panel?

जीएसटी परिषद ने विभिन्न स्वास्थ्य और जीवन बीमा उत्पाद प्रीमियम पर जीएसटी दरों का सुझाव देने के लिए 13 सदस्यीय मंत्री समूह (जीओएम) का गठन किया है। यह 30 अक्टूबर तक अपनी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करेगा। इस पैनल की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Nidhi Khatri
- (b) Sunil Bajpai
- (c) Sanjay Agrawal
- (d) M S Sahoo
- (e) Samrat Choudhary

Ans. e

Sol. Group of Ministers to review tax rates on health, life insurance

The GST Council constituted a 13-member Group of Ministers (GoM) to suggest GST rates on premiums of various health and life insurance products. It will submit its report by October 30.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary is the convenor of the GoM. Members of the panel include members from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. The 54th GST Council meeting on September 9 decided to establish a GoM to examine and review the present structure of GST on life and medical insurance. Currently, 18% Goods and Services Tax (GST) is levied on insurance premiums. The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the panel also include suggesting tax rates for health insurance, including individual, group, and family floaters. Also under review is the rate for various categories like senior citizens, the middle class, and people with mental illnesses.

It will also suggest tax rates on life insurance, including term insurance, and life insurance with investment plans, whether individual or group, and re-insurance. In 2023-24, the Centre and states collected ₹8,262.94 crore through GST on health insurance premiums, while ₹1,484.36 crore more was collected on account of GST on health reinsurance premiums.

Recent Committee in News

- Supreme Court sets up panel to amicably resolve farmers' agitation; chaired by Justice Nawab Singh

- Revenue Department in the finance ministry formed a panel to simplify the decades-old I-T Act. - chaired by V K Gupta
- Gol constitutes a committee to monitor the current situation on Indo-Bangladesh Border- headed by ADG of BSF
- Committee on Appointment of VC in Bengal; chaired by - UU Lalit
- To review and suggest reform in the examination process (restructuring NTA) - Chaired by Dr. K.Radhakrishnan

200. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the BHASKAR initiative which will serve as a central hub where startups, investors, service providers, and government bodies can come together to collaborate, exchange ideas, and accelerate growth. What is the full form of BHASKAR?

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री पीयूष गोयल ने BHASKAR पहल की शुरुआत की है जो एक केंद्रीय केंद्र के रूप में काम करेगी जहाँ स्टार्टअप, निवेशक, सेवा प्रदाता और सरकारी निकाय सहयोग करने, विचारों का आदान-प्रदान करने और विकास में तेजी लाने के लिए एक साथ आ सकते हैं। BHASKAR का पूरा नाम क्या है?

- (a) Bharat Sarkar Knowledge Access Registry
- (b) Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registration
- (c) Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registrar
- (d) Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Regime
- (e) Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry

Ans. e

Sol. Piyush Goyal launched Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) initiative which will serve as a central hub where startups, investors, service providers, and government bodies can come together to collaborate, exchange ideas, and accelerate growth.

It will also enhance collaboration among key stakeholders within the entrepreneurial ecosystem, including startups, investors, mentors, service providers, and government bodies.

The primary goal of BHASKAR is to build the world's largest digital registry for stakeholders within the startup ecosystem.

201. R. Ravindra has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to which country?

आर. रविन्द्र को किस देश में भारत का अगला राजदूत नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Iceland
- (b) Germany
- (c) Finland

(d) Spain

(e) Kazakhstan

Ans. a

Sol. R. Ravindra appointed as India's next Ambassador to Iceland

R. Ravindra, currently the Deputy Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations in New York, has been appointed as the country's next envoy to Iceland.

R. Ravindran was an Indian foreign service officer of batch 1999 and is currently serving as India's Deputy permanent representative at the United Nations.

Recent Appointment in Foreign

- Arun Goel has been appointed as the ambassador of Republic of Croatia
- Mridu Pawan Das appointed as next High Commissioner of India to Rwanda
- Vinay Mohan Kwatra appointed as next Indian ambassador to US
- Vijay Khanduja appointed as India's next High Commissioner to Cameroon.
- Bramha Kumar appointed as India's Ambassador to Zimbabwe
- Sita Ram Meena appointed as India's Ambassador to Niger
- Abhay Thakur appointed as India's Envoy to Myanmar
- Soumendu Bagchi appointed as India's Ambassador to Iraq
- Abhilasha Joshi appointed as India's Ambassador to Chile
- Vinay Kumar appointed as India's Ambassador to Russia

202. Who has won the Azerbaijan Formula One Grand Prix 2024?

अज़रबैजान फॉर्मूला वन ग्रैंड प्रिक्स 2024 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Sebastian Vettel
- (b) Lewis Hamilton
- (c) Max Verstappen
- (d) Charles Leclerc
- (e) Oscar Piastri

Ans. e

Sol. Oscar Piastri won the Azerbaijan Grand Prix after a late crash impacted the race and required it to finish behind a virtual safety car.

The win, combined with the fourth-place finish of McLaren teammate Lando Norris, gave the team a 20-point lead over Red Bull in the constructors standings. Red Bull had topped the standings for the past 55 races; McLaren last held the position in 2014.

George Russell (Mercedes) was third and Max Verstappen (Red Bull) fifth in the race at Baku City Circuit in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Recent 2024 F1 Grand Prix Winner

- Azerbaijan Grand Prix - McLaren's Oscar Piastri (Australia)

- Italian Grand Prix - Ferrari's Charles Leclerc (Monaco)
- Dutch Grand Prix - McLaren's Lando Norris (British)
- Hungarian Grand Prix F2 - Kush Maini (India)
- Belgian Grand Prix - Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton (UK)
- Hungarian Grand Prix - McLaren's Oscar Piastri (Australia)
- British Grand Prix - Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton (UK)
- Austrian Grand Prix - Mercedes's George Russell (UK)
- Spanish Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Canadian Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Monaco Grand Prix - Ferrari's Charles Leclerc (Monaco)
- Emilia Romagna Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Miami Grand Prix - McLaren's Lando Norris (British)
- Chinese Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Japanese Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Australian Grand Prix - Ferrari's Carlos Sainz (Spain)
- Saudi Arabian Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Bahrain Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)

202. Ace Indian javelin throw athlete Neeraj Chopra finished in second position with a best throw of 87.86 m at the Diamond League Final. Paris Olympics bronze medallist Anderson Peters hurled the spear to a distance of 87.87 m to claim the top position. He is from which country?

भारत के शीर्ष भाला फेंक एथलीट नीरज चोपड़ा डायमंड लीग फाइनल में 87.86 मीटर की सर्वश्रेष्ठ थ्रो के साथ दूसरे स्थान पर रहे। पेरिस ओलंपिक के कांस्य पदक विजेता एंडरसन पीटर्स ने 87.87 मीटर की दूरी तक भाला फेंककर शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त किया। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Dominica
- (b) Grenada
- (c) Jamaica
- (d) Guam
- (e) USA

Ans. b

Sol. Neeraj Chopra finishes second at Diamond League Final in Brussels

Ace Indian javelin throw athlete Neeraj Chopra finished in second position in Brussels with a best throw of 87.86 m at the Diamond League Final.

Neeraj missed out on the top spot by just a 1 cm margin.

Paris Olympics bronze medallist Anderson Peters, Grenada, hurled the spear to a distance of 87.87 m to claim the top position. Meanwhile, Julian Weber of Germany, with his best attempt of 85.97 m, finished third.

Neeraj finished as runner-up in the Diamond League for the second year in a row. Back in 2023, Neeraj had fallen short of defending his Diamond Trophy after losing to Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch.

203. Information and Broadcasting Ministry has instituted a new section as part of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024 for young filmmakers called the _____.

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव (आईएफएफआई) 2024 के हिस्से के रूप में युवा फिल्म निर्माताओं के लिए एक नया खंड स्थापित किया है जिसे कहा जाता है।

- (a) Best Debut Indian Web series Section
- (b) Best Debut Indian Short Film Section
- (c) Best Debut Indian Actor Section
- (d) Best Debut Indian Play Back Singer Section
- (e) Best Debut Indian Film Section

Ans. e

Sol. IFFI 2024 to introduce new segment, 'Best Debut Indian Film Section'

Information and Broadcasting Ministry has instituted a new section as part of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024 for young filmmakers called the 'Best Debut Indian Film Section 2024.'

The 55th IFFI is slated to be held in Goa from November 20th to 28th.

Through this section, IFFI will also focus on Indian debut films, showcasing a diverse range of narratives and cinematic styles from across the country.

These selections will highlight the creative vision and unique storytelling approaches of young filmmakers, providing a platform for new talent and showcasing the work of emerging directors.

A maximum of five debut feature films will be selected and shown in the Best Debut Indian Film Section. Entries for the 'Best Debut Indian Film Section' are open now, with September 23rd as the deadline for submission.

204. Anmol Kharb, who was seen in news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

अनमोल खरब, जो सितंबर 2024 में एक उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए खबरों में थे, निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Badminton
- (c) Football
- (d) Archery
- (e) Shooting

Ans. b

Sol. Anmol Kharb clinches Belgian International Title

India's 17-year-old shuttler, Anmol Kharb secured her first senior international title by winning the women's singles event at the Belgian International 2024 in Leuven.

In a remarkable display of skill and determination, the 17-year-old, overcame Denmark's Amalie Schulz 24-22, 12-21, 21-10 in the final.

205. What is Vinetra, which was commissioned by the Indian Navy recently?

विनेत्रा क्या है, जिसे हाल ही में भारतीय नौसेना में शामिल किया गया है?

- (a) 3D surveillance Radar Facility
- (b) Indian Navy Submarine College
- (c) Radar System Facility
- (d) Indian Naval Submarine
- (e) Kalvari class Submarine Escape Training Facility

Ans. e

Sol. Indian Navy commissions Submarine Escape Training Facility Vinetra

The Indian Navy commissioned its indigenously designed and developed Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility at its premier submarine training base, INS Satavahana, in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

The INS Satavahana is under the Eastern Naval Command of the Indian Navy. L&T Defence has constructed the Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility, Vinetra (meaning Trainer).

The Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility will train the submarine crews of the Kalvari class of conventional submarines operated by the Indian Navy. It will train the crew to save their lives and escape from the submarine when it is in distress due to an accident or under attack.

The facility is equipped with a five-meter escape tower integrated with an adjacent diving basin.

The Vinetra facility was developed under the government's Make in India facility and Atma Nirbhar Bharat campaign to make India self-reliant in critical defence technology and facilities.

About Kalvari Class Submarine of the Indian Navy

- The Kalvari class submarine is being constructed in India under Project 75 of the Indian Navy, under which six submarines were to be constructed.
- In 2005, India and France signed a \$3.75 billion deal to construct six conventional Scorpene-class submarines in India with technology transfer from France.

- The French company Naval Group was to provide the technology, while the Mumbai-based Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) was to construct it.
- The 2000-tonne INS Kalvari class submarine is capable of performing all types of missions, such as surface vessel warfare, anti-submarine warfare, long-range strikes, special operations, and intelligence gathering.

206. In September 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the fourth RE Invest Global Industrial Meet at Mahatma Mandir in which city?

सितंबर 2024 में, प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने किस शहर के महात्मा मंदिर में चौथे आरई इन्वेस्ट ग्लोबल इंडस्ट्रियल मीट का उद्घाटन किया?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Gandhinagar
- (c) Gurugram
- (d) Surat
- (e) Mumbai

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated 4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the fourth RE Invest Global Industrial Meet at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar.

Modi also flagged off the second phase of the Ahmedabad Metro connecting Ahmedabad to Gandhinagar and GIFT City.

Modi is scheduled to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for various projects worth over 8 thousand crore rupees, which include the country's first Vande Bharat Metro train between Ahmedabad and Bhuj.

The 4th RE-INVEST Global Renewable Energy Meet & Expo has been organised by the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). The meet will highlight India's impressive progress in renewable energy manufacturing and deployment.

207. In September 2024, India has launched an operation to provide humanitarian assistance to typhoon "Yagi"-affected countries – Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam. What is the name of this operation?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत ने टाइफून "यागी" से प्रभावित देशों - म्यांमार, लाओस और वियतनाम को मानवीय सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए एक अभियान शुरू किया है। इस अभियान का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Operation Sambhav
- (b) Operation Sadbhav
- (c) Operation Samarth
- (d) Operation Shayog
- (e) Operation Shkati

Ans. b

Sol. India launches Operation Sadbhav to provide humanitarian assistance to Typhoon Yagi affected countries

India has launched Operation Sadbhav to provide humanitarian assistance to typhoon Yagi-affected countries – Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam.

India sent urgent relief materials to Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam to assist them in dealing with the impact of the major typhoon. These countries are reeling under massive floods after Asia's most powerful storm this year hit the three countries.

10 tonnes of aid, including dry ration, clothing and medicines, were dispatched to Myanmar onboard the Indian naval ship INS Satpura.

A military transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force is carrying 35 tonnes of aid to Vietnam and 10 tonnes of relief materials to Laos. These include genset, water purification items, hygiene supplies, mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping bags.

India has been among the first responders in providing Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to impacted countries. Operation Sadbhav is part of India's broader effort to contribute to HADR within the ASEAN region, in line with its 'Act East Policy'.

Other Operations in News

- Operation Maryada - For smooth conduct of Kedarnath Dham Yatra 2024 in Uttarakhand
- Operation Sadbhavana – To provide essential aid and healthcare for North Sikkim's communities by Indian Army
- Operation Bambi Bucket - To extinguish the forest fire near Nainital in Uttarakhand
- Operation True Promise - Iran launches against Israel
- Operation Ajay - To evacuate Indians from Israel
- Operation Kaveri - To evacuate Indians from Sudan

208. Which bank plans to launch seven phygital branches as a pilot project across the country. These branches integrate self-service and assisted service models?

कौन सा बैंक देश भर में पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के तौर पर सात फिजिटल शाखाएँ शुरू करने की योजना बना रहा है। ये शाखाएँ स्वयं-सेवा और सहायक सेवा मॉडल को एकीकृत करती हैं?

- (a) Canara Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) State Bank of India
- (d) Bank of Baroda
- (e) HDFC Bank

Ans. d**Sol.** BoB to launch 7 phygital branches as a pilot project

Bank of Baroda (BoB) is planning to launch seven phygital branches as a pilot project across the country. These branches integrate self-service and assisted service models. Debadatta Chand, Managing Director and CEO, recently inaugurated the bank's second phygital branch in Mumbai at Vile Parle.

BoB opened its first phygital branch at Horniman Circle in Mumbai in July. The second branch was opened last month at Chanda Nagar in Hyderabad last month. The phygital branch is equipped with video contact centre, where a customer can connect with the bank's contact centre through a video call to receive assistance on non-financial services. It has a self service kiosk where tablets are installed and customers can avail services like PAN updation, receive account statements through email, TDS certificate etc.

The phygital branch also has an exclusive service area as well as universal service counters manned by branch executives to provide seamless customer service.

209. World Ozone Day is celebrated every year on which day?**विश्व ओजोन दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 14 September
- (b) 15 September
- (c) 16 September
- (d) 17 September
- (e) 18 September

Ans. c**Sol.** 16 September - World Ozone Day

World Ozone Day is celebrated every year on September 16.

Objective - To raise awareness about the importance of the ozone layer in protecting life on Earth. It also spreads awareness about the steps that have been taken to preserve the ozone layer.

Theme 2024 - Montreal Protocol: Advancing Climate Action

The United Nations General Assembly established World Ozone Day in 1994 to celebrate the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

The Montreal Protocol, agreed on September 16, 1987, is an international pact designed to phase out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS).

210. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has increased the transaction limits for tax payments using UPI (Unified Payment Interface), by allowing people to send _____ in a single transaction.

भारतीय राष्ट्रीय भुगतान निगम (NPCI) ने UPI (एकीकृत भुगतान इंटरफ़ेस) का उपयोग करके कर भुगतान के लिए लेन-देन की सीमा बढ़ा दी है, जिससे लोग एक ही लेन-देन में _____ भेज सकते हैं।

- (a) 2 lakh
- (b) 3 lakh
- (c) 4 lakh
- (d) 5 lakh
- (e) 6 lakh

Ans. d

Sol. UPI users can now send Rs 5 lakh for some transactions

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has increased transaction limits for tax payments using the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), allowing people to transfer Rs 5 lakh in a single transaction.

While announcing its monetary policy statement on August 2024, RBI announced the enhancement of the limit for tax payments through UPI from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh, per transaction.

Consumers can now make UPI payments of up to Rs 5 lakh per transaction for the following categories: a) tax payments, b) hospital and educational services, and c) IPOs and government securities.

Two additional enhancements were previously introduced through circulars issued in December 2021 and December 2023.

NPCI has also introduced a new feature called 'UPI Circle' on its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. This feature allows primary UPI account holders to securely delegate payment responsibilities to trusted secondary users.

Acquiring entities must ensure that the classification of their merchants within MCC-9311 strictly adheres to the tax payments only. Merchants shall ensure UPI as a payment mode is enabled for the increased limit for the tax payments category.

What is NPCI?

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an initiative taken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Bank's Association (IBA) to operate the retail payments and settlement systems in India.
- This organization was founded in the year 2008 under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

211. In September 2024, the 9th Zaskar Festival 2024 began with remarkable grandeur in the picturesque village of Sani, signifying a landmark event for the region, the festival was inaugurated by the Lieutenant Governor Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra. Which among the following state belong to this festival?

सितंबर 2024 में, 9वें ज़ांस्कर महोत्सव 2024 की शुरुआत सानी के सुरम्य गाँव में उल्लेखनीय भव्यता के साथ हुई, जो इस क्षेत्र के लिए एक ऐतिहासिक घटना को दर्शाता है, इस महोत्सव का उद्घाटन उपराज्यपाल ब्रिगेडियर (डॉ) बीडी मिश्रा ने किया। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा राज्य इस महोत्सव से संबंधित है?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Ladakh
- (d) Jammu and Kashmir
- (e) Nagaland

Ans. c

Sol. Zaskar celebrates 9th Ladakh Zaskar Festival 2024

The 9th Ladakh Zaskar Festival 2024 began with remarkable grandeur in the picturesque village of Sani, signifying a landmark event for the region.

The festival was inaugurated by the Lieutenant Governor Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra.

This year's Zaskar Festival is especially significant as it marks the first celebration since Zaskar was officially declared a district.

The two-day festival showcases a wide array of cultural performances, reflecting the diverse traditions of the region. Highlights include performances by the Purgi tribes from Kargil, the Shina community of Drass, the Dard-Aryans from Aryan Valley, and the Changpa nomads from Changthang.

Cultural teams from Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul & Spiti, Kinnaur, and Uttarakhand are participating, enriching the festival with their unique traditions.

213. In September 2024, which financial institution, in collaboration with Digital India's Common Service Centres (CSCs), disbursed approximately Rs. 100 crore in loans aimed at expanding access to formal credit for underserved individuals and MSMEs?

सितंबर 2024 में, किस वित्तीय संस्थान ने डिजिटल इंडिया के कॉमन सर्विस सेंटर (CSCs) के सहयोग से, वंचित व्यक्तियों और MSMEs के लिए औपचारिक ऋण तक पहुंच का विस्तार करने के उद्देश्य से लगभग 100 करोड़ रुपये का ऋण वितरित किया?

- (a) Life Insurance Company
- (b) Piramal Finance
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) NABARD

Ans. b

Sol. Piramal Finance join hands with Digital India's CSCs to Boost Credit Access for Bharat's Budget Customers

Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd. (Piramal Finance), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Piramal Enterprises Ltd., has collaborated with Digital India's Common Service Centres (CSCs) to satisfy Bharat's lending needs by expanding access to formal credit for underserved persons and MSMEs.

This agreement successfully disbursed approximately Rs. 100 crore in August 2024 to increase credit availability in semi-urban areas, offering vital financial products such as house and business loans.

Using CSC's wide network of over 6 lakh centres, this project intends to assist budget clients in tier 2 and tier 3 cities, successfully addressing the financial requirements of underserved regions and expanding financial inclusion.

Piramal Finance will increase its loan offers via CSCs, focussing on underserved areas to better serve individuals and MSMEs in tier 2 and tier 3 cities.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Star Health Insurance & Policybazaar join hands to launch SUPER STAR health insurance plan
- Union Bank of India becomes first major Indian Bank to sign PCAF
- Blostem Partners with Suryoday SFB to Revamp Digital Fixed Deposits
- AU Small Finance inks pact with United India Insurance Co for distribution of insurance products
- Max Life Insurance Company Ltd partnered with CSB bank to boost insurance reach and market growth, aligning with their strategic goals
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with Tarrakki to offer digital fixed deposits

214. In September 2024, the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI), released by ITU, ranked countries into five tiers based on their commitment to cybersecurity across areas such as legal frameworks, technical measures, and capacity building. How many countries were placed in Tier 1, signifying the highest level of cybersecurity commitment and being recognized as "Role Modeling" nations?

सितंबर 2024 में, ITU द्वारा जारी वैश्विक साइबर सुरक्षा सूचकांक (GCI) ने कानूनी ढाँचे, तकनीकी उपायों और क्षमता निर्माण जैसे क्षेत्रों में साइबर सुरक्षा के प्रति उनकी प्रतिबद्धता के आधार पर देशों को पाँच स्तरों में स्थान दिया। टियर 1 में कितने देश रखे गए, जो साइबर सुरक्षा प्रतिबद्धता के उच्चतम स्तर को दर्शाता है और "रोल मॉडलिंग" राष्ट्रों के रूप में पहचाना जाता है?

- (a) 44
- (b) 46
- (c) 24
- (d) 34
- (e) 54

Ans. b

Sol. India ranked among Tier 1 countries in Global Cyber Security Index 2024

India has ranked among Tier 1 countries in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI). It is issued by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

'GCI 2024' has used a five-tier analysis this time. In this, the progress made in cyber security by various countries is tracked.

This report places 46 countries in Tier 1, the highest category. These countries have been named "Role Modeling", which have shown a strong commitment to all important aspects of cyber security.

The Global Cyber Security Index 2024 reported that India has performed well in measures such as legal, technical, capacity expansion, and corporations.

215. Which country has launched new research satellite Chamran-1 into orbit?

किस देश ने नया अनुसंधान उपग्रह चम्रान-1 कक्षा में प्रक्षेपित किया है?

- (a) Iran
- (b) Iraq
- (c) Israel
- (d) Russia
- (e) Pakistan

Ans. a

Sol. Iran launches new research satellite Chamran-1 into orbit

Iran successfully launched its Chamran-1 research satellite into orbit on Saturday, utilising the Qaem-100 rocket developed by the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

The launch marks a milestone in Iran's aerospace program, which has faced scrutiny and criticism from Western nations due to concerns that the technology could be repurposed for ballistic missile development.

The Chamran-1 satellite, weighing 60 kilograms, was placed into a 550-kilometer orbit and it is designed to test "hardware and software systems for orbital maneuver technology".

The Qaem-100 rocket, a solid-fuel, three-stage vehicle, was previously used in January for another successful satellite launch.

About Iran

- **Capital** – Tehran

- **Currency** – Rial
- **President** – Masoud Pezeshkian
- **Supreme Leader** - Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei

216. In September 2024, HDFC Bank announced its plan to increase the income of 5 lakh marginal farmers earning less than ₹60,000 annually by 2025 through its CSR initiative, named _____, this initiative, which has already seen an investment of over ₹5,000 crore in the past decade.

सितंबर 2024 में, एचडीएफसी बैंक ने अपनी सीएसआर पहल, जिसका नाम _____ है, के माध्यम से 2025 तक सालाना ₹60,000 से कम आय वाले 5 लाख सीमांत किसानों की आय बढ़ाने की अपनी योजना की घोषणा की, इस पहल में पिछले एक दशक में पहले ही ₹5,000 करोड़ से अधिक का निवेश देखा जा चुका है।

- (a) Project Madad
- (b) Parivartan
- (c) Shakti
- (d) Mission Sambhav
- (e) Project Roshini

Ans. b

Sol. HDFC Bank's Parivartan initiative aims to uplift rural communities with sustainable development programmes

The HDFC Bank is set to increase the income of 5 lakh marginal farmers earning less than ₹60,000 annually by 2025, scaling up further its over ₹5,000 crore investments in the corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives in the last decade.

The bank's focus on rural development reflects our continued commitment to fostering sustainable growth and uplifting vulnerable communities. Since its inception in 2014, Parivartan has grown into one of India's largest CSR programmes, active in 28 States and 8 Union Territories.

Though following 2013, corporates invested 2 per cent of net profit in the CSR initiative as it has become mandatory due to Section 135 of the Companies Act, Bharucha said his bank started the sustainable livelihood initiative (SLI) way back in 2008, giving affordable credit to people.

By way of Parivartan, one of the largest CSR initiatives by a corporate entity in the country, HDFC Bank Deputy Managing Director (DMD) Kaizad M Bharucha said, they have been able to touch over 10 crore lives directly and indirectly in ten years and fostered self-reliance and empowerment in the communities they work with.

In the CSR activities, which first began in Varanasi, the Bank said it spent ₹945.31 crore in FY24, which was up from ₹820.89 crore in FY23 and ₹736.01 crore in FY22.

217. Jafar Hassan has been elected the Prime Minister of which country?

जफर हसन किस देश के प्रधानमंत्री चुने गए हैं?

- (a) Oman
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Jordan
- (d) Somalia
- (e) Kuwait

Ans. c

Sol. Jordan's king appoints Jafar Hassan to serve as PM

Jordan's King Abdullah II tapped a longtime aide to serve as the kingdom's new prime minister.

Hassan has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Geneva and a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University.

He will replace the outgoing prime minister, Bisher Al-Khasawneh, whose Cabinet resigned in the wake of a parliamentary election. Al-Khasawneh has served since October 2020.

About Jordan

- Capital- Amman
- King- Abdullah II
- PM of Jordan - Jafar Hassan
- Currency- Jordanian Dinar
- Official language- Arabic
- Continent- Asia

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Algeria - Abdelmadjid Tebboune
- PM of France - Michel Barnier
- PM of Thailand - Paetongtarn Shinawatra (youngest PM of country)
- President of Rwanda - Paul Kagame (4th time)
- PM of Bulgaria - Goritsa Gruncharova-Kozhareva
- PM of Tunisia - Kamel Madouri

218. Where was the 4th Global Bio-India held?

चौथा ग्लोबल बायो-इंडिया कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Gurugram
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Hyderabad

Ans. c

Sol. 4th edition of the Global Bio-India 2024 concludes in New Delhi

The fourth edition of Global Bio-India 2024 successfully concluded after showcasing India's biotech prowess.

The three-day event was themed on the potential and opportunities in 'Biotech Innovation' and 'Bio-manufacturing' and their impact on the bio economy.

Theme 2024 - 'Biotech Innovation' and 'Bio-manufacturing'.

In Global Bio India, the country's biotech startups unveiled 11 products that showcased the country's emerging talent in biosciences.

The 4th Global Bio-India 2024 was organised by the Department of Biotechnology under the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, and the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).

South Korea was the partner country at the 4th Global Bio-India 2024.

219. Which of the following country will host the 2nd Formal Meeting of the COP9 Bureau and the 3rd Formal Meeting of the Fund Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश COP9 ब्यूरो की दूसरी औपचारिक बैठक और खेल में डोपिंग के खिलाफ यूनेस्को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन के तहत फंड अनुमोदन समिति की तीसरी औपचारिक बैठक की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) India
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) Russia

Ans. a

Sol. India to host high-level international meetings on anti-doping in sports
India is set to host the 2nd Formal Meeting of the COP9 Bureau and the 3rd Formal Meeting of the Fund Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport on in New Delhi.

As Vice-Chairperson of the COP9 Bureau, India has taken the lead in organizing these high-level gatherings, which will bring together key decision-makers and dignitaries from across the world.

Hosted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the meetings will see participation from distinguished delegates representing countries such as Azerbaijan, Barbados, Estonia, France, Italy, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, The Netherlands, Türkiye, UAE, and Zambia.

Senior officials from the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport will also be present, contributing to the discussions in a hybrid format.

The meetings will serve as a vital platform for countries and international organizations to deliberate on key issues concerning anti-doping, the development of fair sports practices, and global collaboration in upholding the principles of integrity in sport.

These deliberations will be instrumental in strengthening the ongoing fight against doping, ensuring that athletes around the world can compete in a clean and fair environment.

220. How many countries participated in the 4th South Asian Junior Athletics Championship 2024?

चौथी दक्षिण एशियाई जूनियर एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2024 में कितने देशों ने भाग लिया?

(a) 5

(b) 6

(c) 7

(d) 8

(e) 9

Ans. c

Sol. 4th South Asian Junior Athletics Championship: India at topped the medal tally The 4th South Asian Junior Athletics Championships was held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

India led the Medal tally by winning 48 medals- 21 gold,22 silver and 5 bronze.

The Sri Lanka team, which gave a tough fight to the Indians, came second with 35 medals—9 gold, 9 silver, and 17 bronze. Bangladesh came third with three bronze medals. Pakistan and Bhutan failed to win a single medal at the event.

The first South Asian Junior Athletics Championships was held in Sri Lanka in November 2007. The second edition was held in Ranchi in November 2013, and the third was held in May 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

All seven countries of the South Asian Athletics Federation (SAFF) -India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal—participated in the 4th South Asian Junior Athletics Championships.

India competed with the largest contingent of 62 athletes, followed by Sri Lanka with 54, Bangladesh with 16, Maldives with 15, Pakistan with 12, Nepal with 9 and Bhutan with 5 athletes.

221. What is the theme of the 8th India Water Week 2024, recently inaugurated by President Draupadi Murmu in New Delhi?

हाल ही में नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू द्वारा उद्घाटन किए गए 8वें भारत जल सप्ताह 2024 का विषय क्या है?

(a) Seeds of Change: Innovative Solutions for a Water-Wise World

- (b) Water Security for Sustainable Development with Equity
- (c) Water Cooperation - Coping with 21st Century Challenges
- (d) Water and Energy for Inclusive Growth
- (e) None of above

Ans. e

Sol. President Murmu inaugurates 8th India Water Week

President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated 8th India Water Week 2024.

The 8th India Water Week 2024 will start from 17 Sep to 20 Sep in New Delhi.

During the four-day event, around four thousand delegates including two hundred foreign delegates from 40 countries will participate. More than one hundred exhibitors and startups will showcase their ideas in the water sector during the exhibition.

The event will serve as a global platform to elicit ideas and opinions from global-level decision-makers, researchers, experts, innovators and stakeholders in the field of water resources from across the world

Theme 2024 - Partnership and cooperation for inclusive water development and management.

222. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off country's first Vande Metro, now renamed as Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail service, between _____.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने _____ के बीच देश की पहली वंदे मेट्रो, जिसका नाम अब नमो भारत रैपिड रेल रखा गया है, को हरी झंडी दिखाई।

- (a) Bhuj and Ahmedabad
- (b) New Delhi and Ahmedabad
- (c) New Delhi and Meerut
- (d) Bhuj and Varanasi
- (e) New Delhi and Katra

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi launches India's first 'Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail' connecting Ahmedabad and Bhuj

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off country's first Vande Metro, now renamed as Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail service, between Bhuj and Ahmedabad.

The Ahmedabad-Bhuj Vande Metro service will stop at nine stations and cover the 360-kilometre distance in 5 hours and 45 minutes at a top speed of 110 kilometres per hour.

Developed on the same platform as the Vande Bharat Express, the Vande Metro train is a self-propelled train set designed for short-distance inter-city travel. However,

unlike Vande Bharat which is a semi-high speed 160 kmph train set, the Vande Metro trains will have a maximum speed limit of 130 kmph.

223. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has selected IT major _____ to develop its NextGen digital platform.

भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम (LIC) ने अपने नेक्स्टजेन डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म को विकसित करने के लिए आईटी प्रमुख _____ का चयन किया है।

- (a) Infosys
- (b) Wipro
- (c) HCL
- (d) TCS
- (e) Both a and d

Ans. a

Sol. LIC selects Infosys for NextGen digital insurance platform project

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has selected IT major Infosys to develop its NextGen digital platform.

It will be an integrated end-to-end digital insurance solution providing "excellent services to customers, business lifecycle management and operational activities for sales intermediaries and digital front-end platform for branch employees".

The digital platform will be modular, flexible, cloud-native and have platform driven architecture capable of quickly adopting innovative technologies, new products and features.

It will form the foundation for building high value business applications such as the customer and sales super apps, portals and digital branch for LIC.

224. National Engineers Day is celebrated every year on 15 September. What is the theme of National Engineer's Day 2024?

राष्ट्रीय इंजीनियर दिवस हर साल 15 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय इंजीनियर दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Engineering for a Sustainable Future
- (b) Engineering for A Healthy Planet
- (c) Smart Engineering for a Better World
- (d) The Role of Engineers in Developing India
- (e) Innovating for a Sustainable Future

Ans. e

Sol. 15 September - National Engineers Day

India celebrates National Engineer's Day on September 15, commemorating the birth anniversary of engineer Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, a pioneer in the field of engineering.

The day is observed to honour his contributions to the development of India in the fields of engineering, education and economy.

Theme 2024 - Innovating for a Sustainable Future

Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was awarded Bharata Ratna by the Government of India in 1955.

225. World Patient Safety Day is observed every year on which day?

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

- (a) 16 September
- (b) 17 September
- (c) 18 September
- (d) 19 September
- (e) 20 September

Ans. b

Sol. 17 September - World Patient Safety Day

World Patient Safety Day is an annual observance on September 17th, established by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Objective - To raise global awareness about patient safety, promote actions to enhance safety in healthcare, and encourage stakeholders to unite for safer healthcare practices.

Theme 2024 - Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety

In 2019, the 72nd World Health Assembly passed a resolution to establish World Patient Safety Day as a global health priority. The WHO began global campaigns each year, focusing on various themes within patient safety, such as safe childbirth, medication safety, and the empowerment of patients and caregivers.

226. Who has been elected as the new Chief Minister of Delhi after the resignation of Arvind Kejriwal?

अरविंद केजरीवाल के इस्तीफे के बाद दिल्ली के नए मुख्यमंत्री के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Sourav Bhardwaj
- (b) Atishi
- (c) Manish Sisodia
- (d) Sanjay Singh
- (e) Raghav Chadda

Ans. b

Sol. Arvind Kejriwal resigns as Chief Minister, Atishi stakes claim to top post

Aam Aadmi Party legislators in New Delhi have elected State Minister Atishi as the new Chief Minister-designate in place of Arvind Kejriwal.

Atishi's name was proposed by Kejriwal at the meeting of the legislature party, and it was unanimously accepted by the AAP MLAs.

Ms Atishi now holds key portfolios in the Delhi government such as Education and Public Works Department.

WHO IS ATISHI?

- An Oxford University alumna and a Rhodes scholar, Atishi is considered close to Kejriwal and former deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, under whom she worked as an advisor till 2018.
- Apart from being the only woman minister in the Delhi Cabinet, she is also in charge of 14 portfolios, including education, finance, public works department, revenue and services.
- Her electoral career got off to an unsuccessful start as she was defeated by cricketer-turned-politician Gautam Gambhir from East Delhi Lok Sabha constituency in 2019.
- However, she was elected from the Kalkaji seat in the 2020 Delhi Assembly polls, defeating BJP's Dharambir Singh by over 11,000 votes.

227. The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple development projects of railways, road, power, housing, and finance sectors worth _____ in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने गुजरात के अहमदाबाद में _____ मूल्य की रेलवे, सड़क, बिजली, आवास और वित्त क्षेत्रों की कई विकास परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन और शिलान्यास किया।

- (a) Rs 5000 crore
- (b) Rs 8000 crore
- (c) Rs 10000 crore
- (d) Rs 20000 crore
- (e) Rs 15000 crore

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates and lays the foundation stone for multiple development projects in Ahmedabad

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple development projects of railways, road, power, housing, and finance sectors worth more than Rs 8,000 crore in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Modi inaugurated India's first Namo Bharat Rapid Rail between Ahmedabad and Bhuj earlier. He also flagged off several Vande Bharat trains on routes - Nagpur to

Secunderabad, Kolhapur to Pune, Agra Cantt to Banaras, Durg to Visakhapatnam, Pune to Hubballi, and the first 20-coach Vande Bharat train from Varanasi to Delhi. Further, he launched the Single Window IT System (SWITS) of the International Financial Services Centres Authority.

The Prime Minister mentioned the announcement of a special PM package worth Rs 2 lakh crore which will benefit more than 4 crore youth. He stated that the government will also pay the first salary for the first job in companies if they hire the youth. He also mentioned increasing the limit of Mudra loans from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh.

The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of several key projects, including the quadrupling of the Samakhiali – Gandhidham and Gandhidham – Adipur railway lines, the development of iconic roads in AMC, Ahmedabad, and the construction of flyover bridges over Bakrol, Hathijan, Ramol, and Panjarpol Junction.

The Prime Minister inaugurated a 30 MW solar system, a 35 Megawatt BESS Solar PV Project at Kutch Lignite Thermal Power Station, Kutch and 220 Kilovolt substations at Morbi and Rajkot.

The Prime Minister launched the Single Window IT System (SWITS) of the International Financial Services Centres Authority, designed to streamline financial services.

The Prime Minister sanctioned more than 30,000 houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Gramin and released the first installment for these homes. He also launched the construction of houses under the PMAY Scheme and handed over completed houses under both the Urban and Rural segments of the PMAY to the beneficiaries of the state.

228. In September 2024, During the Hindi Diwas Celebrations held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, which of the following departments was awarded the prestigious Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for best performance in the Official Language Hindi category (for Ministries/Departments with less than 300 personnel)?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत मंडपम, नई दिल्ली में आयोजित हिंदी दिवस समारोह के दौरान, निम्नलिखित में से किस विभाग को राजभाषा हिंदी श्रेणी (300 से कम कर्मियों वाले मंत्रालयों/विभागों के लिए) में सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन के लिए प्रतिष्ठित राजभाषा कीर्ति पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Department of Revenue
- (d) Ministry of Culture

(e) Ministry of External Affairs

Ans. a

Sol. Rajbhasha Kirti Award to Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances

During the Hindi Diwas Celebrations and All India Official Language Conference organized on the occasion of Hindi Diwas at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, the Secretary, Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, V. Srinivas was awarded the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar by the Hon'ble Home Minister and Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah.

This award has been given for the best performance in the Official Language Hindi, to the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, in the category of Ministries / Departments with less than 300 personnel, by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2023-24.

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances is committed to the effective implementation of the Official Language Policy of the Union and as a result of these efforts, the use of the Official Language in the Department is steadily increasing.

There is a joint Hindi Advisory Committee of DARPG, DoPT and DoP&PW to monitor the implementation of, Official Language Policy in the Ministry. Its meetings are being held promptly under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of State for Personnel.

Official Language Implementation Committee has been constituted in the Department under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.

229. PM Narendra Modi launched 'SUBHADRA', the flagship Scheme of the Government of Odisha, in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Which of the following statements is/are CORRECT regarding the launch of the 'SUBHADRA' scheme-

(i) The SUBHADRA scheme is aimed at covering over 1 crore women, with each eligible woman receiving Rs. 1,00,000 over 10 years.

(ii) Under the SUBHADRA scheme, all eligible beneficiaries between the age of 21-60 years would receive Rs. 50,000/- over 5 years between 2024-25 to 2028-29.

(iii) An amount of Rs 10,000/- per annum in two equal installments will be credited directly to the beneficiary's Aadhaar-enabled and DBT-enabled bank account.

(a) only i

- (b) only i & ii
- (c) only ii & iii
- (d) all are correct
- (e) all are incorrect

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi launches 'SUBHADRA' - the largest women-centric scheme in Bhubaneswar

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi launched 'SUBHADRA', the flagship Scheme of the Government of Odisha, in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

It is the largest, single women-centric scheme and is expected to cover more than 1 crore women. The prime minister also initiated the fund transfer into the bank accounts of more than 10 lakh women.

Under the SUBHADRA scheme, all eligible beneficiaries between the age of 21-60 years would receive Rs. 50,000/- over 5 years between 2024-25 to 2028-29. An amount of Rs 10,000/- per annum in two equal installments will be credited directly to the beneficiary's Aadhaar-enabled and DBT-enabled bank account.

Modi also laid the foundation stone dedicated to the nation's Railway Projects worth more than Rs 2800 crore and laid the foundation stone for National Highway Projects worth more than Rs 1000 crore.

The Prime Minister released the 1st installment of assistance to nearly 10 lakh beneficiaries under PMAY-G of around 14 states, took part in Grih Pravesh celebrations for 26 lakh beneficiaries of PMAY (Gramin and Urban) from across the country and handed over house keys to PMAY (Gramin and Urban) beneficiaries. Further, he launched Awaas+ 2024 App, for a survey of additional households for PMAY-G, and the Operational Guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U) 2.0.

230. Consider the following points about the NPS Vatsalya for Minors that Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharama, recently launched:

- (i) Nirmala Sitharaman announced the NPS Vatsalya scheme in her 2023-24 union budget speech.
- (ii) The NPS Vatsalya will be regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- (iii) National Pension System (NPS) Vatsalya is for minors under 18 years of age and who are residents of India.
- (iv) Each NPS subscriber will be provided with a unique 12-digit alphanumeric PRAN number that remains with the subscriber until the end.

How many given point(s) is/are INCORRECT?

- (a) only one
- (b) only two
- (c) only three
- (d) all are correct
- (e) all are incorrect

Ans. a

Sol. Nirmala Sitharaman launches NPS Vatsalya for Minors

Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman has launched the NPS Vatsalya scheme for minors in New Delhi.

The event was attended by schoolchildren and was held simultaneously in 75 locations across the country. She also distributed the Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) cards to new minor subscribers.

Nirmala Sitharaman announced the NPS Vatsalya scheme in her 2024-25 union budget speech.

The NPS Vatsalya will be regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

About NPS Vatsalya

- National Pension System (NPS) Vatsalya is for minors under 18 years of age and who are residents of India.
- The NPS Vatsalya account is not for non-resident Indians (NRI).
- An NPS -Tier II account will be opened in the name of the minor.
- A Tier-II account is a voluntary savings pension scheme linked to the subscriber's Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN).
- Each National Pension System subscriber is provided with a unique 12-digit alphanumeric PRAN number that remains with the subscriber until the end.
- The minimum contribution under the NPS Vatsalya scheme is Rs 1000 per year, with no maximum limit.
- The parents can contribute on behalf of the minor.
- The lock-in period is three years. After three years, the subscriber can partially withdraw 25 per cent of the corpus (the invested amount plus the return on the amount) for education, specified illness, and disability.
- The partial withdrawal is allowed only three times the duration of the scheme.

231. In September 2024, Salima Intiaz became the first woman from which country to be named in the ICC's international panel of development umpires, making her eligible to officiate in women's bilateral international matches and ICC women's events?

सितंबर 2024 में, सलीमा इम्तियाज किस देश की पहली महिला बनीं जिन्हें ICC के विकास अंपायरों के अंतरराष्ट्रीय पैनल में नामित किया गया, जिससे वह महिलाओं के द्विपक्षीय अंतरराष्ट्रीय मैचों और ICC महिला आयोजनों में अंपायरिंग करने के लिए पात्र हो गईं?

- (a) Afghanistan
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Oman
- (e) India

Ans. c

Sol. Saleema Imtiaz becomes first Pakistan woman to be nominated as International Umpire

Saleema Imtiaz became the first Pakistani woman to be nominated to the ICC international panel of development umpires.

Imtiaz's nomination on the panel means she is now eligible to officiate in women's bilateral international matches and ICC women's events.

Imtiaz joined the PCB's women's umpires panel in 2008 and has officiated in several Asian Cricket Council tournaments over the last three years.

Imtiaz's first on-field appointment in a bilateral series will see her officiate the three-match T20 series between Pakistan women and South Africa women which begins at Multan.

About International Cricket Council (ICC)

- The International Cricket Council is the global governing body of cricket.
- It was founded as the Imperial Cricket Conference in 1909 by representatives from Australia, England and South Africa.
- It was renamed as the International Cricket Conference in 1965, and took up its current name in 1987.
- **Formation** - 15 June 1909
- **Headquarters** - Dubai, UAE
- **Chairman** – Jay Shah (replace Greg Barclay) *effect from 1 Dec 2024*
- **Deputy Chairman** - Imran Khwaja (Singapore)
- **CEO** - Geoff Allardice (Australia)
- **General Manager** – Wasim Khan
- **Membership** - 108 members

232. Who has been appointed as the Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)?

सशस्त्र सीमा बल (एसएसबी) का महानिदेशक किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajwinder Singh Bhatti

- (b) B Srinivasan
- (c) Tejinder Singh
- (d) Daljit Singh Chaudhary
- (e) Amrit Mohan Prasad

Ans. e

Sol. Senior IPS officer Amrit Mohan Prasad appointed as Chief of SSB

Senior IPS officer Amrit Mohan Prasad has been appointed as the Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

Prasad, a 1989-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Odisha cadre, is presently working as Special Director General, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Prasad's appointment to the post of Director General, SSB for a tenure up to the date of his superannuation on August 31, 2025.

The vacancy necessitated after SSB chief Daljit Singh Chaudhary was appointed as the DG of Border Security Force (BSF) on August 28.

The SSB guards the country's frontiers with Nepal and Bhutan.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **DG of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** - Rajwinder Singh Bhatti
- **Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command** - Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- **Deputy Chief of Air Staff** - Air Marshal Tejinder Singh
- **DG of Project Seabird** - Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar (replace Tarun Sobti)
- **DG of National Security Guard (NSG)** - B Srinivasan (replace Nalin Prabhat)
- **Additional DG of ITBP** - Sanjeev Raina

233. Who has been appointed the new head coach of the Indian women's football team?

भारतीय महिला फुटबॉल टीम का नया मुख्य कोच किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Laitonjam Julia Devi
- (b) Bhaichung Bhutia
- (c) Poonam Sharma
- (d) Karthika Angamuthu
- (e) Santosh Kashyap

Ans. e

Sol. Santosh Kashyap appointed new head coach of Indian women's football team

All India Football Federation (AIFF) has appointed Santosh Kashyap as the new head coach of the national senior women's team, replacing former international player Chaoba Devi at the helm of affairs.

Kashyap's first assignment will be the SAFF Women's Championships to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal, from October 17 to 30.

A former India international, Kashyap has almost a decade of coaching experience in the I-League, managing clubs like Mohun Bagan, Aizawl FC and Mumbai FC among others.

The 58-year-old has also been the assistant coach of NorthEast United FC, and most recently of Odisha FC, in the Indian Super League.

Kashyap will have Priya PV as his assistant coach and Raghuvir Pravin Khanolkar as the goalkeeper coach.

Recent Appointments

- **Chief Minister of Delhi** - Atishi (Arvind Kejriwal)
- **President of International Hockey Federation** - Tayyab Ikram
- **Chairperson of Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** - RS Sharma
- **Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language** - Amit Shah
- **Chairperson of Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR** - Rajesh Verma

234. Who has been appointed by India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) as its brand ambassador?

भारत के बंदरगाह, जहाजरानी और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय (MoPSW) ने किसे अपना ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है?

- (a) Esha Sing
- (b) Rhythm Sangwan
- (c) Heena Sidhu
- (d) Manu Bhaker
- (e) Neeraj Chopra

Ans. d

Sol. Manu Bhaker appointed brand ambassador for MoPSW

India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) has appointed Manu Bhaker, the double Olympic medal winner, as a brand ambassador.

Bhaker, the shooting ace who won Medals in shooting in the recent Summer Olympics held at Paris, is the daughter of a Marine Engineer.

Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) - Sarbananda Sonowal

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Alia Bhatt - French cosmetic maker L'Oreal Paris
- Salman Khan - GRM Basmati Rice
- Dinesh Karthik - SA20 league
- Shikhar Dhwan - MotoGP India

- Aditya Roy Kapur - Bisleri Limonata
- PV Sindhu – Greenday's Better Nutrition
- PV Sindhu – Tobacco Control

235. A two-day national symposium of the National Disaster Management Authority and the Army Southern Command entitled Exercise AIKYA begin in which city?

राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण और सेना दक्षिणी कमान की दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी जिसका शीर्षक अभ्यास AIKYA है, किस शहर में शुरू हुई?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Kochi
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Dehradun

Ans. b

Sol. National Symposium 'Exercise AIKYA' on Disaster Management begin in Chennai. A two-day national symposium of the National Disaster Management Authority and the Army Southern Command entitled Exercise AIKYA begin in Chennai.

The primary aim of the exercise is to enhance disaster preparedness and foster robust collaboration among key stakeholders.

The exercise will feature simulations, technology discussions and expert insights into various roles of disaster management.

Representatives from Railways, transport, civil aviation, health, environment and climate change departments State and National disaster management authorities and the Indian army will be present. IMD officials, National Remote sensing centres, the Central Water Commission and the Forest Survey of India will also participate in the symposium.

236. What is the current rate of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation as of August 2024?

अगस्त 2024 तक थोक मूल्य सूचकांक (WPI) मुद्रास्फीति की वर्तमान दर क्या है?

- (a) 1.11%
- (b) 1.23%
- (c) 1.31%
- (d) 1.41%
- (e) 1.71%

Ans. c

Sol. WPI inflation drops to 4-month low of 1.31% in August

India's wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation fell to a four-month low of 1.31 per cent on an annual basis in August from 2.04 per cent in July due to a reduction in the prices of manufactured products and food items, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Food prices inflation stood at 3.11 per cent in August as compared to 3.45 per cent in July.

Within food articles, the prices of cereals (8.44 per cent), paddy (9.12 per cent), and pulses (18.57 per cent) decelerated. While there was a slight deceleration in the prices of onions (65.75 per cent), inflation remained in double digits.

On the other hand, the prices of potatoes (77.96 per cent) and fruits (16.7 per cent) accelerated during the month.

Previous Months WPI-based Wholesale inflation in India

- **January 2024** – 0.27%
- **February 2024** – 0.20%
- **March 2024** – 0.53%
- **April 2024** – 1.26%
- **May 2024** – 2.61%
- **June 2024** – 3.36%
- **July 2024** – 2.04%
- **August 2024** – 1.31%

237. Which bank has recently introduced 'Aditi', a GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager, to enhance the digital customer service experience?

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने डिजिटल ग्राहक सेवा अनुभव को बढ़ाने के लिए GenAI-संचालित वर्चुअल रिलेशनशिप मैनेजर 'अदिति' की शुरुआत की है?

- (a) Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Bank of Maharashtra
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Bank of Baroda introduces GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager for conversational banking

Bank of Baroda (BoB) has introduced 'Aditi', a GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager, to enhance the digital customer service experience.

These human-like interface presented in the form of digital avatars, offer conversational banking across a range of services.

Available on the bank's web portal, the capability supports audio, video and chat-based assistance ensuring 24x7 banking services with multilingual support. This

service is being gradually rolled out to our existing customers through an enrollment process available on the bank's website.

In addition, BoB has also launched a GenAI-enabled knowledge management platform, 'GyanSahay.AI' for its employees.

About Bank of Baroda (BOB)

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

238. India defeated which team to win the 8th Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy?

भारत ने किस टीम को हराकर 8वीं पुरुष एशियाई हॉकी चैंपियंस ट्रॉफी जीती?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) China
- (c) Bhutan
- (d) South Korea
- (e) Malaysia

Ans. b

Sol. India wins Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy for record 5th time

The Indian men's hockey team, led by Harmanpreet Singh, defeated host China 1-0 in the final to win the Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy for a record fifth time.

The final match of the 8th Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 was played at the Moqi Hockey Training Base in Hulunbuir City.

Defending champion India had earlier won the trophy in 2011, 2016, 2018 and 2023.

In the final, Jugraj Singh scored the only winning goal of the match in the 51 minutes.

India was the only team in the 8th Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy to defeat all its opponents and remain unbeaten in the tournament.

In the league stage, India defeated China 3-0, Japan 5-1, Malaysia 8-1, South Korea 3-1 and Pakistan 2-1.

In the semi-final match, India defeated South Korea 4-1 to reach its sixth final of the Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy.

This was the first tournament the Indian hockey team was playing without its legendary goalkeeper, PR Sreejesh, who retired after the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Award winners of the 8th Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy -

- Top scorer of the tournament- Yang Jihun (South Korea; 9 goals)
- Promising goalkeeper of the tournament- Kim Jaehan (South Korea)

- Best goalkeeper of the tournament- Wang Caiyu (China)
- Rising star of the tournament- Shahid Hannan (Pakistan)
- Player of the tournament- Harmanpreet Singh (India)
- Man of the final match- Lin Changliang (China)

239. World Bamboo Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व बांस दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 September
- (b) 17 September
- (c) 18 September
- (d) 19 September
- (e) 20 September

Ans. c

Sol. 18 September - World Bamboo Day

World Bamboo Day is observed every year on 18 September.

Objective - To increase the awareness of bamboo globally to promote cultivation and usages of bamboo as well as traditional uses locally for community and economic development.

Theme 2024 - Next Generation Bamboo: Solution, Innovation, and Design

The World Bamboo Organization (WBO) proclaimed September 18 as World Bamboo Day in 2009, during the eighth World Bamboo Congress in Bangkok. It was decided upon with the unanimous consent of delegates from almost 100 nations.

This celebration was initiated by Kamesh Salam, former President of WBO. Since then, this day is a world-wide event gathering hundreds of thousands of people to manifest the importance of bamboo as a plant companion for humanity.

240. The International Day for Interventional Cardiology is observed annually on which day?

इंटरवेंशनल कार्डियोलॉजी के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 September
- (b) 17 September
- (c) 18 September
- (d) 19 September
- (e) 20 September

Ans. a

Sol. 16 September - International Day for Interventional Cardiology

The International Day for Interventional Cardiology is observed annually on September 16.

This day is dedicated to raising awareness about the critical field of interventional cardiology and its pivotal role in treating heart diseases through minimally invasive procedures.

As cardiovascular diseases continue to be the leading cause of death globally, the importance of this specialized field cannot be overstated.

The first coronary angioplasty was performed by Dr. Andreas Grüntzig on 16 September 1977. Since then, angioplasty has been the procedure that has saved the most grams of myocardium at risk worldwide.

241. In September 2024, India's maritime collaborated with which of the following countries to focus on green shipping, digitalization, and sustainable development under the Green Strategic Partnership expanded to include areas such as port modernization, green maritime technology, hydrogen, and ammonia-based fuels, and the establishment of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in India?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत की समुद्री नीति ने हरित रणनीतिक साझेदारी के तहत हरित शिपिंग, डिजिटलीकरण और सतत विकास पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किस देश के साथ सहयोग किया, जिसमें बंदरगाह आधुनिकीकरण, हरित समुद्री प्रौद्योगिकी, हाइड्रोजन और अमोनिया आधारित ईंधन और भारत में उत्कृष्टता केंद्र (सीओई) की स्थापना जैसे क्षेत्रों को शामिल किया गया?

- (a) Finland
- (b) Norway
- (c) Sweden
- (d) Denmark
- (e) Spain

Ans. d

Sol. India-Denmark Maritime collaboration gathers momentum with focus on Green Shipping, Digitalization, and Sustainable Development

India and Denmark's maritime relations continue to strengthen, with both nations working closely to advance sustainable maritime practices.

Under the India-Denmark Green Strategic Partnership, the collaboration has expanded across key areas such as Quality shipping, Cooperation on Port State Control, Maritime training and education, research and development, Piracy, Green maritime technology, shipbuilding, and green shipping.

Denmark, a global leader in sustainable maritime technologies, has been sharing its expertise in green and digital solutions, aligning with India's goals under the Sagarmala initiative and the Maritime India Vision 2030.

Both countries are focusing on decarbonisation efforts, with joint projects aimed at developing hydrogen and ammonia-based fuels for ships.

India's Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 aims to decarbonize its ports, and Denmark's success in offshore wind energy is expected to further contribute to renewable energy solutions in Indian ports.

As part of the Joint Action Plan on Green Strategic Partnership (2021-2026), both countries are set to continue their collaboration on port modernization, maritime digitalization, green fuel development, and advanced seafarer training. With Denmark's leadership in green maritime technologies and India's growing maritime infrastructure, this partnership is poised to drive global innovation and sustainability in the maritime sector.

The scope of the MoU signed in 2019 and revised in 2022, has been widened by adding a dedicated clause for the establishment of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in India.

About Denmark

- Capital- Copenhagen
- Currency- Danish krone
- Prime Minister - Mette Frederiksen

242. In September 2024, The Union Cabinet approved the proposal of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers for fixing the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for RABI Season, 2024 (from 01.10.2024 to 31.03.2025). Which among the following point(s) is/are INCORRECT regarding this?

(i) The Union Cabinet approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for the Rabi Season 2024 to ensure the availability of Sodium and Nitrogen fertilizers at subsidized prices.

(ii) The subsidy on these fertilizers is governed by the NBS Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2015.

(iii) The tentative budgetary requirement for Rabi season 2024 would be approximately Rs.24,475.53 crore.

- (a) i & ii**
- (b) ii & iii**
- (c) iii & i**
- (d) All are correct**
- (e) All are incorrect**

Ans. a

Sol. Cabinet approves Nutrient Based Subsidy rates for Rabi Season 2024 on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers for fixing the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for RABI Season, 2024 (from 01.10.2024 to 31.03.2025) on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers.

The tentative budgetary requirement for Rabi season 2024 would be approximately Rs.24,475.53 crore.

The subsidy on P&K fertilizers will be provided based on approved rates for Rabi 2024 (applicable from 01.10.2024 to 31.03.2025) to ensure smooth availability of these fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices.

The government is making available 28 grades of P&K fertilizers to farmers at subsidized prices through fertilizer manufacturers/importers.

The subsidy on P&K fertilizers is governed by the NBS Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2010. By its farmer-friendly approach, the Government is committed to ensuring the availability of P&K fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices.

Benefits -

- Availability of fertilizers to farmers at subsidized, affordable, and reasonable prices will be ensured.
- Rationalization of subsidy on P&K fertilizers given recent trends in the international prices of fertilizers and inputs.

243. During the 4th RE-Invest Summit hosted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Leading renewable energy (RE) project developers, manufacturing companies, banks, and financial institutions committed close _____ to the development of RE projects by 2030.

नवीन एवं नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय (एमएनआरई) और भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (सीआईआई) द्वारा आयोजित चौथे नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा निवेश शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान, अग्रणी नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा (आरई) परियोजना डेवलपर्स, विनिर्माण कंपनियों, बैंकों और वित्तीय संस्थानों ने 2030 तक नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लिए करीब _____ प्रतिबद्धता जताई।

- (a) Rs 12.45 trillion
- (b) Rs 22.45 trillion
- (c) Rs 32.45 trillion
- (d) Rs 42.45 trillion
- (e) Rs 52.45 trillion

Ans. c

Sol. Banks, FIs to invest Rs 32.5 trillion in renewable energy by 2030: Centre Leading renewable energy (RE) project developers, manufacturing companies, banks, and financial institutions committed close to \$386 billion or around Rs 32.45 trillion to the development of RE projects by 2030.

This commitment was made at the inaugural ceremony of the 4th RE-Invest Summit hosted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Public sector and private project developers have committed to building close to 570 gigawatts (Gw) of RE capacity.

Reliance Industries (RIL) led the pack with a commitment of 100 Gw of capacity addition by 2030. It is followed by NTPC with 41.3 Gw and ReNew with 40 Gw of commitment.

Additionally, ReNew will set up 6 Gw of ingot-wafer, solar cell, and module manufacturing.

This target is one of India's commitments on global platforms, including G20 and the UNFCCC.

Additionally, banks and financial institutions (FIs) submitted a commitment of Rs 24.8 trillion for financing RE projects in the country.

State-owned REC leads the pack with Rs 6 trillion of investment commitment, followed by dedicated renewable financing body IREDA, which will invest Rs 5 trillion. State owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has made an investment commitment of Rs 3 trillion.

Among the banks, SBI made the largest announcement with Rs 5 trillion of investment undertakings, followed by PNB.

244. In September 2024, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) has signed an MoU with which company to provide high-quality generic medicines through the establishment of Jan Aushadhi Kendras in coal field areas?

सितंबर 2024 में, फार्मास्यूटिकल्स एंड मेडिकल डिवाइसेस ब्यूरो ऑफ इंडिया (पीएमबीआई) ने कोयला क्षेत्रों में जन औषधि केंद्रों की स्थापना के माध्यम से उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली जेनेरिक दवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Bharat Coking Coal Limited
- (b) Serum Institute of India
- (c) Mankind Pharma
- (d) Zydus Lifesciences
- (e) Coal India Limited

Ans. e

Sol. PMBI and Coal India Limited sign MoU to provide high-quality generic medicines through establishment of Jan Aushadhi Kendras

In a significant milestone under the mission to provide quality generic medicines and surgical equipments at affordable prices to the masses, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) and Coal India Limited have signed an MoU for the opening of Jan Aushadhi Kendras in the premises of every coal field, selected hospitals, or any suitable location specified or decided by Coal India Limited.

The objective of this MoU is to provide high-quality generic medicines to the workforce and communities associated with Coal India, through the establishment of Jan Aushadhi Kendras across Coal India premises, these medicines will help workers, residents, and families save out of pocket expenditure, and will give employment opportunities to entrepreneurs in the project areas

These Kendras will be located at following locations -

1. CIL-HQ (Coal India Limited) - Kolkata, West Bengal
2. ECL (Eastern Coalfields Limited) - Sanctoria, West Bengal
3. CCL (Central Coalfields Limited) - Ranchi, Jharkhand
4. BCCL (Bharat Coking Coal Limited) - Dhanbad, Jharkhand
5. CCL (Central Coalfields Limited) - Ranchi, Jharkhand
6. SECL (South Eastern Coalfields Limited) - Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh
7. WCL (Western Coalfields Limited) - Nagpur, Maharashtra
8. NCL (Northern Coalfields Limited) - Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
9. MCL (Mahanadi Coalfields Limited) - Sambalpur, Orissa
10. NEC (North Eastern Coalfields) - Margherita, Assam
11. CMPDIL (Central Mining Planning & Design) - Ranchi, Jharkhand

245. Consider the following points about the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA) Scheme, which was recently approved by the Union Cabinet-

- (i) The Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of tribal communities.
- (ii) Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed the scheme in her 2024-25 Union Budget speech.
- (iii) The duration of the PMJUGA scheme is ten years.
- (iv) The total allocation for the scheme is Rs.79,156 crore, of which the central government's share will be Rs. 22,823 crore, and the State government's share will be Rs.56,333 crore.

Which among the following point(s) is/are INCORRECT regarding this scheme?

- (a) i and ii

- (b) ii and iii
(c) iii and iv
(d) iv and i
(e) all are correct

Ans. c

Sol. Center approves PMJUGA scheme for holistic Tribal Development

The Union Cabinet, in a meeting chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved a new scheme, Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA) to improve the socio-economic condition of the country's tribal majority villages and aspirational districts.

The scheme seeks to utilise the existing central government scheme to achieve the objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA) scheme. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed the scheme in her 2024-25 Union Budget speech.

The duration of the PMJUGA scheme is five years.

The total allocation for the scheme is Rs.79,156 crore, of which the central government's share will be Rs.56,333 crore, and the State government's share will be Rs. 22,823 crore.

The PMJUGA scheme will be implemented in 549 districts and 2,740 blocks in all tribal majority villages and aspirational districts of 30 States / Union Territories. According to the government, the scheme is expected to cover 63,000 villages and benefit more than 5 crore tribal people.

According to the 2011 census, the tribal population in the country was 10.45 crore. The PMJUGA scheme comprises 25 interventions to be implemented by 17 Union Ministries. The task and funds for the concerned ministries will be allocated under the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST) in the next 5 years to achieve the following four goals -

1. Development of Enabling Infrastructure
2. Economic Empowerment
3. Access to Good Education
4. Healthy Living

246. In September 2024, Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) signed an MoU with Monash University to facilitate collaboration in joint research, education, and executive training in railway engineering through the Monash Institute of Railway Technology (IRT). Monash University belongs to which of the following country?

सितंबर 2024 में, गति शक्ति विश्वविद्यालय (GSV) ने मोनाश इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ रेलवे टेक्नोलॉजी (IRT) के माध्यम से रेलवे इंजीनियरिंग में संयुक्त अनुसंधान, शिक्षा और कार्यकारी प्रशिक्षण में सहयोग की सुविधा के लिए मोनाश विश्वविद्यालय के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए। मोनाश विश्वविद्यालय निम्नलिखित में से किस देश से संबंधित है?

- (a) New Zealand
- (b) Australia
- (c) Japan
- (d) USA
- (e) France

Ans. b

Sol. Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya and Monash University Sign MoU to Enhance Railway Engineering Research and Education

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) signed an MoU with Monash University, Australia to facilitate collaboration in joint research, education, and executive training in railway engineering through the Monash Institute of Railway Technology (IRT). The establishment of a joint research lab focusing on advanced technological railway engineering will be explored together with opportunities for collaboration on future industrial projects that will return mutual benefits to both parties and advance Australian and Indian railway systems.

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV), Vadodara was established through an Act of Parliament in 2022, to create best in class manpower and talent for the entire transportation and logistics sectors.

GSV is a "first of its kind" university aiming to fulfill the mandate of the National Developmental Plans (PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan 2021 and National Logistics Policy 2022) across railways, aviation, shipping, ports, highways, roads, and waterways etc.

247. In September 2024, The government has notified the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) as a public financial institution that will help the government fortify the nation's infrastructure finance structures, under which act?

सितंबर 2024 में, सरकार ने नेशनल बैंक फॉर फाइनेंसिंग इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर एंड डेवलपमेंट (NaBFID) को एक सार्वजनिक वित्तीय संस्थान के रूप में अधिसूचित किया, जो सरकार को किस अधिनियम के तहत देश की बुनियादी ढांचा वित्त संरचनाओं को मजबूत करने में मदद करेगा?

- (a) Government of India Act 1919
- (b) Banking Regulation Act 1949
- (c) Societies Registration Act 1860

(d) Negotiable Instrument Act 1881

(e) Companies Act 2013

Ans. e

Sol. Govt notifies NaBFID as a public financial institution under Companies Act
The government has notified the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) as a public financial institution under the Companies Act. This will help the government fortify the nation's infrastructure finance structures. The Corporate Affairs Ministry said that in exercise of the powers, Section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013, the Central Government, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, hereby notifies the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development as a "public financial institution". The move will enhance the bank's capacity to finance large-scale infrastructure projects, thereby bolstering the country's infrastructure development. NaBFID, a specialised Development Finance Institution (DFI), was set up in 2021, by an Act (The National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Act, 2021).

248. Who has been recently appointed by Shriram Finance Limited as its brand ambassador?

श्रीराम फाइनेंस लिमिटेड ने हाल ही में किसे अपना ब्रांड एंबेसडर बनाया है?

(a) MS Dhoni

(b) Manu Bhaker

(c) Sheetal Devi

(d) Rahul Dravid

(e) Neeraj Chopra

Ans. d

Sol. Shriram Finance welcomes Cricket Legend Rahul Dravid as Brand Ambassador
Shriram Finance Ltd, announced the onboarding of Rahul Dravid, former captain and head coach of the Indian cricket team, as its brand ambassador.

Rahul Dravid's association with Shriram Finance represents a perfect blend of two entities that have consistently demonstrated trust, reliability, and excellence in their respective fields.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Manu Bhaker – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)
- Alia Bhatt - French cosmetic maker L'Oreal Paris
- Salman Khan - GRM Basmati Rice
- Dinesh Karthik - SA20 league
- Shikhar Dhwan - MotoGP India
- Aditya Roy Kapur - Bisleri Limonata

- PV Sindhu – Greenday's Better Nutrition
- PV Sindhu – Tobacco Control

249. Which city will host the 23rd Commonwealth Games in 2026?

2026 में 23वें राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों की मेजबानी कौन सा शहर करेगा?

- (a) London
- (b) Birmingham
- (c) Brisbane
- (d) Oslo
- (e) Glasgow

Ans. e

Sol. Glasgow to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games

Glasgow, Scotland's capital, has agreed to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games after the original host, Victoria of Australia, declined due to the rising cost.

Glasgow has previously successfully hosted the 2012 Commonwealth Games.

The first Commonwealth Games was held in 1930, and countries or territories that are members of the Commonwealth Games Federation, now known as Commonwealth Sport, participate in the Games.

The last of six of the seventh edition of the Commonwealth Games has been held in Great Britain or Australia.

Scotland, England and Wales constitute Great Britain

About Commonwealth Games

- The first Commonwealth Games was organised as the British Empire Games in Hamilton, Canada in 1930.
- It is held every four years but was not held in 1942 and 1946 due to World War II.
- Only two Asian cities have hosted the Commonwealth Games - Kualumpur, Malaysia, in 1998 and Delhi in 2010.
- So far, the Commonwealth Games has not been hosted by an African country.
- The Commonwealth is a group of countries that were previously a colony of Great Britain but are now independent.
- Commonwealth Sport Members - 74 countries

250. The Indian Army has signed an MoU with which of the following to enhance the Army's rescue operations in mountainous terrain, wherein the organisation will provide customised training programmes to enhance avalanche rescue and survival skills?

भारतीय सेना ने पहाड़ी इलाकों में सेना के बचाव कार्यों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं, जिसमें संगठन हिमस्खलन बचाव और उत्तरजीविता कौशल को बढ़ाने के लिए अनुकूलित प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम प्रदान करेगा?

- (a) National Disaster Response Force
- (b) Himalayan Rescue Operations
- (c) Tiranga Mountain Rescue
- (d) Indian Mountaineering Federation
- (e) Both a and c

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Army signs MoU with Tiranga Mountain Rescue to enhance high-altitude operations

The Indian Army has entered an understanding with the Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR) at the Centre for Land Warfare Studies in the Delhi Cantonment.

This understanding marks a pivotal step in advancing the Indian Army's rescue and survival operations in mountainous terrains.

The MoU stipulates that TMR will collaborate with the Indian Army in conducting customised training programs for Army instructors, aimed at improving their ability to mentor troops in avalanche rescue and survival skills.

This MoU builds on the initial agreement made with Northern Command in 2016, which established dedicated avalanche and rescue support by the TMR.

Subsequent agreements with Eastern and Central Commands in 2021 and 2024 further expanded this collaboration. The latest MoU will further utilise TMR's expertise to boost the Indian Army's capabilities in executing effective rescue operations under demanding conditions.

251. What is the total approved budget of the Chandrayaan-4 mission of ISRO?
इसरो के चंद्रयान-4 मिशन का कुल स्वीकृत बजट कितना है?

- (a) 1104.06 crore
- (b) 2104.06 crore
- (c) 3104.06 crore
- (d) 1504.06 crore
- (e) 7104.06 crore

Ans. b

Sol. Union Cabinet approves Chandrayaan -4 Mission to collect lunar sample

The Union cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the mission to moon, named Chandrayaan-4 to develop and demonstrate the technologies to come back to Earth after successfully landing on the Moon and also collect moon samples and analyse them on Earth.

This Chandrayaan-4 mission will achieve the foundational technologies capabilities eventually for an Indian landing on the moon (planned by year 2040) and return safely back to Earth.

The Chandrayaan -4 mission will collect lunar samples from the moon's surface and bring them back to Earth. Only three countries—the United States of America, Russia, and China—have successfully brought lunar soil back to Earth.

ISRO has been allocated a budget of Rs 2104.06 crore for the Chandrayaan -4 mission to be completed in 36 months.

The allocated budget includes the cost of spacecraft development, two launch vehicle missions of LVM3 rockets, external deep space network support and conducting special tests for design validation etc.

The government of India approved an ambitious space programme during the Amrit Kaal. It envisages a mission to Venus, a functioning Indian Space Station named Bharatiya Antariksh Station by 2035, and an Indian landing on the surface of the Moon by 2040.

252. International Talk Like a Pirate Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुद्री डाकू की तरह बात करो दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 17 September
- (b) 18 September
- (c) 19 September
- (d) 20 September
- (e) 21 September

Ans. c

Sol. 19 September - International Talk Like a Pirate Day

International Talk Like a Pirate Day is observed every year on 19 September.

The day aims to bring people together in the spirit of camaraderie and shared amusement as friends, family and even strangers engage in lighthearted conversations, jokes and activities that let them loose, have a good laugh and momentarily escape the stresses of everyday life.

Talk Like a Pirate Day was born in 1995 when two friends from Oregon jokingly created the holiday while playing racquetball. They celebrated it quietly for a few years, sharing the joke with a small group of friends.

One day in 2002, they wrote to humor columnist Dave Barry asking him to be the spokesperson for National Talk Like a Pirate Day. Amused by the idea, Barry agreed. He wrote a column about the holiday, giving it national prominence and spawning a wave of Talk Like a Pirate Day events and celebrations across the country.

253. International Equal Pay Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समान वेतन दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 17 September
- (b) 18 September
- (c) 19 September
- (d) 20 September
- (e) 21 September

Ans. b

Sol. 18 September - International Equal Pay Day

International Equal Pay Day is celebrated every year on 18 September.

This day highlights the effects of the pay gap on women of colour and other minorities.

Theme 2024 - Need To Eliminate Wage Discrimination

International Equal Pay Day was first observed back in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity. It was a coalition of women's and civil rights organisations that worked toward eliminating gender and race-based wage discrimination.

The goal was to achieve pay equity. It was not until 2019 that the Equal Pay International Coalition began officially marking it as a day to raise awareness. In 2020, the move was recognised by the United Nations and they observed the first International Equal Pay on September 18, 2020.

254. Consider the following points about the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanrakshAn Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) that the Union Cabinet recently approved-

- (i) PM-AASHA will provide remunerative prices to farmers and control the price volatility of essential commodities for consumers.
- (ii) The total financial outgo will be Rs. 35,000 crore during the 15th Finance Commission Cycle up to 2025-26.
- (iii) 25% of the national production of pulses, oilseeds, and copra will be procured at MSP from the 2024-25 season, with 100% procurement for Tur, Urad, and Masur.
- (iv) The PM-AASHA scheme consolidates the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) into a unified program to enhance its effectiveness.

Which of the following point(s) is/are CORRECT regarding PM-AASHA?

- (a) i only
- (b) i & ii only
- (c) i, ii & iii only
- (d) ii, iii & iv only
- (e) all are correct

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves continuation of schemes of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)

The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) scheme, allocating Rs 35,000 crore for the 15th Finance Commission Cycle up to 2025-26.

This significant decision aims to ensure remunerative prices for farmers and manage price volatility of essential commodities for consumers.

The PM-AASHA scheme consolidates the Price Support Scheme (PSS) and Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) into a unified program to enhance its effectiveness.

The integrated scheme will now include the Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS), and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). These components are designed to provide better support for farmers and stabilize prices for consumers.

Starting from the 2024-25 season, the procurement of notified pulses, oilseeds, and copra at Minimum Support Price (MSP) will cover 25% of national production. This change aims to increase the amount of these crops procured at MSP, reducing the risk of distress sales. Notably, the procurement ceiling will not apply to Tur, Urad, and Masur for the 2024-25 season, as the government plans a 100% procurement of these pulses.

The government has also renewed and increased its guarantee for the procurement of pulses, oilseeds, and copra, raising it to Rs. 45,000 crore. This move is expected to enhance the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare's (DA&FW) ability to buy these commodities from farmers at MSP, including those registered on the eSamridhi portal of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and the eSamyukti portal of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF). This initiative aims to boost domestic production, reduce import dependency, and encourage cultivation of these crops.

The extension of the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) scheme will help mitigate extreme price fluctuations of agri-horticultural commodities. By maintaining strategic buffer stocks of pulses and onions, the PSF aims to control hoarding and speculation, ensuring that consumers have access to affordable prices. The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) will manage the procurement of pulses above MSP and maintain buffer stocks to stabilize prices.

To further support farmers, the Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS) coverage for notified oilseeds has been increased from 25% to 40% of state production, with an extended implementation period of four months. The scheme will compensate

farmers for the difference between MSP and the market price, with the central government covering up to 15% of MSP.

Additionally, the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) has been extended and modified to better support farmers of perishable horticultural crops.

The coverage has been increased from 20% to 25% of production, and a new option allows for direct differential payments to farmers' accounts instead of physical procurement.

255. Consider the following points about the 'Bio-RIDE' scheme that the Union Cabinet recently approved-

- (i) Bio-RIDE scheme to foster innovation, promote bio-entrepreneurship, and strengthen India's biomanufacturing and biotechnology sectors.**
- (ii) The proposed outlay for the implementation of the unified scheme 'Bio-RIDE' is Rs.9197 crore during the 16th Finance Commission period from 2025-26 to 2030-31.**
- (iii) Bio-RIDE consists of four components: Biotechnology Research and Development (R&D), Facilitate Industry-Academia Collaboration (FIAC), Industrial & Entrepreneurship Development (I&ED), and Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry.**

Which of the following point(s) is/are INCORRECT regarding this?

- (a) only i**
- (b) only ii**
- (c) only i & ii**
- (d) only ii & iii**
- (e) all are correct**

Ans. d

Sol. Cabinet approves 'Bio-RIDE' scheme to support cutting edge research and development in Biotechnology

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved continuation of the two umbrella schemes of Department of Biotechnology (DBT), merged as one scheme-'Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio- RIDE)' with a new component namely Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry.

The proposed outlay for the implementation of the unified scheme 'Bio-RIDE' is Rs.9197 crore during the 15th Finance Commission period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. Bio-RIDE scheme is designed to foster innovation, promote bio-entrepreneurship, and strengthen India's position as a global leader in biomanufacturing and

biotechnology. It aims to accelerate research, enhance product development, and bridge the gap between academic research and industrial applications.

The scheme has three broad components:

- a) Biotechnology Research and Development (R&D);
- b) Industrial & Entrepreneurship Development (I&ED)
- c) Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry

The scheme is part of the Government of India's mission to harness the potential of bio-innovation to tackle national and global challenges such as healthcare, agriculture, environmental sustainability, and clean energy. Implementation of the Bio-RIDE Scheme will -

- Promote Bio-Entrepreneurship
- Advance Innovation
- Facilitate Industry-Academia Collaboration
- Encourage Sustainable Biomanufacturing
- Support researchers through Extramural funding
- Nurturing Human Resource in Biotechnology sector

The Bio-RIDE Scheme will contribute significantly towards realizing the vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'.

256. In September 2024, which of the following companies has launched DataSync, a no-code data integration platform that provides real-time data access, allowing businesses to enhance business intelligence, improve financial reporting, strengthen fraud and security monitoring, and uncover new revenue opportunities?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी ने डेटासिंक लॉन्च किया, जो एक नो-कोड डेटा एकीकरण प्लेटफॉर्म है जो वास्तविक समय डेटा एक्सेस प्रदान करता है, जिससे व्यवसायों को व्यावसायिक बुद्धिमत्ता बढ़ाने, वित्तीय रिपोर्टिंग में सुधार करने, धोखाधड़ी और सुरक्षा निगरानी को मजबूत करने और नए राजस्व अवसरों को उजागर करने की अनुमति मिलती है?

- (a) Razorpay
- (b) Paytm
- (c) PhonePe
- (d) GooglePay
- (e) BHIM

Ans. a

Sol. Razorpay launches integration platform DataSync

Fintech giant Razorpay has launched DataSync, a no-code data integration platform that provides real-time data access, allowing businesses to enhance business

intelligence, improve financial reporting, strengthen fraud and security monitoring, and uncover new revenue opportunities.

DataSync will allow businesses to safely and conveniently integrate their financial and business data on Razorpay. This allows firms to use their data for deeper business insight, improved financial reporting, fraud and security monitoring, and generating new revenue ideas, transforming payment data into a profit centre.

According to ACI Worldwide's most recent report, India will account for 49% of all real-time transactions globally in 2023.

DataSync, India's first no-code, seamless data integration platform, will enable organisations to make faster, data-driven choices by providing real-time information on transactions such as settlements, refunds, chargebacks, and reversals with robust security and low latency.

257. In September 2024, which of the following banks partnered with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) to launch NPS Vatsalya, a unique pension program designed specifically for minors, allowing parents or guardians to contribute to the pension account until the child reaches the age of 18?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने पेंशन फंड विनियामक और विकास प्राधिकरण (PFRDA) के साथ साझेदारी करके NPS वात्सल्य लॉन्च किया, जो विशेष रूप से नाबालिगों के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया एक अनूठा पेंशन कार्यक्रम है, जो माता-पिता या अभिभावकों को बच्चे के 18 वर्ष की आयु तक पहुंचने तक पेंशन खाते में योगदान करने की अनुमति देता है?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Yes Bank

Ans. b

Sol. ICICI Bank partners with PFRDA to launch NPS Vatsalya, a pension account for minors

ICICI Bank has launched the NPS Vatsalya, a pension program targeted at protecting children's financial future, at its service location in BKC, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Union Budget 2024-2025 suggested a new pension program that will be overseen by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

It permits parents/guardians to contribute to the minor until they reach adulthood.

When the individual reaches the age of 18, they can turn it into a regular NPS account.

ICICI Bank marked the start of the scheme by creating accounts for a few children under NPS Vatsalya. They were also given a symbolic Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) card for their NPS Vatsalya account.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Piramal Finance join hands with Digital India's CSCs to Boost Credit Access for Bharat's Budget Customers
- Star Health Insurance & Policybazaar join hands to launch SUPER STAR health insurance plan
- Union Bank of India becomes first major Indian Bank to sign PCAF
- Blostem Partners with Suryoday SFB to Revamp Digital Fixed Deposits

258. Which company has collaborated with Metro Bank, a UK-based community bank, to drive the digital transformation of its operations?

किस कंपनी ने अपने परिचालन के डिजिटल परिवर्तन को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए यूके स्थित सामुदायिक बैंक, मेट्रो बैंक के साथ सहयोग किया है?

- (a) Wipro
- (b) Infosys
- (c) HCL
- (d) IBM
- (e) TCS

Ans. b

Sol. Infosys collaborates with UK's Metro Bank to Digitize Operations

Indian IT giant Infosys has collaborated with Metro Bank, a UK-based community bank, to drive the digital transformation of its operations.

The collaboration will utilise Infosys Topaz, the firm's AI-first offerings, to enhance Metro Bank's digital capabilities, improve automation, refine data, and embed further AI capabilities.

The bank expects to deliver 80 million pounds of annualised cost savings this year across multiple initiatives, as it progresses towards the target of reaching mid-to-high teen return on tangible equity by 2027.

259. Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi has been appointed as the new Chief Compliance Officer of which payment bank?

अमर कुमार काकरलापुडी को किस भुगतान बैंक का नया मुख्य अनुपालन अधिकारी नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Airtel Payments Bank
- (b) India Post Payments Bank
- (c) FINO Payments Bank
- (d) Paytm Payments Bank

(e) Jio Payments Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Airtel Payments Bank names Amar Kumar as Chief Compliance Officer
Airtel Payments Bank has appointed Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi as its new Chief Compliance Officer.

Amar will be responsible for enhancing the Bank's compliance framework and ensuring that regulatory and statutory requirements are met seamlessly.

As Chief Compliance Officer, Amar will be a vital partner for the Bank in achieving core and non-core compliance standards and a crucial interface between the bank and regulatory agencies, all while developing a solid compliance and regulatory framework.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Galaxy Health Insurance** – G Srinivasan
- **MD & CEO of IFFCO Tokio General Insurance** -Subrata Mondal
- **MD & CEO of Central Depository Services (India) Limited** - Nehal Vora
- **MD & CEO of Federal Bank** - Krishnan Venkat Subramanian
- **MD of State Bank of India** - Rama Mohan Rao Amara (replace C S Setty)
- **MD of NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services)** - Y Haragopal

260. In September 2024, India and which of the following international entities agreed to enhance cooperation in sustainable water management and both sides committed to advance cooperation in river basin management, fostering innovation and technology transfer while promoting sustainable investments?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत और निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्थाएं सतत जल प्रबंधन में सहयोग बढ़ाने पर सहमत हुईं और दोनों पक्षों ने सतत निवेश को बढ़ावा देते हुए नदी बेसिन प्रबंधन में सहयोग को आगे बढ़ाने, नवाचार और प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए प्रतिबद्धता जताई?

- (a) International Monetary Fund
- (b) Asian Development Bank
- (c) European Union
- (d) African Union
- (e) World Bank

Ans. c

Sol. India, European Union agree to deepen cooperation in Sustainable Water Management

India and the European Union agreed to enhance cooperation in sustainable water management and both sides committed to advance cooperation in river basin

management, fostering innovation and technology transfer while promoting sustainable investments.

The forum explored trilateral collaboration between East Africa, India, and the EU, to address challenges in East Africa's water bodies such as Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika, leveraging the combined strength of India and the EU.

At the 6th EU-India Water Forum held on the sidelines of the 8th India Water Week in New Delhi today, the India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP), established in 2016, aims to enhance technological, scientific, and policy frameworks.

Under the IEWP, the EU and India are collaborating on river management in the Tapi and Ramganga River Basins. Under Phase III, the partnership will extend its efforts to other key basins like the Brahmaputra.

The IEWP is closely aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to contributing to SDG 6 and SDG 13, the partnership also supports SDG 15 (life on land) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) by promoting sustainable, green, and climate-resilient infrastructure.

261. In September 2024, India has become the _____ largest market in the MSCI All Country World Investable Market Index (ACWI IMI), surpassing China and narrowly behind France.

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत MSCI ऑल कंट्री वर्ल्ड इन्वेस्टेबल मार्केट इंडेक्स (ACWI IMI) में _____ सबसे बड़ा बाजार बन गया है, जिसने चीन को पीछे छोड़ दिया और फ्रांस से थोड़ा पीछे रह गया।

- (a) Second
- (b) Third
- (c) Fourth
- (d) Fifth
- (e) Sixth

Ans. e

Sol. India becomes 6th largest market in MSCI ACWI

India has become the sixth largest market in the MSCI All Country World Investable Market Index (ACWI IMI), surpassing China and narrowly behind France.

For the first time, India is the largest emerging market (EM) in the gauge that tracks the performance of global capital markets.

At the end of August, India's weight in the MSCI ACWI IMI stood at 2.35 percent, 11 basis points (bps) more than China's, which is 2.24 percent. France has just 3 bps more weight than India.

The MSCI ACWI IMI index encompasses stocks in the large—and mid-cap space. It is a spinoff of the more widely followed MSCI ACWI Index, which has only large—and mid-cap representation.

262. Where was the 3rd edition of the World Food India held?

विश्व खाद्य भारत का तीसरा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Gandhinagar
- (b) Surat
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Noida
- (e) Ujjain

Ans. c

Sol. New Delhi hosts the 3rd World Food India 2024

The 3rd edition of World Food India 2024 is being held in New Delhi. The event is organised by the government of India to promote domestic and foreign investment in the country's food processing sector and to highlight the country's rich food culture to the world.

Along with the 3rd World Food India 2024 the 2nd edition of the Global Food Regulators Summit hosted is also being held.

The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) also organised the Global Food Regulators Summit in New Delhi.

New Delhi hosted the first World Food India in 2017 and the 2nd edition in 2023.

263. Where did President Murmu attend the Safai Mitra Sammelan, organised as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva—2024 campaign?

राष्ट्रपति मुर्मू ने स्वच्छता ही सेवा-2024 अभियान के तहत आयोजित सफाई मित्र सम्मेलन में कहाँ भाग लिया?

- (a) Gandhinagar
- (b) Surat
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Noida
- (e) Ujjain

Ans. e

Sol. President Murmu attends Safai Mitra Sammelan in Ujjain

President Droupadi Murmu attended the Safai Mitra Sammelan in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.

The Safai Mitra Sammelan was organised as part of the fortnightly Swachhata Hi Seva—2024 campaign launched by the government of India.

This year's campaign focuses on facilitating and honouring sanitation workers -Safai Mitra's contribution to the Swachh Bharat Mission.

The theme of this year's Swachhata Hi Seva - 2024 campaign is 'Swabhav Swachhata – Sanskaar Swachhata'.

The Swachhata Hi Seva—2024 campaign will run from 17 September to 2 October 2024.

264. Dhanush Loganathan, who was seen in news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

धनुष लोगनाथन, जो सितंबर 2024 में एक उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए खबरों में थे, निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

- (a) Table Tennis
- (b) Archery
- (c) Shooting
- (d) Weightlifting
- (e) Boxing

Ans. d

Sol. India's Dhanush Loganathan wins Bronze in Men's 55kg at IWF Junior World Championships 2024

In Weightlifting, India's Dhanush Loganathan won the bronze medal in the men's 55kg event at the IWF Junior World Weightlifting Championships 2024 in Leon, Spain.

The 17-year-old Indian weightlifter lifted a total of 231kg (107 snatch+124kg clean and jerk) for bronze.

Medals at the junior World Weightlifting Championships 2024 are awarded separately in snatch, clean and jerk and total categories.

Dhanush also clinched a bronze medal in the snatch and finished 13th in the clean and jerk. Vietnam's K Duong won the gold medal for lifting 253kg (115kg+140kg) and Japan's Kotaro Tomari, clinched the silver medal for a total of 247kg (108kg+139kg).

The Indian weightlifting contingent at the Junior World Championships for the under-21 weightlifters includes three men and six women. Payal (women's 45kg) and Panchami Sonowal (women's 49kg) also competed today but could not win medals.

265. Which state has won the 14th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2024 after defeating Uttar Pradesh at the Olympian Surjit Singh Hockey Stadium in Jalandhar?

जालंधर के ओलंपियन सुरजीत सिंह हॉकी स्टेडियम में उत्तर प्रदेश को हराकर किस राज्य ने 14वीं हॉकी इंडिया जूनियर पुरुष राष्ट्रीय चैम्पियनशिप 2024 जीती है?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Madhya Pradesh

Ans. a

Sol. Punjab lifts Hockey Junior Men's National Championship trophy

Punjab defeated Uttar Pradesh to clinch the 14th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2024 at the Olympian Surjit Singh Hockey Stadium in Jalandhar.

After a 3-3 finish, the match was decided in the shootout, with Punjab winning 4-3 to lift the trophy.

Haryana defeated Karnataka 5-0 to secure third place on the podium.

266. Telecom Centre of Excellence (TCOE) India has signed an MoU with Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) and Visvesvaraya Research & Innovation Foundation (VRIF) to establish a Centre of Excellence in Quantum Technology and associated 5G/6G Technologies. Where is the headquarters of this COE?

दूरसंचार उत्कृष्टता केंद्र (TCOE) भारत ने क्वांटम प्रौद्योगिकी और संबंधित 5G/6G प्रौद्योगिकियों में उत्कृष्टता केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए विश्वेश्वरैया प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय (VTU) और विश्वेश्वरैया अनुसंधान एवं नवाचार फाउंडेशन (VRIF) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इस COE का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Bangalore
- (c) Chennai
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Visakhapatnam

Ans. b

Sol. TCOE-VTU-VRIF sign MoU to establish a Centre of Excellence in Quantum Technology and associated 5G/6G Technologies

In a significant move to bolster India's leadership in technological innovation, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Telecom Centre of Excellence (TCOE) India and Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) – Visvesvaraya Research & Innovation Foundation (VRIF).

The landmark MoU is for establishing a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Quantum Technology, associated 5G/6G Technologies etc, and other frontier areas of research and development.

This CoE, headquartered at VTU-VRIF Bangalore, aims to accelerate India's progress across these key sectors and is part of the 100-day programme.

267. Recently, which country has become the first country to eliminate leprosy, getting official verification from the World Health Organization (WHO)?

हाल ही में, विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) से आधिकारिक सत्यापन प्राप्त कर, कौन सा देश कुष्ठ रोग को समाप्त करने वाला पहला देश बन गया है?

- (a) India
- (b) Somalia
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Jordan
- (e) Venezuela

Ans. d

Sol. Jordan became the first country to eliminate Leprosy

In a historic achievement, Jordan has become the first country to eliminate leprosy, receiving official verification from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

This milestone reflects the country's commitment to eradicating a disease that has plagued humanity for centuries and signifies a major breakthrough in global public health efforts.

Jordan's journey to this remarkable achievement began many years ago with targeted public health campaigns, early detection programs, and free, accessible treatments for all citizens.

What is Leprosy?

- Leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, is a chronic infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium leprae*, affecting the skin, nerves, and respiratory tract.
- Though curable, leprosy has long carried a social stigma, with those affected often ostracised and left untreated in many parts of the world. Historically, the disease was considered nearly impossible to eliminate, especially in regions with limited access to healthcare.

About Jordan

- Capital- Amman
- Currency- Jordanian Dinar
- King- Abdullah II
- Continent- Asia
- Official language- Arabic

268. Where was the first-anniversary celebration of the central sector scheme PM Vishwakarma held?

केंद्रीय क्षेत्र योजना पीएम विश्वकर्मा की प्रथम वर्षगांठ समारोह कहां आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Ahmedabad
- (b) Gandhinagar
- (c) Wardha
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Gurugram

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi address 1st anniversary of the National PM Vishwakarma Scheme
Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the National PM Vishwakarma Program held in Wardha, Maharashtra to celebrate the first anniversary of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme.

PM Modi launched the Central Sector Scheme "PM Vishwakarma" on 17 September 2023 in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister also distributed Vishwakarma certificates and loans to the scheme's beneficiaries.

PM Modi also launched the Maharashtra Government's Acharya Chanakya Skill Development Scheme and the Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme on this occasion.

Modi also laid the foundation stone of PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park at Amravati, Maharashtra.

About PM Vishwakarma Scheme

- The PM Vishwakarma scheme is a five-year central sector scheme that aims to support 18 traditional crafts done traditionally by families using hands and tools.
- The central government has allocated Rs.13,000 crore for the scheme from 2023-24 to 2027-28.
- Traditional artisans, called Vishwakarma, are provided loans and training to upskill their crafts and produce better-quality products for the national and international markets. They are also provided marketing support to sell their products in the domestic and international markets.
- They are eligible for loans up to Rs one lakh in the first installment and up to Rs two lakh in the second installment.

269. Who has been appointed as Chief Compliance Officer of CIFDAQ, a leading blockchain ecosystem firm?

अग्रणी ब्लॉकचेन इकोसिस्टम फर्म CIFDAQ के मुख्य अनुपालन अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) G Srinivasan

- (b) Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi
- (c) Subrata Mondal
- (d) Muthuswamy Iyer
- (e) Nehal Vora

Ans. d

Sol. Muthuswamy Iyer appointed as Chief Compliance Officer of CIFDAQ
CIFDAQ, a leading blockchain ecosystem firm has appointed Muthuswamy Iyer as Chief Compliance Officer.

Muthuswamy brings extensive experience in regulatory compliance and adherence to PMLA guidelines to his new position at CIFDAQ, having worked primarily in the securities market and Web3/blockchain sectors for over 25 years, including pivotal roles at WazirX, Edelweiss Broking Ltd, Karvy Stock Broking Ltd, Angel Broking Ltd, and National Stock Exchange of India Ltd.

Muthuswamy has extensive experience in regulatory compliance, surveillance, and liaising with regulatory bodies. He is well-known for his crisis management abilities and ability to achieve outcomes under duress.

270. Which Small Finance Bank has launched a comprehensive solution "Liquid Plus" Fixed Deposit with attractive interest rate of 6.75% p.a. for tenures ranging from 7 to 180 days?

किस लघु वित्त बैंक ने 7 से 180 दिनों की अवधि के लिए 6.75% प्रति वर्ष की आकर्षक ब्याज दर के साथ एक व्यापक समाधान "लिक्विड प्लस" फिक्स्ड डिपॉजिट लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank
- (e) Jana Small Finance Bank,

Ans. e

Sol. Jana SFB introduces "Liquid Plus Fixed Deposit": A Comprehensive Solution to Manage Short Term Liquidity Needs

Jana Small Finance Bank, one of India's leading small finance banks, has launched a comprehensive solution "Liquid Plus" Fixed Deposit with attractive interest rate of 6.75% p.a. for tenures ranging from 7 to 180 days.

The rate is applicable for the minimum deposit amount of INR 10 Lakhs for retail deposits up to INR 3 Crores and above INR 3 Crores to INR 200 Crores for bulk deposits per customer.

The liquid plus fixed deposit makes short term deployment of funds extremely easy and attractive with higher returns. The Bank has taken this step based on the feedback from customers seeking placement of short-term funds.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Razorpay launches integration **platform DataSync**
- Bank of Baroda introduced '**Aditi**', a **GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager**, to enhance the digital customer service experience.
- Bank of Baroda launched a GenAI-enabled knowledge management platform, '**GyanSahay.AI**' for its employees.
- RBL Bank & DMI Finance Launches **Co-Branded Credit Card**
- Bank of India launched a 333 days fixed deposit scheme called '**Star Dhan Vriddhi Fixed Deposit**'
- Star Health and Allied Insurance introduced India's first health insurance policy '**Special Care Gold**' in Braille

271. In September 2024, Which insurance company formed a strategic agreement with BLS E-Services to provide vital insurance products to a wider spectrum of customers across India?

सितंबर 2024 में, किस बीमा कंपनी ने पूरे भारत में ग्राहकों के व्यापक स्पेक्ट्रम को महत्वपूर्ण बीमा उत्पाद प्रदान करने के लिए बीएलएस ई-सर्विसेज के साथ एक रणनीतिक समझौता किया?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) SBI General Insurance
- (d) Royal Sundaram General Insurance
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. SBI General Insurance joins hand with BLS E-Services to Streamline Access to Insurance Across India

BLS E-Services has tied up with SBI General Insurance to offer a range of insurance products directly to customers across India.

This tie up is aimed at broadening access to key insurance offerings, such as 'Hospicash', vehicle insurance, personal accident insurance, and shop insurance, leveraging BLS's extensive network.

This collaboration represents a pivotal moment in our journey towards financial inclusion. By bringing insurance products, we are not just facilitating transactions – we are empowering individuals and businesses also to secure their futures with confidence.

Chairman of BLS E-Services - Shikhar Aggarwal

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- ICICI Bank partners with PFRDA to launch NPS Vatsalya, a pension account for minors
- Infosys collaborates with UK's Metro Bank to Digitize Operations
- Piramal Finance join hands with Digital India's CSCs to Boost Credit Access for Bharat's Budget Customers
- Star Health Insurance & Policybazaar join hands to launch SUPER STAR health insurance plan
- Union Bank of India becomes first major Indian Bank to sign PCAF

272. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of V Vaidyanathan as MD and CEO of IDFC First Bank for how many years?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने IDFC फर्स्ट बैंक के MD और CEO के रूप में वी वैद्यनाथन की कितने वर्षों के लिए पुनः नियुक्ति को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) one year
- (b) two years
- (c) three years
- (d) 3 months
- (e) 6 months

Ans. c

Sol. RBI approves re-appointment of V Vaidyanathan as IDFC First Bank MD & CEO
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the re-appointment of V Vaidyanathan as MD and CEO of IDFC First Bank for a period of three years effective from December 19, 2024, to December 18, 2027.

The bank's board had initially approved the re-appointment on April 27, 2024, before Vaidyanathan's current term expires in December 2024.

Previously, he worked with Citibank from 1990 to 2000 and joined ICICI Bank in 2000, where he set up its Retail Banking division. He also served as the MD and CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance in 2009.

Vaidyanathan took over as MD and CEO of IDFC First Bank in December 2018, following the merger of IDFC Bank and Capital First.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **CCO of Airtel Payments Bank** - Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi
- **MD & CEO of Galaxy Health Insurance** – G Srinivasan
- **MD & CEO of IFFCO Tokio General Insurance** -Subrata Mondal
- **MD & CEO of Central Depository Services (India) Limited** - Nehal Vora
- **MD & CEO of Federal Bank** - Krishnan Venkat Subramanian

273. Who has been appointed as the Whole Time Director (Executive Director) of TamilNad Mercantile Bank for a period of three years?

तीन वर्ष की अवधि के लिए तमिलनाडु मर्केटाइल बैंक के पूर्णकालिक निदेशक (कार्यकारी निदेशक) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Nehal Vora Iyer
- (b) Subrata Mondal
- (c) Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi
- (d) Krishnan Venkat Subramanian
- (e) Vincent Menachery Devassy

Ans. e

Sol. Vincent Menachery Devassy appoints as Whole Time Director of TamilNad Mercantile Bank

Vincent Menachery Devassy has been appointed as the Whole Time Director (Executive Director) of TamilNad Mercantile Bank for a period of three years.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved this appointment under Section 35B of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

Devassy began his career in State Bank of India and has over 39 years of experience in commercial banking. He has deep knowledge in retail banking, wealth management, and banking technology among others.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD of State Bank of India** - Rama Mohan Rao Amara (replace C S Setty)
- **MD of NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services)** - Y Haragopal
- **MD & CEO of Shriram Capital Pvt Ltd.** – Subhasri
- **Deutsche Bank Head of global corp coverage for India, Sri Lanka** - Manik Chhabras

274. Who has been appointed as the new director general of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)?

नारकोटिक्स कंट्रोल ब्यूरो (एनसीबी) के नए महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Anurag Garg
- (b) Santosh Kashyap
- (c) Anshika Verma
- (d) Tayyab Ikram
- (e) Saleema Imtiaz

Ans. a

Sol. Anurag Garg appointed as DG of Narcotics Control Bureau

Anurag Garg has been appointed as the new director general of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

Garg is currently working as an Additional DG in the Border Security Force (BSF) at its headquarters here.

Garg is the 1993 batch Indian Police Service officer from the Himachal Pradesh cadre.

Recent Appointment

- **Head coach of Indian women's football team** - Santosh Kashyap (replace Chaoba Devi)
- **First Pakistani woman Umpire to be nominated to the ICC international panel** - Saleema Imtiaz
- **Chief Minister of Delhi** - Atishi (Arvind Kejriwal)
- **President of International Hockey Federation** - Tayyab Ikram
- **Chairperson of Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** - RS Sharma
- **Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language** - Amit Shah

275. Who inaugurated the 2nd Global Food Regulators Summit 2024?

दूसरे वैश्विक खाद्य विनियामक शिखर सम्मेलन 2024 का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) JP Nadda
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Piyush Goyal
- (e) Nitin Gadkari

Ans. b

Sol. JP Nadda Inaugurates the 2nd Global Food Regulators Summit 2024

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda has inaugurated the second edition of the Global Food Regulators Summit 2024 in New Delhi.

The summit brings together countries' food regulators to exchange information on aspects of food regulation and safety requirements. It also provides an opportunity to promote cooperation between the food regulators of various countries.

The Summit has organized by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, alongside the World Food India 2024 event organised by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

276. Which bank has launched the PaisaSave Cashback Credit Card in partnership with Paisabazaar?

किस बैंक ने पैसाबाज़ार के साथ साझेदारी में पैसासेव कैशबैक क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) Axis Bank

- (c) Yes Bank
(d) ICICI Bank
(e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ans. c

Sol. YES Bank launched PaisaSave Cashback Credit Card

Paisabazaar, India's leading online marketplace for consumer credit and free credit score platform, has partnered with Yes Bank to unveil their co-branded credit card - YES BANK Paisabazaar PaisaSave Credit Card.

The PaisaSave Credit Card is designed to reward frequent shoppers by offering substantial cashback on everyday purchases, both online and offline, making it a must-have for the value-conscious customers.

The PaisaSave Credit Card provides an easy way for customers to save as they spend, especially on online transactions where cashback is accelerated to 3%. Whether shopping on popular e-commerce sites or paying at physical stores, the card ensures consistent savings through its unlimited cashback feature.

About Yes Bank

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

277. In September 2024, India extends budgetary support to which country in the form of a rollover of the USD 50 million Treasury Bill for another year?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत एक और वर्ष के लिए 50 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के ट्रेजरी बिल के रोलओवर के रूप में किस देश को बजटीय सहायता प्रदान करेगा?

- (a) Sri Lanka
(b) Nepal
(c) Afghanistan
(d) Maldives
(e) Mauritius

Ans. d

Sol. India extends USD 50 million budgetary support to Maldives for another year
India has extended budgetary support to the Maldives government in the form of a rollover of the USD 50 million Treasury Bill for another year on the Maldivian government's request.

At the request of the Maldivian government, the State Bank of India (SBI) has subscribed the USD 50 million government Treasury Bills (T-bills) issued by the

Ministry of Finance of the Maldives for a period of one more year upon the maturity of the previous subscription.

This is the second rollover granted by the Indian government this year, following the first rollover of a USD 50 million Treasury Bill in May.

Earlier in May 2024, SBI had similarly subscribed a USD 50 mn T-bills under same mechanism, again on the request of the Government of Maldives. These subscriptions have been made at the special request of the Government of Maldives as emergency financial assistance.

About Maldives

- **Capital** – Male
- **Currency** – Rufiya
- **President** - Mohamed Muizzu

278. International Day of Peace is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शांति दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 19 September
- (b) 21 September
- (c) 22 September
- (d) 20 September
- (e) 24 September

Ans. b

Sol. 21 September - International Day of Peace

International Day of Peace is observed every year on 21 September.

The Day is observed by humanity to promote a culture of peace, advocate a halt to hostilities and conflict around the world and resolve disputes and differences through dialogue and peace education.

Theme 2024 - Cultivating a Culture of Peace

Established in 1981 by a unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace.

279. World Cleanup Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व सफाई दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 19 September
- (b) 21 September
- (c) 22 September
- (d) 20 September

(e) 24 September

Ans. d

Sol. 20 September - World Cleanup Day

World Cleanup Day is observed every year on 20 September.

Objective - To observe World Cleanup Day through activities aimed at raising awareness of the role clean-up efforts play in sustainable development.

The theme of the inaugural event, taking place on 20 September in the city of Tromsø, Norway, is "Arctic Cities and Marine Litter".

The event, convened with support from UN-Habitat, GRID-Arendal, and the Norwegian Retailers' Environment Fund, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, the municipality of Tromsø.

On 8 December 2023, the United Nations General Assembly, in its seventy-eighth session, unanimously adopted resolution 78/122 "World Cleanup Day", which proclaims 20 September as World Cleanup Day.

280. Which ministry of the Govt organized the Clean the Beach Campaign 2024 on the occasion of the International Coastal Clean-up Day on 21 September 2024?

भारत सरकार के किस मंत्रालय ने 21 सितंबर 2024 को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय तटीय सफाई दिवस के अवसर पर स्वच्छ समुद्र तट अभियान 2024 का आयोजन किया?

(a) Ministry of Jal Shakti

(b) Ministry of Earth Sciences

(c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India

(d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

(e) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India

Ans. b

Sol. Bhupendra Yadav launches Clean the Beach Campaign 2024 in Mumbai

The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav, led the country in this year's Clean the Beach Campaign on the occasion of the International Coastal Clean-up Day on 21 September 2024. The minister participated in an event to clean the beach at Juhu in Mumbai.

The campaign is part of the government of India's "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" and "Swachh Sagar Abhiyan," which call for a mass cleanliness and sanitation campaign in the country with public participation.

The campaign is being organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences in collaboration with the Maharashtra State Government. The beach cleaning initiative will take place at over 100 beaches across India's coastal states and union territories.

The Ministry of Environment launched a Beach Cleaning Drive in 2018 with the campaign '#IamSavingMyBeach' on World Environment Day, under the theme 'Beat Plastic.' Since then, the Ministry has been organizing regular beach cleaning activities with the support of state governments and local bodies.

The Clean, the Beach Campaign was undertaken along the beaches of the following States/Union Territories of India: Gujarat, Union Territory of Daman and Diu, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Union Territory Lakshadweep, Union Territory Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, and the Union Territory Andaman and Nicobar islands.

281. The Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) has signed an MoU with which company to develop critical technologies for tracking space objects, particularly near-Earth objects and artificial satellites, as part of India's growing focus on Space Situational Awareness (SSA)?

आर्यभट्ट प्रेक्षण विज्ञान शोध संस्थान (ARIES) ने अंतरिक्ष स्थिति जागरूकता (SSA) पर भारत के बढ़ते फोकस के हिस्से के रूप में, अंतरिक्ष वस्तुओं, विशेष रूप से पृथ्वी के निकट की वस्तुओं और कृत्रिम उपग्रहों पर नज़र रखने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण तकनीकों को विकसित करने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- (c) Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited

Ans. e

Sol. ARIES and BEL collaborate to enhance India's Space Situational Awareness

In a major development for India's space technology sector, the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology (DST), GoI, has signed an MoU with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).

The partnership aims to develop critical technologies for tracking space objects, particularly near-Earth objects and artificial satellites, as part of India's growing focus on Space Situational Awareness (SSA).

Under the terms of the MoU, ARIES and BEL will leverage advanced image processing techniques and data analytics solutions. These will be supported by observations from ARIES's cutting-edge telescopes, including the 4m International Liquid Mirror Telescope (ILMT).

Additionally, the two organizations will collaborate on the development of specialized instruments and laboratories. To further enhance expertise in SSA, ARIES and BEL plan to conduct a series of training workshops focused on capacity building. SSA is crucial for predicting, warning, and avoiding potential collisions between space objects, which is essential for ensuring the safety of satellites and their users.

282. Who has been elected as the new president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)?

भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राइफल संघ (NRAI) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Sheetal Sharma
- (c) Mohan Giri
- (d) V.K. Dhall
- (e) Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo

Ans. e

Sol. Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo elected President of NRAI

Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo has been elected as the new president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) in a tightly contested election, winning 36-21 over V.K. Dhall.

His victory marks a pivotal moment in Indian shooting, as it brings an end to Raninder Singh's 12-year tenure, which concluded due to National Sports Code restrictions.

Kalikesh will serve as president until the next NRAI general body meeting in 2025. During his interim leadership, India made a significant breakthrough at the Paris Olympics, securing three bronze medals and ending a dry spell from Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020.

About National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)

- Founded- 1951
- Headquarters- New Delhi
- President- Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo (replace Raninder Singh)

283. Who has been appointed as the new Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF)?

भारतीय वायु सेना (आईएफ) के नए प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Amrit Mohan Prasad
- (b) Rajwinder Singh Bhatti
- (c) Tejinder Singh
- (d) Rakesh Pal
- (e) Amar Preet Singh

Ans. e

Sol. Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh appointed as next Chief of Air Force

Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh has been appointed the next Chief of the Air Staff. He is currently the Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and will take over the top post on September 30 when the incumbent Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari retires on superannuation.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College and National Defence College, Air Marshal Singh was commissioned into the Fighter Stream of the IAF on December 21, 1984.

He is a qualified flying instructor and an experimental test pilot with more than 5000 hours of flying experience on a variety of fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

He served as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief at Central Air Command before taking over as the Vice Chief on February 1, 2023.

The Air Marshal is a recipient of Param Vishisht Seva Medal and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **DG of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)** -Amrit Mohan Prasad
- **DG of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** - Rajwinder Singh Bhatti
- **Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command** - Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
- **Deputy Chief of Air Staff** - Air Marshal Tejinder Singh
- **DG of Project Seabird** - Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar (replace Tarun Sobti)

284. In September 2024, who among the following Indian athletes joined the Telangana Police as the Deputy Superintendent of Police (Special Police)?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा भारतीय एथलीट तेलंगाना पुलिस में उप पुलिस अधीक्षक (विशेष पुलिस) के रूप में शामिल हुआ?

- (a) Lovlina Borgohain
- (b) Deepika Kumari
- (c) Manu Bhaker
- (d) Manika Batra
- (e) Nikhat Zareen

Ans. e

Sol. Nikhat Zareen, India's star boxer, joins Telangana Police as DSP

Renowned boxer Nikhat Zareen joined the Telangana Police as a Deputy Superintendent of Police (Special Police).

The two-time world boxing champion submitted her joining report to the Director General of Police, Jitender.

A native of Nizamabad district, Nikhat Zareen has an illustrious career in boxing, having won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games and a bronze medal at the Asian Games. She also represented India at the recently concluded Olympics in Paris. Competing in the women's 50 kg category, she lost to China's Wu Yu in the pre-quarterfinals. Zareen, who contested as an unseeded boxer, acknowledged that this was the hardest loss she has faced.

285. In September 2024, who among the following was elected as the President of the 68th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय परमाणु ऊर्जा एजेंसी (IAEA) के 68वें आम सम्मेलन के अध्यक्ष के रूप में चुना गया?

- (a) Sang Wook Ham
- (b) Seo-yeon
- (c) Hwa Young
- (d) Baek Hyeon
- (e) Joo Won

Ans. a

Sol. IAEA General Conference Elects Korean Ambassador as Conference President

The Republic of Korea's Permanent Representative has been elected as the President of the IAEA's 68th General Conference.

Sang Wook Ham was appointed as the Republic of Korea's (ROK) Permanent Representative to the International Organizations in Vienna in 2022 after an extensive service with the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The General Conference elects a President at the beginning of each annual session, following consultations among Member States before the conference.

They hold office for the duration of the conference. Last year the position was held by Thailand's Vilawan Mangklatanakul.

Recent Appointment in Foreign

- **First Indian President of Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)** - Raja Randhir Singh
- **First Female Government Spokesperson of Iran** - Fatemeh Mohajerani
- **CEO of Nestlé** - Laurent Freixe (replace Mark Schneider)
- **India's Permanent Representative to UN** - Parvathaneni Harish (replace Ruchira Kamboj)
- **CEO of Boeing** - Robert "Kelly" Ortberg (replace Dave Calhoun)

286. In September 2024, Dhruvi Patel was declared the winner of Miss India Worldwide 2024, the longest-running Indian pageant outside of India. She is from which country?

सितंबर 2024 में ध्रुवी पटेल को मिस इंडिया वर्ल्डवाइड 2024 का विजेता घोषित किया गया, जो भारत के बाहर सबसे लंबे समय तक चलने वाली भारतीय प्रतियोगिता है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) India
- (b) USA
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Pakistan
- (e) Nepal

Ans. b

Sol. Dhruvi Patel from US wins Miss India Worldwide 2024

Dhruvi Patel, a Computer Information System student from the USA, has been declared the winner of Miss India Worldwide 2024, the longest-running Indian pageant outside of India.

Dhruvi aspires to be a Bollywood actor and UNICEF Ambassador.

Lisa Abdoelhak from Suriname was declared the first runner-up, while Malvika Sharma from the Netherlands was adjudged the second runner-up in the same race. In the Mrs category, SuAnn Mouttet from Trinidad and Tobago was the winner, with Sneha Nambiar the first and Pawandip Kaur from the United Kingdom the second-runner up.

In the Teen category, Sierra Suret from Guadeloupe was crowned Miss Teen India Worldwide.

Shreya Singh from the Netherlands and Shradha Tedjoe from Suriname were declared the first and second runners-up.

The beauty pageant is organised by New York-based India Festival Committee and is headed by Indian-Americans Neelam and Dharmatma Saran.

287. Which city will host the 25th edition of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards from March 7 to March 9, 2025?

कौन सा शहर 7 मार्च से 9 मार्च, 2025 तक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय भारतीय फिल्म अकादमी (IIFA) पुरस्कारों के 25वें संस्करण की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Gurugram
- (d) Noida
- (e) Jaipur

Ans. e

Sol. Jaipur to host 25th edition of IIFA Awards

The 25th International Indian Film Academy Awards will be held in Jaipur from March 7 to March 9, 2025.

The announcement comes in the run-up of the 2024 edition of the awards, set to begin in Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, for the third consecutive year from September 27.

An MoU was signed between Rajasthan Tourism Department and the IIFA for the silver jubilee celebrations of the IIFA Awards, to be held in the state capital next year. IIFA 2025 will promote tourism in Rajasthan, it is for the second time that the event is taking place in India. First such event was held in Mumbai in 2019.

The 2025 ceremony will also host the inaugural IIFA Digital Awards that would honour the best performances in digital entertainment, films and OTT content.

288. In September 2024, _____ and _____ were felicitated with the best male and female player awards, respectively at the FIDE 100 Awards ceremony in Hungary.

सितंबर 2024 में, _____ और _____ को हंगरी में आयोजित FIDE 100 पुरस्कार समारोह में क्रमशः सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष और महिला खिलाड़ी पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया।

- (a) Hikaru Nakamura; Judit Polgár
- (b) Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa; Hou Yifan
- (c) Hans Niemann; Anna Muzychuk
- (d) Viswanathan Anand; Ju Wenjun
- (e) Magnus Carlsen; Judit Polgar

Ans. e

Sol. Magnus Carlsen, Judit Polgar felicitated at FIDE 100 Awards

Magnus Carlsen and Judit Polgar were felicitated with the best male and female player awards, respectively at the FIDE 100 Awards ceremony in Hungary.

Carlsen, ranked world number one, is a part of the Norway team in the ongoing Chess Olympiad 2024.

Carlsen has held the No. 1 position in the FIDE world chess rankings since July 1, 2011, trailing only Kasparov in time spent as the highest-rated player in the world. Polgar, on the other hand, announced retirement from competitive chess in 2014.

Recent Award

- **Olympic Order in gold** - French President Emmanuel Macron
- **Ramon Magsaysay Award 2024** - Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki
- **Best Airport at the India Travel Awards** - Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad

- **Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2024** - Shaktikanta Das (A+ grade); 2nd year
- **Hilal-e-Imtiaz Award (Pakistan 2nd highest civilian award)** - Arshad Nadeem

289. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved Rs 530 Crore to boost drinking water supply in 12 cities of which state?

एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) ने किस राज्य के 12 शहरों में पेयजल आपूर्ति को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 530 करोड़ रुपये मंजूर किए हैं?

- (a) Sikkim
- (b) Nagaland
- (c) Assam
- (d) Tripura
- (e) Meghalaya

Ans. d

Sol. ADB approves Rs 530 Crore to boost drinking water supply in 12 cities of Tripura. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) would provide financial assistance of Rs 530 crore to the Tripura government to upgrade the drinking water supply in the state's 12 cities benefiting around four lakh people.

12 cities, where the ADB-funded ambitious scheme would be implemented include, Udaipur, Amarpur, Belonia, Melaghar, Bishramganj, Khowai, Ranir Bazar, Mohanpur, Dharmanagar, Kailashhar, Kumarghat and Ambassa. Of the 12 cities, seven are district headquarters -- Udaipur, Belonia, Bishramganj, Khowai, Dharmanagar, Kailashhar and Ambassa.

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha laid the foundation of the 'Mukhyamantri Nagar Unnayan Prakalp' (Chief Minister's urban development scheme) at a function in southern Tripura's Gomati district headquarters Udaipur.

Under the scheme, a 305 km water pipeline would be laid, 25 deep tubewells, 18 Iron Removal Plant, four water treatment plants and 19 water reservoirs would be constructed.

After the completion of the ambitious plan within three years, a major drinking water problem of over 75,000 families in 12 cities in the state would be resolved.

Recent Loan approved by ADB

- India and ADB sign \$500 million **to improve healthcare in Maharashtra**
- India and ADB sign \$200 million **to improve solid waste management and sanitation in 100 cities across eight states in the country**
- India and ADB sign \$200 million **to expand metro rail corridors and improve transport connectivity in Nagpur**

- India and ADB sign \$240.5 million **to rooftop solar system** in India
- India and ADB sign \$170 million **to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response**

290. Indigenous Aircraft carrier INS Vikrant joins _____ Naval Fleet.
स्वदेशी विमानवाहक पोत आईएनएस विक्रान्त _____ नौसेना बेड़े में शामिल हुआ।

- (a) Western
- (b) Southern
- (c) Eastern
- (d) West Southern
- (e) East Southern

Ans. a

Sol. Indigenous Aircraft carrier INS Vikrant joins Western Naval Fleet

The country's indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant joined the western naval fleet, in a significant enhancement to maritime power in the Arabian Sea.

With this, the Indian Navy has two aircraft carriers INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya on its western front.

INS Vikrant is designed by Indian Navy's in-house Warship Design Bureau (WDB) and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, a Public Sector Shipyard under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.

INS Vikrant has been built with state-of-the-art automation features and is the largest ship ever built in maritime history of India.

The 262.5 m long and 61.6 m wide Vikrant displaces approximately 43,000 T, having a maximum designed speed of 28 Knots with endurance of 7,500 Nautical Miles.

The ship has around 2,200 compartments, designed for a crew of around 1,600 including women officers and sailors. The carrier is designed with a very high degree of automation for machinery operations, ship navigation and survivability. The carrier is equipped with the latest state of the art equipment and systems.

The ship is capable of operating air wing consisting of 30 aircraft comprising of MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31, MH-60R multi-role helicopters, in addition to indigenously manufactured Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) and Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) (Navy).

Using a novel aircraft-operation mode known as Short Take Off But Arrested Recovery (STOBAR), INS Vikrant is equipped with a ski-jump for launching aircraft, and a set of 'arrestor wires' for their recovery onboard.

291. In September 2024, which Indian pace bowler became the 10th Indian to achieve 400 international wickets during India's first Test against Bangladesh, marking this milestone with a total of 401 wickets across 196 matches?

सितंबर 2024 में, कौन सा भारतीय तेज गेंदबाज बांग्लादेश के खिलाफ भारत के पहले टेस्ट के दौरान 400 अंतरराष्ट्रीय विकेट हासिल करने वाला 10वां भारतीय बन गया, जिसने 196 मैचों में कुल 401 विकेट लेकर यह उपलब्धि हासिल की?

- (a) Ravindra Jadeja
- (b) Mohammed Shami
- (c) Kuldeep Yadav
- (d) Ravichandran Ashwin
- (e) Jasprit Bumrah

Ans. e

Sol. Jasprit Bumrah becomes 10th Indian Bowler to reach 400 International Wickets
Indian pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah completed 400 wickets in international cricket, becoming the 10th bowler from his team to do so.

Bumrah reached this milestone during India's first Test against Bangladesh at Chennai.

In 196 international matches, Bumrah has taken 401 wickets at an average of 21.01, with the best bowling figures of 6/19.

He is the only sixth Indian pacer to reach this milestone. In 37 Tests, Bumrah has taken 163 wickets at an average of 20.49, with the best figures of 6/27. He has 10 five-wicket hauls in the long format.

The top three wicket-takers for India in international cricket are: Anil Kumble (953 wickets), Ravichandran Ashwin (744 wickets), and Harbhajan Singh (707 wickets).

292. International Day of Peace is observed every year on 21 September. What is the theme of International Day of Peace 2024?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शांति दिवस हर साल 21 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शांति दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) End racism. Build peace
- (b) Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the #GlobalGoals
- (c) Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world
- (d) Shaping Peace Together
- (e) Cultivating a Culture of Peace

Ans. e

Sol. 21 September - International Day of Peace

International Day of Peace is observed every year on 21 September. It is also known as World Peace Day.

Established in 1981 by a unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

Theme 2024 - Cultivating a Culture of Peace.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace.

293. The Union Cabinet has approved the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats scheme for the 15th Finance Commission cycle for an overall outlay of how much rupees?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 15वें वित्त आयोग चक्र के लिए कितने करोड़ रुपये के समग्र परिव्यय के लिए वन्यजीव आवास योजना के एकीकृत विकास को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) ₹2,102.98 crore
- (b) ₹2,202.98 crore
- (c) ₹2,302.98 crore
- (d) ₹2,402.98 crore
- (e) ₹2,602.98 crore

Ans. e

Sol. Cabinet gives nod to ₹2,602 crore Wildlife Habitats Development scheme

The Union Cabinet has approved the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats scheme for the 15th Finance Commission cycle for an overall outlay of ₹2,602.98 crore.

The centrally sponsored scheme includes critical components such as Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of Wildlife Habitat.

The scheme envisages to boost technological interventions in different thematic areas over the current and next financial year in tiger and other wildlife habitats.

According to the overall outlay, the Centre allocated ₹1,575 crore for Project Tiger, ₹182.58 crore for Project Elephant and ₹845.4 crore for Development of Wildlife Habitat.

Project Tiger currently uses technology such as the M-STrIPES (Monitoring System for Tigers, Intensive Protection and Ecological Status) mobile application for day-to-day management practices. It is extensively used for collection of field level ecological data during the 5th cycle of the All-India Tiger Estimation in 2022.

The Project Dolphin under the Development of Wildlife Habitat component is proposed to be supported by provisioning equipment such as Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) and passive acoustic monitoring devices for enumeration of dolphins as well as their habitat.

Project Lion, also under the ambit of the Development of Wildlife Habitat, will be strengthened as per activities envisaged in the document titled "Lion @ 2047: A vision for Amrut Kaal".

294. India has won the Chess Olympiad 2024 by defeating which country in the women's category?

भारत ने महिला वर्ग में किस देश को हराकर शतरंज ओलंपियाड 2024 जीता है?

- (a) Slovenia
- (b) USA
- (c) Azerbaijan
- (d) China
- (e) Hungary

Ans. c

Sol. Chess Olympiad 2024: Indian teams make history, bag gold in both categories
India has struck historic double gold medals in the 2024 Chess Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary. Both men and women teams emerged on top.

In the open section, India's maiden title win was secured following Arjun Erigaisi's victory over Jan Subelj of Slovenia in the final round of the competition.

At the same time, second-placed China dropped crucial points against the USA in their fixture, and India officially clinched the title. The Indian team for the open category included Gukesh D, Praggnanandhaa R, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, Pentala Harikrishna, and Srinath Narayanan.

In the open section, India's best performances prior to this year have been the bronze medals in 2022 and 2014.

In addition, in the women's section final, the Indian women's team defeated Azerbaijan 3.5-0.5 to clinch the gold. The team comprised Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, Tania Sachdev, and Abhijit Kunte (captain).

295. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) of which country in the area of food safety?

भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा एवं मानक प्राधिकरण (FSSAI) ने खाद्य सुरक्षा के क्षेत्र में किस देश के कृषि एवं पशुधन मंत्रालय (MAPA) के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) USA
- (b) France
- (c) Brazil
- (d) Germany
- (e) Japan

Ans. c

Sol. FSSAI, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Brazil sign MoU for food safety collaboration

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) of Brazil in the area of food safety.

The MoU was signed by Agriculture and Livestock Minister Carlos Henrique Baqueta Fávaro and CEO of FSSAI, G. Kamala Vardhana Rao, on the sidelines of the Global Food Regulators Summit in New Delhi.

The MoU demonstrates India's dedication to food safety and signifies a major advancement in its ongoing efforts to enhance international collaboration in food safety.

FSSAI also conducted a bilateral meeting with the Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) on the sidelines of the Global Food Regulators Summit. The meeting focused on the implementation protocol of the agreement signed between India and BFDA in March this year during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This Agreement underscores a mutual commitment to enhance food safety by aligning regulatory frameworks, simplifying the Food Import Procedure, and fostering technical collaboration.

About Brazil

- **Capital** - Brasília
- **Currency** - Brazilian Real
- **President** - Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva

296. India has signed the first-of-its-kind agreements focused on a Clean Economy, Fair Economy, and the overarching Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) in Delaware, USA. In which year IPEF was launched?

भारत ने डेलावेयर, यूएसए में स्वच्छ अर्थव्यवस्था, निष्पक्ष अर्थव्यवस्था और व्यापक इंडो-पैसिफिक आर्थिक ढांचे (IPEF) पर केंद्रित अपनी तरह के पहले समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। IPEF किस वर्ष लॉन्च किया गया था?

- (a) 2020
- (b) 2016
- (c) 2021
- (d) 2022
- (e) 2023

Ans. d

Sol. India signs agreements on clean and fair economy under Indo-Pacific Economic Framework

India has signed the first-of-its-kind agreements focused on a Clean Economy, Fair Economy, and the overarching Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) in Delaware, USA.

These agreements were exchanged under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) for prosperity yesterday in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is on a three-day visit to the US for the Quad Summit.

The Agreement on Clean Economy intends to promote technical cooperation, workforce development, capacity building, and research collaborations.

It will facilitate investments and project financing, including concessional financing, as well as joint collaborative projects, with a particular emphasis on supporting Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The Fair Economy Agreement seeks to create a more transparent and predictable trade and investment environment across the Indo-Pacific. Meanwhile, the overarching IPEF Agreement aims to establish a high-level political oversight framework at the ministerial level for the various individual IPEF agreements, providing general guidance and goals while aligning with leaders' vision and mandate for the IPEF.

About Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)

- IPEF was launched on 23 May 2022 in Tokyo, Japan, comprising 14 countries – Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and USA.
- The IPEF seeks to strengthen economic engagement and cooperation among partner countries to advance growth and economic stability.
- The framework is structured around four pillars relating to Trade (Pillar I); Supply Chain Resilience (Pillar II); Clean Economy (Pillar III); and Fair Economy (Pillar IV).
- India has ratified Agreement on Supply Chain Resilience (Pillar II) in February 2024 and has maintained an observer status in Pillar-I.

297. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare conducted a bilateral meeting with which's country Food and Drug Authority on the sidelines of the Global Food Regulators Summit, at Bharat Mandapam, aimed at enhancing food safety and regulatory standards?

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के तहत भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा एवं मानक प्राधिकरण (FSSAI) ने भारत मंडपम में वैश्विक खाद्य नियामक शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान किस देश के खाद्य एवं औषधि प्राधिकरण के साथ द्विपक्षीय बैठक आयोजित की, जिसका उद्देश्य खाद्य सुरक्षा और नियामक मानकों को बढ़ाना था?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) USA
- (d) Japan
- (e) Australia

Ans. b

Sol. India and Bhutan Deepen Cooperation on Food Safety and Regulatory Standards
The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare conducted a bilateral meeting with the Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) on the sidelines of the Global Food Regulators Summit, at Bharat Mandapam.

The meeting focused on the implementation protocol of the "Agreement" signed between India and BFDA on 21 March 2024, during the visit of PM Narendra Modi. This Agreement underscores a mutual commitment to enhance food safety, aligning regulatory frameworks, simplifying the Food Import Procedure and fostering technical collaboration. The Agreement aims to recognize the official control exercised by BFDA over food business operators (FBOs) by the FSSAI.

The Agreement further seeks to enhance technical cooperation between FSSAI and BFDA, establishing a functional mechanism to facilitate and develop trade between the two countries.

Recently India signed MoUs with others countries

- India, European Union agree to deepen cooperation in Sustainable Water Management
- FSSAI, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Brazil sign MoU for food safety collaboration
- India-Denmark Maritime collaboration gathers momentum with focus on Green Shipping, Digitalization, and Sustainable Development
- Indian Navy and South African Navy sign agreement to enhance submarine rescue support cooperation
- India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives sign Charter and MoU for establishment of Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat

298. Which company and IBM have launched SimpliZCloud, a fully managed cloud service built on IBM LinuxONE. The service is designed to support the infrastructure needs of critical workloads like those in financial services organizations including core banking applications, lending and risk management applications?

किस कंपनी और IBM ने IBM LinuxONE पर निर्मित एक पूर्णतः प्रबंधित क्लाउड सेवा SimpliZCloud लॉन्च की है। यह सेवा वित्तीय सेवा संगठनों जैसे कोर बैंकिंग अनुप्रयोगों, ऋण और जोखिम प्रबंधन अनुप्रयोगों में महत्वपूर्ण कार्यभार की बुनियादी ढांचे की जरूरतों का समर्थन करने के लिए डिज़ाइन की गई है?

(a) Tech Mahindra

(b) Data Ventures Pvt. Ltd

(c) HCL

(d) TCS

(e) NTT DATA

Ans. e

Sol. IBM and NTT Data launches SimpliZCloud to Revamp India's Financial Services Sector

NTT DATA and IBM have launched SimpliZCloud, a fully managed cloud service built on IBM LinuxONE.

The service is designed to support the infrastructure needs of critical workloads like those in financial services organizations including core banking applications, lending and risk management applications.

This solution offers the opportunity to optimize infrastructure investments and ongoing costs by consolidating resources and spending, especially enterprise software license costs. The subscription-based model also helps avoid expensive capital investment and maintenance costs.

SimpliZCloud is built on a secure, scalable, and integrated architecture that delivers dedicated compute and storage resources, powered by Software Defined Networking (SDN). The service offers a jump in performance over traditional x86 architecture-based environments, claims the company.

299. In September 2024, who among the following was appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Federal Bank, taking over from Shyam Srinivasan?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसे श्याम श्रीनिवासन से पदभार ग्रहण करते हुए फेडरल बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया?

(a) G Srinivasan

(b) Vincent Menachery Devassy

(c) KVS Manian

(d) V Vaidyanathan

(e) Muthuswamy Iyer

Ans. c

Sol. KVS Manian Takes Charge as MD and CEO of Federal Bank

KVS Manian has officially taken charge as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Federal Bank, succeeding Shyam Srinivasan, who stepped down after an impressive 14-year tenure.

Previously, Manian served as the Joint Managing Director at Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited until April 30, 2024.

During his time there, he was crucial in establishing a strong and profitable franchise across various business segments, significantly enhancing the bank's technological capabilities and transaction banking services.

The appointment was approved by the Reserve Bank of India in July, for a period of three years.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Executive Director of TamilNad Mercantile Bank** - Vincent Menachery Devassy (for three years)
- **Chief Compliance Officer of CIFDAQ** - Muthuswamy Iyer
- **MD and CEO of IDFC First Bank** - V Vaidyanathan (reappointment for three years)
- **CCO of Airtel Payments Bank** - Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi
- **MD & CEO of Galaxy Health Insurance** – G Srinivasan

300. In September 2024, the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), organized the National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming to promote gender equality and socio-economic inclusion in rural communities. This event was hosted in collaboration with which of the following institutes?

सितंबर 2024 में, ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय (MoRD) ने दीनदयाल अंत्योदय योजना - राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण आजीविका मिशन (DAY-NRLM) के तहत ग्रामीण समुदायों में लैंगिक समानता और सामाजिक-आर्थिक समावेशन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए जेंडर मेनस्ट्रीमिंग पर राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया। यह कार्यक्रम निम्नलिखित में से किस संस्थान के सहयोग से आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) United Nations Populations Fund
- (b) United Nations Development Programme
- (c) World Economic Forum
- (d) United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization
- (e) Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality**

Ans. e

Sol. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana in collaboration with the Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality

The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), in collaboration with the Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality (IWWAGE) successfully hosted the National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming in New Delhi.

The conclave focused on strengthening gender-responsive community institutions and discussed strategies for advancing gender integration within the DAY-NRLM framework.

DAY-NRLM provides a unique opportunity to empower women by addressing structural inequalities and strengthening women's collectives, voice, and agency.

301. Which state government has launched a financial assistance programme, 'Bana Kaih', which aims to provide financial assistance to farmers growing ginger, turmeric, Mizo chilli, and broomsticks?

किस राज्य सरकार ने वित्तीय सहायता कार्यक्रम 'बाना कैह' शुरू किया है, जिसका उद्देश्य अदरक, हल्दी, मिर्च और झाड़ू उगाने वाले किसानों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करना है?

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Assam

Ans. c

Sol. Mizoram govt introduces Financial Assistance Scheme for Farmers and Small Entrepreneurs

The Mizoram government has launched a financial assistance and support programme, 'Bana Kaih', for small entrepreneurs and farmers of the state.

This scheme aims to provide financial assistance to farmers growing ginger, turmeric, Mizo chilli, and broomsticks. These crops will be purchased through farmer societies established in villages.

Under this initiative, the government has set minimum prices for these cash crops. If farmers sell their produce below these rates, they will receive support prices. However, if they manage to sell at higher prices, the government will not intervene. Additionally, paddy unhusked rice will be bought at Rs 30 per kg from Kolasib and Mamit districts.

The state government has allocated Rs 200 crore for the scheme's implementation in 2024-25. An additional Rs 110 crore has been set aside for agricultural assurance in the 2023-24 fiscal year.

About Mizoram

- Formation - 20 February 1987

- Capital - Aizawl
- Chief Minister - Lalduhoma
- Governor - Hari Babu Kambhampati

302. Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who was in the news recently, is from which country?

हाल ही में चर्चा में रहे अनुरा कुमारा दिसानायके किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) Laos

Ans. c

Sol. Marxist leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake is Sri Lanka's new president Anura Kumara Dissanayake, the left-wing leader of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), has won the 2024 Sri Lanka Presidential election.

He defeated the incumbent Ranil Wickremesinghe and will be the island nation's ninth executive president.

According to the official data, the 55-year-old Marxist leader secured 56.34 lakh votes. The opposition leader Sajith Premadasa finished second with 43.63 lakh votes, and Wickremesinghe third with 22.99 lakh votes.

About Sri Lanka

- **Legislative capital** - Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- **Executive and Judicial capital** - Colombo
- **Currency** - Sri Lankan rupee
- **President** - Anura Kumara Dissanayake; 9th (replace Ranil Wickremesinghe)
- **Prime Minister** - Dinesh Gunawardena

303. The Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 23, 2018, celebrated its sixth anniversary. The scheme provides health coverage of how much rupees per family annually for secondary and tertiary care to over 55 crore individuals?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा 23 सितंबर, 2018 को शुरू की गई आयुष्मान भारत PM-JAY योजना ने अपनी छठी वर्षगांठ मनाई। यह योजना 55 करोड़ से अधिक व्यक्तियों को माध्यमिक और तृतीयक देखभाल के लिए प्रति परिवार सालाना कितने रुपये का स्वास्थ्य कवरेज प्रदान करती है?

- (a) 2 lakh
- (b) 3 lakh
- (c) 5 lakh

(d) 10 lakh

(e) 15 lakh

Ans. c

Sol. Ayushman Bharat PM-Jay scheme introduced by PM Modi marks six years since launch

The Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY scheme, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 23, 2018, celebrated its sixth anniversary.

The scheme provides health coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family annually for secondary and tertiary care to over 55 crore individuals.

Earlier on September 11, the Union Cabinet had approved health coverage for all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of income, under the flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

AB PM-JAY is the world's largest publicly funded health assurance scheme, provides health cover of Rs 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation to 55 crore individuals to 12.34 crore families.

304. Indian wrestler Sangram Singh became the first Indian male wrestler to win an MMA (mixed martial arts) fight at the Gama International Fighting Championship. The Championship was held in which country?

भारतीय पहलवान संग्राम सिंह गामा इंटरनेशनल फाइटिंग चैंपियनशिप में MMA (मिक्स्ट मार्शल आर्ट्स) मुकाबला जीतने वाले पहले भारतीय पुरुष पहलवान बन गए। यह चैंपियनशिप किस देश में आयोजित की गई थी?

(a) Georgia

(b) Hungary

(c) Oman

(d) Japan

(e) India

Ans. a

Sol. Sangram Singh becomes 1st Indian male wrestler to win MMA fight at Gama International Fighting Championship

Indian wrestler Sangram Singh became the first Indian male wrestler to win an MMA (mixed martial arts) fight at the Gama International Fighting Championship Tbilisi in Georgia.

Commonwealth heavyweight wrestling champion Sangram won in a 90-second match against the Pakistani opponent, Ali Raza Nasir.

Moreover, Sangram also registered the fastest win ever by an Indian fighter in the 93 kg division in the championship.

305. Who has won the Formula One Singapore Grand Prix 2024?

फॉर्मूला वन सिंगापुर ग्रैंड प्रिक्स 2024 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Sebastian Vettel
- (b) Lewis Hamilton
- (c) Max Verstappen
- (d) Charles Leclerc
- (e) Lando Norris

Ans. e

Sol. Lando Norris wins Singapore Grand Prix

Formula One title contender Lando Norris led from pole to chequered flag to win the Singapore Grand Prix, narrowing the gap to championship leader Max Verstappen, who was second.

It was the McLaren driver's third career GP win and his first from pole at his sixth attempt.

His McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri finished third to extend their lead over Red Bull in the constructors' championship.

Recent 2024 F1 Grand Prix Winner

- Azerbaijan Grand Prix - McLaren's Oscar Piastri (Australia)
- Italian Grand Prix - Ferrari's Charles Leclerc (Monaco)
- Dutch Grand Prix - McLaren's Lando Norris (British)
- Hungarian Grand Prix F2 - Kush Maini (India)
- Belgian Grand Prix - Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton (UK)
- Hungarian Grand Prix – McLaren's Oscar Piastri (Australia)
- British Grand Prix – Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton (UK)
- Austrian Grand Prix - Mercedes's George Russell (UK)
- Spanish Grand Prix – Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Canadian Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Monaco Grand Prix - Ferrari's Charles Leclerc (Monaco)
- Emilia Romagna Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Miami Grand Prix - McLaren's Lando Norris (British)
- Chinese Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Japanese Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Australian Grand Prix - Ferrari's Carlos Sainz (Spain)
- Saudi Arabian Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Bahrain Grand Prix - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)

306. In September 2024, Oleg Kononenko and Nikolai Chub set a new record for the longest single mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS).

Kononenko and Chub broke the previous record for the longest continuous stay

in space, which was set by cosmonauts Sergei Prokopyev, Dmitry Petelin, and NASA astronaut Francisco Rubio. Oleg and Nikolai belong to which country?
सितंबर 2024 में, ओलेग कोनोनेनको और निकोलाई चूब ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन (ISS) पर सबसे लंबे समय तक एकल मिशन का नया रिकॉर्ड बनाया। कोनोनेनको और चूब ने अंतरिक्ष में सबसे लंबे समय तक लगातार रहने का पिछला रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया, जो कॉस्मोनॉट्स सर्गेई प्रोकोपयेव, दिमित्री पेटेलिन और नासा के अंतरिक्ष यात्री फ्रांसिस्को रुबियो द्वारा बनाया गया था। ओलेग और निकोलाई किस देश से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) USA
- (b) Japan
- (c) Russia
- (d) UK
- (e) Germany

Ans. c

Sol. Russian cosmonauts Oleg Kononenko, Nikolai Chub set new record for longest single mission aboard ISS

Russian cosmonauts Oleg Kononenko and Nikolai Chub have set a new record for the longest single mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS).

Kononenko and Chub broke the previous record for the longest continuous stay in space, which was set by cosmonauts Sergei Prokopyev, Dmitry Petelin, and NASA astronaut Francisco Rubio.

The three set the previous record last year by spending 370 days aboard the International Space Station. Kononenko and Chub returned to Earth on the Soyuz MS-25 spacecraft, after spend a record 374 days in space.

307. Which Indian film has been selected as the official entry for the 97th Academy Awards (Oscar) 2025?

किस भारतीय फिल्म को 97वें अकादमी पुरस्कार (ऑस्कर) 2025 के लिए आधिकारिक प्रविष्टि के रूप में चुना गया है?

- (a) 12th Fail
- (b) Madgaon Express
- (c) Laapataa Ladies
- (d) 8 A.M. Metro
- (e) Lantrani

Ans. c

Sol. Laapataa Ladies picked as official entry for 97th Oscars Awards

The Hindi comedy film 'Laapataa Ladies', produced by Amir Khan and Kiran Rao and directed by Kiran Rao, has been chosen to be India's official entry for the

International Feature Film Category at the 97th Academy Awards 2025 (popularly known as the Oscars).

The international Feature film category is for the country-selected feature film. The Hindi film Laapataa Ladies was chosen by a 13-member jury of the Film Federation of India, headed by renowned Assamese Director Jahnu Barua.

The 97th Academy Awards ceremony will be held on 2nd March 2025 in Los Angeles, United States of America.

Last year, the superhit Malayalam film "2018: Everyone's a Hero" was India's official entry for the 96th Oscar Award 2024.

Indian films nominated for Oscar Award

- 57 Indian films including Laapataa Ladies, have been nominated for the 'International Feature Film Category at the Oscars. Mehboob Khan's directed film Mother India was the first Indian film to be nominated for an Oscar in 1957.
- Only three Indian films, Mother India (1958), Salaam Bombay (1989), and Lagaaan (2001), have made the final list of Oscar nominees.
- None of the Indian films has won the Best International Feature Film category award at the Oscars.

308. World Rhino Day is celebrated annually on which day to raise awareness about the Rhinoceros and the urgent need for their conservation?

विश्व राइनो दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है ताकि गैंडों के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाई जा सके और उनके संरक्षण की तत्काल आवश्यकता पर बल दिया जा सके?

- (a) 21 September
- (b) 22 September
- (c) 23 September
- (d) 24 September
- (e) 25 September

Ans. b

Sol. 22 September - World Rhino Day

World Rhino Day is celebrated annually on September 22 to raise awareness about the Rhinoceros and the urgent need for their conservation.

It serves as a global platform to highlight the critical threats rhinos face, including poaching and habitat loss, while recognizing the efforts of individuals and organizations dedicated to protecting these majestic animals.

Theme 2024 - Keep the Five Alive

The day also emphasizes the importance of preserving rhino populations for ecological balance, cultural heritage, and future generations. It is a call to unite in the fight for rhino conservation worldwide.

The Indian rhino is the largest of the three Asian species and shares its single-horn characteristic with the Javan rhino.

309. The International Day of Sign Languages is an annual event observed on which day globally?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सांकेतिक भाषा दिवस विश्व स्तर पर किस दिन मनाया जाने वाला एक वार्षिक कार्यक्रम है?

- (a) 21 September
- (b) 22 September
- (c) 23 September
- (d) 24 September
- (e) 25 September

Ans. c

Sol. 23 September - International Day of Sign Languages

The International Day of Sign Languages is an annual event observed on September 23 globally.

The day is marked to raise awareness about the rights of the deaf community and other sign language users.

Theme 2024 - Sign up for Sign Language Rights

The choice of 23 September is the same date that the World Federation of the Deaf was established in 1951. The International Day of Sign Languages was first celebrated in 2018 as part of the International Week of the Deaf.

310. In September 2024, the Union Home Ministry cancelled the FCRA (Foreign Contribution Registration Act) licence of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) due to alleged violations of regulations. In which year ICA was founded?

सितंबर 2024 में, केंद्रीय गृह मंत्रालय ने नियमों के कथित उल्लंघन के कारण अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहकारी गठबंधन (ICA) का FCRA (विदेशी अंशदान पंजीकरण अधिनियम) लाइसेंस रद्द कर दिया। ICA की स्थापना किस वर्ष हुई थी?

- (a) 1895
- (b) 1985
- (c) 1947
- (d) 1952
- (e) 2000

Ans. a

Sol. FCRA licence of International Cooperative Alliance cancelled

Union Home Ministry has cancelled the FCRA (Foreign Contribution Registration Act) licence of the International Cooperatives Alliance (ICA) for its alleged violation of rules.

ICA is the apex body representing cooperatives worldwide and provides knowledge, expertise and coordinated action in the field.

Founded in 1895, ICA is one of the oldest non-governmental organizations and has over 1 billion members.

311. In September 2024, Indian delegation attended the first in-person meeting of the Supply Chain Council of the Indo-Pacific Economic Forum (IPEF) for Prosperity held in which city?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारतीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने किस शहर में आयोजित समृद्धि के लिए इंडो-पैसिफिक इकोनॉमिक फोरम (IPEF) की आपूर्ति श्रृंखला परिषद की पहली व्यक्तिगत बैठक में भाग लिया?

- (a) Berlin
- (b) Washington DC
- (c) Paris
- (d) Berlin
- (e) New Delhi

Ans. b

Sol. India attends first in-person IPEF Supply Chain Council and Crisis Response Network meeting at Washington DC

Indian delegation attended the first in-Person meeting of the Supply Chain Council of the Indo-Pacific Economic Forum (IPEF) for Prosperity held in Washington DC followed by Crisis Response Network meeting.

These formal meetings were preceded by Panel discussions on various topics related to supply chain resilience with special focus on the United States initiatives including the creation of dedicated Supply Chain Centre and development of the tool like SCALE. While the US is the Chair, India is the vice Chair of the Supply Chain Council. The Council adopted the one-year work plan detailing the action to be taken by the Council for the entire year. Apart from this, the major achievements were the establishment of three Action Plan Teams pertaining to three sectors, namely Semiconductor; Critical Minerals with a focus on batteries; and Chemicals.

After the in-person meeting of the IPEF Supply Chain Council, the Crisis Response Network (CRN) meeting chaired by the Republic of Korea.

312. In September 2024, which of the following countries partnered with India to establish its first-ever national security semiconductor fabrication plant,

designed to manufacture infrared, gallium nitride, and silicon carbide chips for military hardware and next-generation telecommunications?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने भारत के साथ अपना पहला राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा अर्धचालक निर्माण संयंत्र स्थापित करने के लिए भागीदारी की, जिसे सैन्य हार्डवेयर और अगली पीढ़ी के दूरसंचार के लिए अवरक्त, गैलियम नाइट्राइड और सिलिकॉन कार्बाइड चिप्स बनाने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है?

- (a) USA
- (b) France
- (c) Germany
- (d) Japan
- (e) Australia

Ans. a

Sol. India to get first national security semiconductor fabrication plant

Under a transformative collaboration with the US, India will get a national security semiconductor fabrication plant that will produce chips for use in military hardware and next-generation telecommunications.

The India-US joint project was announced following talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden in Wilmington.

It will be the first-ever India-US semiconductor fabrication partnership. It is the first time the US military has agreed to do a partnership for these highly-value technologies with India and, it is a watershed moment as it is as significant as the civil nuclear deal.

The "fab, which will be established with the objective of manufacturing infrared, gallium nitride and silicon carbide semiconductors, will be enabled by support from the India semiconductor mission as well as a strategic technology partnership between, Bharat Semi, 3rdiTech, and the US Space Force.

The Fab becomes not only India's first, but one of the world's first multi-material fabs for national security.

313. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has penalised how much rupees Jai Anmol Ambani, the elder son of industrialist Anil Ambani, for not exercising proper due diligence while approving corporate loans at Reliance Home Finance?

भारतीय प्रतिभूति एवं विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) ने उद्योगपति अनिल अंबानी के बड़े बेटे जय अनमोल अंबानी पर रिलायंस होम फाइनेंस में कॉर्पोरेट ऋण को मंजूरी देते समय उचित सावधानी नहीं बरतने के लिए कितने रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) 1 crore
- (b) 2 crore

(c) 3 crore

(d) 4 crore

(e) 5 crore

Ans. a

Sol. SEBI imposes Rs 1 crore fine on Jai Anmol Ambani in Reliance Home Finance case

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1 crore on Jai Anmol Ambani, the elder son of industrialist Anil Ambani, for not exercising proper due diligence while approving corporate loans at Reliance Home Finance.

Additionally, Krishnan Gopalakrishnan, the Chief Risk Officer of Reliance Home Finance, has been fined Rs 15 lakh for similar violations. The two individuals are required to pay the amount within 45 days of the SEBI order.

SEBI stated that in February 2019, Jai Anmol, as a non-executive director of Reliance Home Finance, approved unsecured loans of Rs 20 crore each to Visa Capital and Accura Productions, despite the disapproval of other board members.

The regulator pointed out that he failed to exercise reasonable due diligence with respect to GPCL (general purpose working capital lending) process. The working capital was lent to other Reliance-Anil Ambani group companies, including Reliance Capital, according to the regulator.

314. Who has been appointed as the Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)?

राष्ट्रीय अपराध रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो (एनसीआरबी) के प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Vitual Kumar

(b) Praveer Ranjan

(c) Vivek Gogia

(d) Amit Garg

(e) Alok Ranjan

Ans. e

Sol. Alok Ranjan appointed as NCRB chief, Amit Garg to head National Police Academy

Senior IPS officers Alok Ranjan has been appointed as the Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

While, Amit Garg has been appointed as the Chiefs of Hyderabad-based Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA).

Ranjan, a 1991-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Director, NCRB for a tenure up to his superannuation on June 30, 2026.

He succeeds his service and batchmate Vivek Gogia, who has been repatriated to the AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory) cadre.

Garg, a 1993-batch IPS officer of Andhra Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Director, of SVPNPA for a term up to his retirement on October 31, 2027.

Besides them, Praveer Ranjan has been appointed as Special Director General in Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) for a tenure of two years.

Vitul Kumar, currently ADG in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), has been appointed as Special DG in the same force, till the date of his superannuation on August 31, 2028.

R Prasad Meena, at present ADG in the Border Security Force (BSF), has been appointed as Special DG in the force, till the date of his retirement, that is July 31, 2025.

Recent Appointment

- **President of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)** - Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo (replace Raninder Singh)
- **DG of Narcotics Control Bureau** - Anurag Garg (replace Anish Dayal Singh)
- **Head coach of Indian women's football team** - Santosh Kashyap (replace Chaoba Devi)
- **First Pakistani woman Umpire to be nominated to the ICC international panel** - Saleema Imtiaz
- **Chief Minister of Delhi** - Atishi (Arvind Kejriwal)
- **President of International Hockey Federation** - Tayyab Ikram

315. In September 2024, S&P Global Ratings retained India's growth forecast at _____, while also forecasting that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) might implement a rate cut in October 2024.

सितंबर 2024 में, एस&एंडपी ग्लोबल रेटिंग्स ने भारत के विकास पूर्वानुमान को _____ पर बरकरार रखा, साथ ही यह भी पूर्वानुमान लगाया कि भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आरबीआई) अक्टूबर 2024 में ब्याज दरों में कटौती लागू कर सकता है।

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.6%
- (c) 6.7%
- (d) 6.8%
- (e) 6.9%

Ans. d

Sol. S&P retains India's growth forecast at 6.8%

S&P Global Ratings maintained India's growth forecast at 6.8 percent while noting that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may cut interest rates in October.

In its economic outlook for the Asia-Pacific region, S&P also retained its gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for the financial year 2025-26 (FY26) at 6.9 percent.

In India, GDP growth moderated in the June quarter as high interest rates tempered urban demand, in line with our projection of 6.8 per cent GDP for the full financial year 2024-25.

In FY24, India's economic growth rate reached an impressive 8.2 per cent.

Updated GDP List

- S&P – 6.8% (FY25), 6.9% (FY26), 7% (FY27)
- World Bank – 7% (FY25)
- Moody's – 7.2% (FY24), 6.6% (FY25)
- Goldman Sachs – 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)
- SBI – 7%
- Deloitte – 7 - 7.2% (FY25)
- India Ratings – 7.5% (FY25)
- FICCI – 7% (FY25)
- ADB – 7% (FY25), 7.2%(FY26)
- IMF – 7% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)

316. The Centre has constituted a committee to formulate a framework for the Repairability Index in the Mobile and Electronics Sector. Who will chair this committee?

केंद्र सरकार ने मोबाइल और इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स क्षेत्र में रिपेयरेबिलिटी इंडेक्स के लिए रूपरेखा तैयार करने हेतु एक समिति गठित की है। इस समिति की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Nidhi Khatri
- (b) Sunil Bajpai
- (c) Sanjay Agrawal
- (d) M S Sahoo
- (e) Bharat Khara

Ans. e

Sol. Centre constitutes committee for formulating framework on Repairability Index in Mobile and Electronics Sector

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA), GoI, has constituted a committee of experts under the chairmanship of Bharat Khara, to recommend a robust framework

for Repairability Index and to empower consumers and promote sustainable practices within the tech industry.

The proposed repair ecosystem will include several important components:

Comprehensive Repair Information: Consumers will have access to repair manuals, diagnostic tools, and lists of necessary tools and parts.

Spare Parts Availability: Easier identification and timely availability of spare parts.

Affordable Tools: Cost-effective tools that are safe and easily accessible to consumers.

Modular Design: Products will feature components that can be independently accessed for easier repairs.

Economic Feasibility: The cost of parts and labor will be kept affordable for consumers.

The committee will develop policies, guidelines, and regulations to support the Repairability Index and integrate it into existing consumer protection frameworks.

The committee is expected to submit its report, along with the proposed framework for the Repairability Index, by November 15, 2024.

317. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated which edition of the Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference in New Delhi?

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने नई दिल्ली में भारतीय तटरक्षक कमांडरों के सम्मेलन के किस संस्करण का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) 39th
- (b) 40th
- (c) 41st
- (d) 42nd
- (e) 43rd

Ans. c

Sol. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates 41st Coast Guard Commanders' Conference

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the 41st edition of the Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference in New Delhi.

The three-day meeting serves as a vital forum to engage in meaningful discussions on strategic, operational, and administrative matters in the backdrop of the evolving geopolitical landscapes and complexities of maritime security.

The three-day meeting serves as a vital forum for ICG Commanders to engage in meaningful discussions on strategic, operational & administrative matters in the backdrop of the evolving geopolitical landscapes and, complexities of maritime security.

The conference provides a platform for senior ICG leaders to meticulously evaluate key operational, material, logistical, HR development, training, and administrative initiatives undertaken over the past year. They will also deliberate on vital milestones essential for the protection of the maritime interests of the nation.

318. In September 2024, Pratyasa Ray was awarded the prestigious 32nd Ekalabya Puraskar for her remarkable achievements. She belongs to which of the following sports?

सितंबर 2024 में, प्रत्याशा रे को उनकी उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धियों के लिए प्रतिष्ठित 32वें एकलव्य पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Football
- (b) Archery
- (c) Table Tennis
- (d) Swimming
- (e) Hockey

Ans. d

Sol. Swimmer Pratyasa Ray awarded 32nd Ekalabya Puraskar

Pratyasa Ray, a rising star in swimming, was selected for the prestigious Ekalabya Puraskar for 2024.

Ray secured six medals— four gold, one silver and a bronze— in the Khelo India University Games in Guwahati in February this year.

Ray will be awarded a cash prize of Rs. 7 lakhs—an increase from the previous Rs. 5 lakhs, along with a citation at the Ekalabya Puraskar award ceremony to be held at a later date.

Sprinter Dondapati Mrutyam Jayaram and badminton player Tanvi Patri will also be felicitated for their remarkable performances in various international and national-level events in their respective fields.

Each of the citation winners will receive a cash prize of ₹1.5 lakh, up from ₹1 lakh, along with citations at the award ceremony.

About Ekalabya Puraskar

- Ekalabya Puraskar was instituted by charitable body IMPaCT in 1993 and managed by IMFA, the leading ferro alloys producer in the country. It is now considered the most prestigious sports award in Odisha.
- The award is given every year to young sportspersons of Odisha in recognition of their outstanding performance in the preceding two years.

319. In September 2024, who among the following won the Miss Universe India 2024 title?

सितंबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने मिस यूनिवर्स इंडिया 2024 का खिताब जीता?

- (a) Urvashi Rautela
- (b) Chhavi Verg
- (c) Anshika Singh
- (d) Rhea Singha
- (e) Sushmita Roy

Ans. d

Sol. Rhea Singha wins Miss Universe India 2024 title

Rhea Singha, an 18-year-old from Gujarat, has captured hearts and headlines after being crowned Miss Universe India 2024. Competing against 51 talented finalists, Rhea emerged victorious during the grand finale held in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Miss Universe India 2015, Urvashi Rautela, who served as a judge at the event, crowned Rhea with a special Taj Mahal crown.

Pranjal Priya was named the first runner-up, followed by Chhavi Verg in second place.

Sushmita Roy and Ruopfuzhano Whiso secured the third and fourth runner-up positions, respectively, showcasing the diverse talent present at the event.

Recent Award

- **FIDE 100 Awards** - Men's - Magnus Carlsen (Norway); Women's - Judit Polgar (Hungary)
- **Miss India Worldwide 2024** - Dhruvi Patel (USA); **1st Runner-up** - Lisa Abdoelhak (Suriname); **2nd Runner-up** - Malvika Sharma (Netherlands)
- **Olympic Order in gold** - French President Emmanuel Macron
- **Ramon Magsaysay Award 2024** - Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki
- **Best Airport at the India Travel Awards** - Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad

320. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$50 million loan to improve water resources management, access to water, and community resilience to the effects of climate change in which state of India?

एशियाई विकास बैंक (एडीबी) ने भारत के किस राज्य में जल संसाधन प्रबंधन, पानी तक पहुंच और जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों के प्रति सामुदायिक लचीलापन सुधारने के लिए 50 मिलियन डॉलर के ऋण को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Mizoram
- (c) Manipur
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Rajasthan

Ans. a

Sol. ADB Approves Support to Improve Water Security and Management in India

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$50 million loan to improve water resources management, access to water, and community resilience to the effects of climate change in the state of Meghalaya, India.

The project supports the Meghalaya State Water Policy 2019 which aims to achieve sustainable development, management, and use of the state's water resources through a participatory approach; reduce vulnerability; and promote integrated water resource management.

The project will strengthen the capacity of districts in Meghalaya to manage water resources and introduce water storage structures that will ensure water security while building climate-resilience of communities.

The Climate-Adaptative Community-Based Water-Harvesting Project in Meghalaya will help develop a state-wide water-harvesting system (WHS) master plan which will be forward-looking, integrating gender and social inclusion, and taking into account weather patterns and disaster risk management.

This will guide the creation of water security plans at the village level to be managed by the village employment councils (VEC), watershed management committees (WMC) and water users associations (WUA).

Recent Loan approved by ADB

- India and ADB sign 530 crore **to boost drinking water supply in 12 cities of Tripura state**
- India and ADB sign \$500 million **to improve healthcare in Maharashtra**
- India and ADB sign \$200 million **to improve solid waste management and sanitation in 100 cities across eight states in the country**
- India and ADB sign \$200 million **to expand metro rail corridors and improve transport connectivity in Nagpur**
- India and ADB sign \$240.5 million **to rooftop solar system** in India

321. Which bank has recently launched the Ashva & Mayura Credit Card?

हाल ही में किस बैंक ने अश्व और मयूरा क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) IDFC FIRST Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Ans. d

Sol. IDFC FIRST Bank launches Ashva and Mayura Credit Cards

IDFC FIRST Bank has launched the Ashva Credit Card. This new metal credit card, powered by Visa, combines India's rich cultural heritage with modern sophistication. The Ashva Credit Card offers benefits and features for those who frequently travel and seek luxury experiences. It is crafted from high-quality metal and includes exclusive perks designed for those who appreciate both style and substance. IDFC FIRST Bank has also launched the Mayura Credit Card, adding to its premium metal card range.

This new card combines modern travel benefits with a design inspired by Indian heritage, specifically the peacock, or "Mayura."

About IDFC First Bank

- **Founded** - October 2015
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai
- **MD & CEO** - V. Vaidyanathan
- **Executive Director** - Madhivanan Balakrishnan

322. World Pharmacist Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व फार्मासिस्ट दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 23 September
- (b) 24 September
- (c) 25 September
- (d) 26 September
- (e) 27 September

Ans. c

Sol. 25 September - World Pharmacist Day

World Pharmacist Day is observed every year on September 25 to honour and acknowledge pharmacists for their important contributions to enhancing world health.

This special day highlights the essential role pharmacists play in improving people's lives.

Theme 2024 - Pharmacists: Meeting global health need

World Pharmacist Day was established by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) in 2009. The aim was to recognise and promote pharmacists' contributions to global health.

The first official celebration occurred on September 25, 2010, coinciding with FIP's founding date in 1912.

323. A Women in Space Leadership Programme (WiSLP) was launched by _____ in collaboration with the British Council as part of the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI).

यूके-भारत शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान पहल (यूकेआईईआरआई) के एक भाग के रूप में ब्रिटिश काउंसिल के सहयोग से _____ द्वारा अंतरिक्ष में महिला नेतृत्व कार्यक्रम (डब्ल्यूआईएसएलपी) शुरू किया गया।

- (a) DRDO
- (b) Niti Aayog
- (c) ISRO
- (d) Department of Science and Technology
- (e) Ministry of Foreign

Ans. d

Sol. Department of Space and Technology launched Women in Space Leadership Programme in Collaboration with British Council

A Women in Space Leadership Programme (WiSLP) was launched by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in collaboration with the British Council as part of the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI).

The initiative focuses on supporting institutions in strengthening gender-inclusive practices to foster women's leadership in space science by developing a strategic leadership framework. Coventry University is the delivery partner in this initiative. The programme would involve building sustainable mentoring networks and enhancing scientific innovation by integrating a gender perspective into critical areas such as astrophysics and telecommunications.

324. In September 2024, Tata Steel commissioned India's largest blast furnace with a volume of 5,870 square metres, as part of its Rs 27,000 crore Phase II expansion, at which of the following places?

सितंबर 2024 में, टाटा स्टील ने 27,000 करोड़ रुपये के दूसरे चरण के विस्तार के हिस्से के रूप में, 5,870 वर्ग मीटर की मात्रा के साथ भारत की सबसे बड़ी ब्लास्ट फर्नेस को निम्नलिखित में से किस स्थान पर चालू किया?

- (a) Jamnagar, Gujarat
- (b) Kalinganagar, Odisha
- (c) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- (e) Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. Tata Steel commissions India's largest blast furnace at Kalinganagar

Tata Steel Ltd had commissioned 'India's largest blast furnace' at Kalinganagar, Odisha as part of the Phase II expansion its plant.

With a total investment of Rs 27,000 crore, the Phase II expansion at Kalinganagar will take the total capacity at the site from 3 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 8 MTPA.

The new facility was inaugurated by T. V. Narendran, CEO and Managing Director, of Tata Steel.

The new blast furnace will significantly boost the plant's overall production capabilities, allowing Tata Steel to meet the growing demands of various industries, including automotive, infrastructure, power, shipbuilding, and defence. It will also provide advantages in specific areas like oil & gas, lifting & excavation, and construction.

With the Phase II expansion, Odisha has emerged as the largest investment destination in India for Tata Steel, with a total cumulated investment of over Rs 100,000 crore in the last 10 years.

The new blast furnace, with a volume of 5,870 m³, is equipped with state-of-the-art features for long campaign life and an eco-friendly design to optimise the steelmaking process.

325. In September 2024, which company signed an MoU with the Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII) to enhance research on using Rubber Process Oils in tyre and non-tyre rubber products?

सितंबर 2024 में, किस कंपनी ने टायर और गैर-टायर रबर उत्पादों में रबर प्रक्रिया तेलों के उपयोग पर अनुसंधान बढ़ाने के लिए भारतीय रबर अनुसंधान संस्थान (RRII) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Hindustan Petroleum
- (b) Indian Oil Corporation
- (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
- (d) Steel Authority of India Limited
- (e) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

Ans. b

Sol. Rubber Research Institute signs MoU with Indian Oil

The Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII) has signed an MoU with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) to enhance research on the use of Rubber Process Oils marketed by IOCL in various tyre and non-tyre rubber products.

This collaboration aims to improve product performance and rubber processing across these applications.

The partnership reflects a shared commitment to drive innovations in rubber processing while addressing the growing global demand for environmentally sustainable industrial products.

Recent MoU

- Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana in collaboration with the Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality

- ARIES and BEL collaborate to enhance India's Space Situational Awareness
- TCOE-VTU-VRIF sign MoU to establish a Centre of Excellence in Quantum Technology and associated 5G/6G Technologies
- Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya and Monash University Sign MoU to Enhance Railway Engineering Research and Education
- PMsBI and Coal India Limited sign MoU to provide high-quality generic medicines through establishment of Jan Aushadhi Kendra
- IBM & L&T Partner to Develop Advanced Processor

326. According to the Asian Power Index Report 2024, released recently by the Australian think tank Lowy Institute, India is ranked the third most powerful country in Asia. Which is the most powerful country in Asia?

ऑस्ट्रेलियाई थिंक टैंक लोवी इंस्टीट्यूट द्वारा हाल ही में जारी एशियाई पावर इंडेक्स रिपोर्ट 2024 के अनुसार, भारत एशिया में तीसरा सबसे शक्तिशाली देश है। एशिया का सबसे शक्तिशाली देश कौन सा है?

- (a) Russia
- (b) UK
- (c) USA
- (d) China
- (e) Israel

Ans. c

Sol. India becomes 3rd Most Powerful Nation in Asia, Surpasses Japan in Asia Power Index

According to the Asian Power Index Report 2024, released recently by the Australian think tank Lowy Institute, India is ranked third most powerful country in Asia after the United States of America and China.

Last year, India was ranked the fourth most powerful country in Asia in the 2023 report, but this year, India overtook Japan to be ranked.

The 2024 Asia Power Index Report ranks 27 countries and territories. For the first time, the Southeast Asian country of Timor Leste has been included in the Report. The report evaluates the power of the countries on 131 indicators across eight thematic measures: Military Capability and Defence Networks, Economic Capability and Relationships, Diplomatic and Cultural Influence, as well as Resilience and Future Resources.

Top 10 Most Powerful Country in Asia

| Rank | Country |
|------|---------|
|------|---------|

| | |
|----|---------------|
| 1 | United States |
| 2 | China |
| 3 | India |
| 4 | Japan |
| 5 | Australia |
| 6 | Russia |
| 7 | South Korea |
| 8 | Singapore |
| 9 | Indonesia |
| 10 | Thailand |

Recent index

- **Henley Passport Index 2024** - India at 82nd; topped by Singapore
- **Energy Transition Index 2024:** India at 63rd, topped by Sweden
- **Environment Performance Index 2024:** India at 176th spot topped by Estonia
- **Global Gender Gap index 2024:** India at 129th; topped by Iceland, Finland (2nd), Norway (3rd), New Zealand (4th), Sweden (5th)
- **WEF's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024** - India at 39th; topped by USA
- **World Press Freedom Index 2024** - Norway (1st), Denmark (2nd), Sweden (3rd), India (159th); Syria (179th), Eritrea (180th)

327. Which bank has joined hands with Mastercard to launch MyBiz, a business credit card designed exclusively for sole proprietors and small business owners?

किस बैंक ने मास्टरकार्ड के साथ मिलकर MyBiz नामक बिजनेस क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च किया है, जो विशेष रूप से एकल स्वामित्व वाले और छोटे व्यवसाय मालिकों के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है?

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) UCO Bank
- (d) ICICI Bank
- (e) Yes Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Axis Bank and Mastercard join hands to unveil MyBiz credit card for small business owners in India

Axis Bank, one of the largest private sector banks in India, has joined hands with Mastercard, a global technology company in the payments industry, to launch MyBiz, a business credit card designed exclusively for sole proprietors and small business owners

The new card, part of the World Mastercard category, combines a wide range of business and travel benefits to meet the diverse needs of SME owners.

MyBiz card offers a comprehensive suite of business and travel benefits — an end-to-end digital offering that simplifies our small business clients' experience through greater rewards, increased purchasing power, zero liability protection, and increased employee controls."

Along with benefits, such as airport lounge access and travel insurance, MyBiz card will allow cardholders to avail of a bouquet of business-related services covering productivity, marketing, online readiness, security, and compliance through Mastercard Easy Savings Specials.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- IDFC FIRST Bank launched **Ashva and Mayura Credit Cards** with VISA
- Yes bank launched **PaishaSave Cashback Credit Card** in partnership with Paisabazaar
- Jana SFB introduces "**Liquid Plus Fixed Deposit**": A Comprehensive Solution to Manage Short Term Liquidity Needs
- Razorpay launches integration **platform DataSync**
- Bank of Baroda introduced '**Aditi**', a **GenAI-powered virtual relationship manager**, to enhance the digital customer service experience.
- Bank of Baroda launched a GenAI-enabled knowledge management platform, '**GyanSahay.AI**' for its employees.

328. In September 2024, which bank partnered with Decentro, India's largest fintech infrastructure platform, to become the first to support the integration of its newly unveiled eNACH and UPI AutoPay modules, designed to streamline recurring payments for businesses?

सितंबर 2024 में, कौन सा बैंक भारत के सबसे बड़े फिनटेक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर प्लेटफॉर्म, डेसेंट्रो के साथ साझेदारी करेगा, जो व्यवसायों के लिए आवर्ती भुगतान को कारगर बनाने के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए अपने नए अनावरण किए गए eNACH और UPI ऑटोपे मॉड्यूल के एकीकरण का समर्थन करने वाला पहला बैंक बन जाएगा?

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) UCO Bank
- (d) ICICI Bank

(e) Yes Bank

Ans. e

Sol. Decentro unveils eNACH and UPI AutoPay, Streamlining Recurring Payments

Decentro, India's largest fintech infrastructure platform, has introduced eNACH & UPI AutoPay, intended to streamline and simplify the management of recurring payments for businesses.

The company hopes to assist at least 100+ enterprises with integrating these modules over the next three months, addressing some of the most difficult obstacles that businesses encounter regarding recurring payments. The first partner bank for this new module is YES Bank.

The total addressable market (TAM) for recurring payments in India is around \$800 million. However, businesses encounter several hurdles, resulting in a large time (and monetary) commitment of at least 500 man-hours to integrate and test these systems with their banking partners.

One such obstacle is the lengthy process of obtaining a utility code, which can significantly impede eNACH adoption. Furthermore, many payment gateways are unaware that lenders should use their utility codes rather than the payment gateway's code for compliance.

329. India's Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth, who were seen in the news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, are associated with which of the following sport?

भारत के जीवन नेदुनचेझियान और विजय सुंदर प्रशांत, जो सितंबर 2024 में उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए सुर्खियों में रहे, निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

(a) Badminton

(b) Chess

(c) Tennis

(d) Basketball

(e) Archery

Ans. c

Sol. Indian tennis duo Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Vijay Sundar Prashanth win Hangzhou Open Doubles title

Indian tennis duo Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth won the doubles title in the ATP 250 Hangzhou Open 2024.

They defeated the German pair of Constantine Frantzen and Hendrik Jebens at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Expo Centre.

The Indian duo staged a remarkable comeback to triumph 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 10-7, marking their first ATP title together as a pair.

For Jeevan, it ends a seven-year title drought, while for Vijay, this victory represents a career milestone as it is his first-ever ATP title.

330. The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), together with researchers of which IITs has developed lightweight bulletproof jackets, named ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat), which offer 360-degree protection)?

रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) ने किस आईआईटी के शोधकर्ताओं के साथ मिलकर हल्के बुलेटप्रूफ जैकेट विकसित किए हैं, जिन्हें एबीएचईडी (एडवांस्ड बैलिस्टिक्स फॉर हाई एनर्जी डिफेक्ट) नाम दिया गया है, जो 360 डिग्री सुरक्षा प्रदान करते हैं?

- (a) IIT Madras
- (b) IIT Kanpur
- (c) IIT Delhi
- (d) IIT Kharagpur
- (e) IIT Hyderabad

Ans. c

Sol. DRDO & IIT Delhi develop ABHED Light Weight Bullet Proof Jacket

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), together with researchers of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, has developed light weight bullet proof jackets, named ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat), which offer 360 degree protection.

These jackets have been created from polymers and indigenous boron carbide ceramic material.

The design configuration is based on characterisation of various materials at high strain rates followed by appropriate modelling and simulation in collaboration with DRDO. The armour plates for the jackets have passed all necessary R&D trials as per the protocols.

The jackets meet the highest threat levels, and are lighter than the maximum weight limits stipulated in respective General Staff Qualitative Requirement of the Indian Army. With minimum possible weight of 8.2 kgs and 9.5 kgs for different BIS Levels, these modular-design jackets having front & rear armours provide 360⁰ protection.

331. Which startup has been ranked first in LinkedIn Top Startups India List 2024 -- an annual ranking of emerging companies where professionals want to work?

लिंक्डइन टॉप स्टार्टअप्स इंडिया लिस्ट 2024 में किस स्टार्टअप को पहला स्थान मिला है - यह उभरती कंपनियों की वार्षिक रैंकिंग है जहां पेशेवर काम करना चाहते हैं?

- (a) Rapido
- (b) Zepto

(c) Sprinto

(d) Lucidity

(e) GoKwik

Ans. c

Sol. Zepto retains first place in LinkedIn's 2024 list of India's Top Startups

Quick commerce platform Zepto, for the 2nd consecutive year, has been ranked first in LinkedIn Top Startups India List 2024 -- an annual ranking of emerging companies where professionals want to work.

The list draws insights from data based on the actions of more than 1 billion LinkedIn members globally. It measures startups based on four pillars: employment growth, engagement, job interest and attraction of top talent.

Zepto was followed by compliance firm Sprinto and cloud storage management platform Lucidity.

E-commerce platform GoKwik, conversation intelligence platform Convin, biofuel supply chain platform BiofuelCircle, and, mental health platform MindPeers are also featured in the list.

14 startups (out of 20) are new entrants in this year's list and several first-time categories like biofuel, compliance and mental health point to the diversity of career opportunities for professionals eyeing the world of startups.

332. World Contraception Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व गर्भनिरोधक दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 24 September

(b) 25 September

(c) 26 September

(d) 27 September

(e) 28 September

Ans. c

Sol. 26 September - World Contraception Day

World Contraception Day is observed every year on September 26.

Objective - To raise awareness about contraception and to empower young people to make informed decisions about their reproductive health

Theme 2024 - A choice for all. Freedom to plan, power to choose.

What is contraception?

- Contraception is used to prevent pregnancy. This can be a device, a medication, a procedure or a behaviour. Contraception allows a woman control of her reproductive health and affords the woman the ability to be an

active participant in her family planning. Some types of contraception protect against sexually transmissible infections (STIs)

333. World Environmental Health Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व पर्यावरण स्वास्थ्य दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 24 September
- (b) 25 September
- (c) 26 September
- (d) 27 September
- (e) 28 September

Ans. c

Sol. 26 September - World Environmental Health Day

World Environmental Health Day is observed every year on 16 September.

The day highlights the significance of fostering a safe and healthy environment, tackling key issues such as clean air, water, sanitation, pollution control, and waste management.

Theme 2024 - Environmental Health: Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation.

The International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) established World Environmental Health Day in 2011 to emphasize the importance of environmental care for human health.

434. Antyodaya Diwas is celebrated every year on September 25 across the country. The day marks the birth anniversary of _____ to remember his life and legacy.

हर साल 25 सितंबर को पूरे देश में अंत्योदय दिवस मनाया जाता है। यह दिन _____ की जयंती के अवसर पर उनके जीवन और विरासत को याद करने के लिए मनाया जाता है।

- (a) Syama Prasad Mukherjee
- (b) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya
- (c) Vinoba Bhave
- (d) Jayaprakash Narayan
- (e) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Ans. b

Sol. 25 September - Antyodaya Diwas

Antyodaya Diwas is celebrated every year on September 25 across the country.

The day marks the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya to remember his life and legacy. It was dedicated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014 in

honour of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, a prominent Indian political leader and thinker.

Pandit Deendayal was born in the Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh on September 25, 1916. Later, he joined a 40-day camp in Sangh education and a two-year training at the RSS education wing in the 1940s. Upadhyaya served the Bharatiya Jana Sangh from 1953 to 1968, where he became the source of ideological guidance and moral inspiration for the BJP.

He was also known for his philosophical and literary works. Deendayal developed the concept of 'Integral Humanism' advocating the holistic development of the mind, body, intellect, and soul. He died at the age of 51, on February 11, 1968.

435. The Maharashtra government has officially approved the renaming of which airport to 'Tukaram Maharaj Airport' in honour of the revered 17th-century saint?

महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने 17वीं शताब्दी के संत के सम्मान में किस हवाई अड्डे का नाम बदलकर 'तुकाराम महाराज हवाई अड्डा' रखने को आधिकारिक तौर पर मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) Jalgaon Airport
- (b) Sindhudurg Airport
- (c) Juhu Airport
- (d) Pune Airport
- (e) Nashik Airport

Ans. d

Sol. Pune airport to be renamed 'Tukaram Maharaj Airport'

The Maharashtra government has officially approved the renaming of Pune airport to 'Tukaram Maharaj Airport' in honour of the revered 17th-century saint.

This move aims to pay tribute to Sant Tukaram Maharaj, a prominent spiritual figure in Maharashtra's history, known for his devotional poetry and influence on the Bhakti movement.

Sant Tukaram was a significant saint and spiritual poet of the Bhakti movement, born in Pune district.

436. Who has launched India-specific fashion trend book, "Paridhi 24x25" a bilingual web portal of VisioNxt and the AI Taxonomy e-book?

भारत-विशिष्ट फैशन ट्रेंड बुक, "परिधि 24x25" जो विज़ियोएनएक्सटी का द्विभाषी वेब पोर्टल और एआई टैक्सोनॉमी ई-बुक है, को किसने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Nitin Gadkari
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Giriraj Singh
- (d) Narendra Modi

(e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. c

Sol. Giriraj Singh launches 'Paridhi 24x25' – a bilingual web portal

Union Minister of Textiles, Giriraj Singh in the presence of Union Minister of State for External Affairs & Textiles, Pabitra Margherita, launched India-specific fashion trend book, "Paridhi 24x25" a bilingual web portal of VisioNxt and the AI Taxonomy e-book.

The event saw participation from more than 150 industry leaders from fashion, textiles and retail as well as notable craftsmen and weavers from various craft clusters.

VisioNxt has produced 60+ micro trend reports, 10+ close-to-season trend reports, 3+ research papers, and the first ever AI Taxonomy book of Indian wear categories to date.

VisioNxt has positioned India globally among countries that predict fashion trends, increasing the visibility of Indian fashion vocabulary and identity while reducing dependence on international trend agencies.

During the event, an MoU was signed between NIFT and the National Skill Development Council (NSDC) in the presence of the Shri Giriraj Singh.

VisioNxt is India's first-ever initiative that combines Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emotional Intelligence (EI) to generate fashion trend insights and forecasts. It identifies, maps, and analyses geo-specific trends, reflecting the positive plurality, cultural diversity, and socio-economic nuances of India while collating comprehensive trends and insights.

437. In September 2024, which tribal community from Odisha became the 6th Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) to receive habitat rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, a landmark legislation that grants legal recognition to forest-dwelling communities?

सितंबर 2024 में, ओडिशा का कौन सा आदिवासी समुदाय वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 के तहत आवास अधिकार प्राप्त करने वाला छठा विशेष रूप से कमजोर जनजातीय समूह (PVTG) बन गया, जो एक ऐतिहासिक कानून है जो वन-निवास समुदायों को कानूनी मान्यता प्रदान करता है?

(a) Bonda

(b) Gond

(c) Gadaba

(d) Bhunjia

(e) Mankidia

Ans. e

Sol. FRA implementation: Mankidia community becomes 6th PVTG to get habitat rights over forests in Odisha

The Mankidia community in Odisha has been granted habitat rights, making them the sixth Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) to receive this recognition under the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

This important legal recognition allows the Mankidia to access and manage their traditional forest areas, which were previously limited due to their PVTG status.

The Mankidia are a semi-nomadic tribe, meaning they move around to find resources rather than staying in one place permanently. They are well-known for their skills in rope-making and have traditional practices that include trapping and eating monkeys.

Historically, the Mankidia have depended on forest resources for their livelihood and cultural practices. With this new recognition, they now have legal rights to their ancestral lands, affirming their connection to these areas.

Mankidia is the second PVTG to get the habitat rights in the state, while the district-level committees (DLCs) have approved for four other communities.

Paudi Bhuyan of Deogarh district was the first PVTG to receive habitat rights title in Odisha on March 7, 2024. Habitat rights of Paudi Bhuyan have been recognised in over 32 villages under Barkote block.

About Odisha

- **Capital** – Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Mohan Charan Majhi (replace Naveen Patnaik)
- **Deputy CM** - KV Singhdeo and Pravati Parida
- **Governor** – Raghubar Das
- **Legislative Assembly Seat** - 147

438. Which state government has launched the CM-SATH scheme to boost the educational prospects of the state's brightest students?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य के प्रतिभाशाली छात्रों की शैक्षिक संभावनाओं को बढ़ावा देने के लिए CM-SATH योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Sikkim
- (b) Assam
- (c) Tripura
- (d) Meghalaya
- (e) Mizoram

Ans. c

Sol. Tripura govt launches CM-SATH scheme to help meritorious students in higher education

Chief Minister of Tripura, Dr. Manik Sahah has launched the CM-SATH scheme to boost the educational prospects of the state's brightest students.

The scheme, designed to provide financial support to meritorious students for their higher education, reflects the state government's commitment to quality education. The CM-SATH project has been designed to provide financial support of Rs 60,000 (Rs 5,000 monthly) to 200 students -- 100 at Madhyamik level and 100 at Higher Secondary level, based on merit for two and three years respectively, for higher learning.

Under this project, out of 200 students, 152 students at the block level, 12 students at the Nagar Panchayat level, and 10 students at the Agartala Municipal Corporation level would be selected. The 200 beneficiaries will be selected by the District Education Officer of each district.

The CM-SATH scheme has been launched to ensure that no student's education is interrupted due to a lack of funds. Rs 1.20 crore would be spent on this project in the first year, Rs 2.40 crore in the second year, and Rs 3 crore from the third year onward.

439. In September 2024, The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India assumed chairmanship of the Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) for _____.

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) ने _____ के लिए एशियाई सर्वोच्च लेखा परीक्षा संस्थानों के संगठन (ASOSAI) की अध्यक्षता ग्रहण की।

- (a) 2024-2025
- (b) 2024-2026
- (c) 2024-2027
- (d) 2024-2028
- (e) 2024-2029

Ans. c

Sol. CAG of India assumes chairmanship of Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions for 2024-27

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India assumed chairmanship of the Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) for 2024-2027.

CAG of India Girish Chandra Murmu said the 16th Assembly of ASOSAI has expanded to include 48 Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs).

The Assembly, which brings together about 200 delegates from 42 countries, including the heads of 22 SAIs, is a significant milestone in regional cooperation in the field of public auditing, with a focus on enhancing transparency, accountability, and good governance.

440. In September 2024, Moody's revised its calendar year (CY) 2024 growth forecast for India to how much per cent from its earlier estimates of 6.8% in June, as it expects growth in the Asia-Pacific region to outpace the global economy?

सितंबर 2024 में, मूडीज ने भारत के लिए अपने कैलेंडर वर्ष (CY) 2024 के विकास पूर्वानुमान को जून में 6.8% के अपने पहले के अनुमान से कितने प्रतिशत तक संशोधित किया, क्योंकि उसे उम्मीद है कि एशिया-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में विकास वैश्विक अर्थव्यवस्था से आगे निकल जाएगा?

- (a) 7.0%
- (b) 7.1%
- (c) 7.2%
- (d) 7.3%
- (e) 7.6%

Ans. b

Sol. Moody's raises India's 2024 growth forecast to 7.1% on better growth in Asia-Pacific

Moody's has revised its calendar year (CY) 2024 growth forecast for India to 7.1%, from its earlier estimates of 6.8% in June, as it expects growth in the Asia-Pacific region to outpace the global economy.

It, however, kept its India growth forecast for CY 2025 unchanged at 6.5%.

The revision in India's growth forecast by Moody's comes a month after Moody's Ratings similarly upgraded the GDP growth forecast to 7.2% in 2024 and 6.6% in 2025.

The World Bank earlier in September revised its fiscal year 2025 or FY25 growth forecast for India to 7%, from its previous estimate of 6.6%.

Updated GDP List

- Moody's – 7.1% (CY24), 6.5% (CY25)
- Moody Ratings - 7.2% (CY24), 6.6% (CY25)
- ADB – 7% (FY24), 7.2%(FY25)
- S&P – 6.8% (FY25), 6.9% (FY26), 7% (FY27)
- World Bank – 7% (FY25)
- Goldman Sachs – 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)
- SBI – 7%
- Deloitte – 7 - 7.2% (FY25)
- India Ratings – 7.5% (FY25)
- FICCI – 7% (FY25)
- IMF – 7% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)

441. Who has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court recently?

हाल ही में दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय का मुख्य न्यायाधीश किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Justice Manmohan
- (b) Justice Rajiv Shaktiher
- (c) Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji
- (d) Justice Suresh Kait
- (e) Justice Nitin Madhukar Jamdar

Ans. a

Sol. Centre notifies appointment of Chief Justices of eight High Courts

The Central Government, through the Ministry of Law and Justice, officially has announced the appointment of Chief Justices to eight High Courts, aiming to fill key judicial positions and ensure the effective functioning of the judicial system across various states.

The Supreme Court Collegium initially made recommendations for these appointments on July 11, 2023. However, revisions were made to the original list on September 17, 2023, altering the recommendations concerning four High Courts.

1. Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court - Justice Manmohan
2. Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court - Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji
3. Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court - Justice Rajiv Shaktiher
4. Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court - Justice Suresh Kait
5. Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court - Justice Nitin Madhukar Jamdar
6. Chief Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court - Justice Tashi Rabstan
7. Chief Justice of Madras High Court - Justice Shriram Kalpathi Rajendran
8. Chief Justice Jharkhand High Court - Justice M.S. Ramachandra Rao

442. In September 2024, The West Bengal government announced the discontinuation of the 150-year-old tram service, barring a solitary heritage route in which of the following iconic areas of Kolkata, allowing passengers to experience a pleasant and environment-friendly ride on a short stretch?

सितंबर 2024 में, पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार ने कोलकाता के निम्नलिखित में से किस प्रतिष्ठित क्षेत्र में एक अकेले विरासत मार्ग को छोड़कर 150 साल पुरानी ट्राम सेवा को बंद करने की घोषणा की, जिससे यात्रियों को छोटी दूरी पर सुखद और पर्यावरण के अनुकूल सवारी का अनुभव मिल सके?

- (a) Howrah to Park Street
- (b) Sealdah to Kalighat
- (c) Howrah to Dharmatala

(d) Maidan to Esplanade

(e) Salt Lake to Sealdah

Ans. d

Sol. West Bengal govt to discontinue tram service in Kolkata barring one short stretch

The West Bengal government has decided to discontinue the 150-year-old tram service in Kolkata soon, barring a solitary heritage stretch from Maidan to Esplanade. Tram lovers, however, have decided to hit the streets in protest against the decision. Kolkata is the only city in the country where trams continue to operate.

Transport Minister Snehasis Chakraborty said slow-moving trams, which move along the roads creating traffic jams in peak hours, cannot be run in the present situation as commuters need faster modes of transportation.

"Trams are undoubtedly a part of Kolkata's heritage after their introduction in 1873 as horse-drawn carriages and played a crucial role in transportation in the previous century.

Heritage trams, however, will run between Maidan and Esplanade so that people can have a pleasant and environment-friendly ride, the minister said.

About West Bengal

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

443. Which bank has launched NPS Vatsalya, a unique program under the National Pension System (NPS) designed to provide minors with a secure and flexible retirement planning solution, ensuring long-term wealth building through compounding, with a minimum annual contribution of Rs. 1,000, offering diverse investment options across asset classes?

किस बैंक ने राष्ट्रीय पेंशन प्रणाली (एनपीएस) के तहत एक अनूठा कार्यक्रम एनपीएस वात्सल्य लॉन्च किया है, जो नाबालिगों को एक सुरक्षित और लचीली सेवानिवृत्ति योजना समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है, जो 1,000 रुपये के न्यूनतम वार्षिक योगदान के साथ चक्रवृद्धि के माध्यम से दीर्घकालिक धन निर्माण सुनिश्चित करता है, और परिसंपत्ति वर्गों में विविध निवेश विकल्प प्रदान करता है?

(a) Federal Bank

(b) ICICI Bank

(c) State Bank of India

(d) Canara Bank

(e) Axis Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Federal Bank unveils NPS Vatsalya, assuring long-term wealth building to minors. Federal Bank, one of India's leading banks has unveiled NPS Vatsalya, a pioneering program inside the National Pension System (NPS) designed exclusively for minors. The Government of India launched NPS Vatsalya to provide a secure and flexible retirement planning solution for children while assuring long-term wealth building, through the power of compounding.

With a minimal annual contribution of Rs. 1,000, this initiative is accessible to families from all socioeconomic backgrounds, encouraging financial inclusion and early financial planning.

NPS Vatsalya provides diverse investment alternatives, allowing guardians to choose between active and passive investments across multiple asset classes.

The scheme is managed by reputed fund managers that are registered with the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), ensuring skilled investment management. Subscribers can also benefit from tax deductions under Sections 80 CCD (1) and 80 CCD (1B) of the Income Tax Act, making it a tax-effective investment alternative.

About Federal Bank

- Founded- 23 April 1931
- Founder- K.P Hormis
- Headquarters - Kochi, Kerala.
- MD & CEO- KVS Manian (replace Shyam Srinivasan)

444. Which bank has collaborated with EaseMyTrip.com to introduce an EaseMyTrip Co-branded Travel Debit Card, targeting frequent travellers and those spending on entertainment and lifestyle?

किस बैंक ने EaseMyTrip.com के साथ मिलकर EaseMyTrip को-ब्रांडेड ट्रैवल डेबिट कार्ड पेश किया है, जो अक्सर यात्रा करने वाले और मनोरंजन और जीवनशैली पर खर्च करने वालों को लक्षित करता है?

- (a) Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Bank of Maharashtra
- (d) Indian Bank
- (e) Axis Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Bank of Baroda Unveils Co-Branded Travel Debit Card in Collaboration with EaseMyTrip

Bank of Baroda, in collaboration with EaseMyTrip.com, has introduced a 'Bank of Baroda EaseMyTrip Co-branded Travel Debit Card', targeting frequent travellers and those spending on entertainment and lifestyle.

This is the first co-branded travel debit card to be launched by a public sector bank. The card offers an array of exclusive benefits across travel bookings, hotel stays, OTT streaming platforms, and popular e-commerce sites, ensuring that users enjoy year-round savings with no minimum order value.

From discounts on flights and hotel bookings to complimentary premium memberships, the card is designed to redefine the customer experience.

About Bank of Baroda (BOB)

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

445. Which country will host the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) from 14 to 24 October 2024?

कौन सा देश 14 से 24 अक्टूबर 2024 तक विश्व दूरसंचार मानकीकरण सभा (WTSA) की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) India
- (b) Japan
- (c) USA
- (d) France
- (e) Russia

Ans. a

Sol. India to host the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) in Delhi

India will host the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) in 14 to 24 October 2024, a landmark event in global telecom, marking the first time this critical International Telecommunication Union (ITU) conference will be held in the country.

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has launched a series of WTSA 2024 outreach sessions in major cities, including Delhi, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad, to engage students and foster discussions on the future of global communications.

This will be the first time such a pivotal ITU standards conference is held in Asia. Over 190 nations will gather to shape the future of global telecom standards, highlighting India's growing influence in the global telecom industry.

446. World Maritime Day is observed every year on the last Thursday of September. This year, World Maritime Day took place on September 26. What is the theme of World Maritime Day 2024?

विश्व समुद्री दिवस हर साल सितंबर के आखिरी गुरुवार को मनाया जाता है। इस साल विश्व समुद्री दिवस 26 सितंबर को मनाया गया। विश्व समुद्री दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) New technologies for greener shipping
- (b) Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future
- (c) Sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet.
- (d) Navigating the Future: safety first
- (e) MARPOL at 50: Our Commitment Continues

Ans. d

Sol. 26 September 2024 - World Maritime Day

World Maritime Day is observed every year on the last Thursday of September. This year, the World Maritime Day is took place on September 26

Objective - To provide an opportunity to draw people's attention to the importance of shipping and other maritime activities across the globe.

Theme 2024 - Navigating the Future: safety first

This special day is organised by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to highlight the importance of maritime activities and the contributions of the maritime industry to global development.

447. World Tourism Day is observed every year on 27 September. What is the theme of World Tourism Day?

विश्व पर्यटन दिवस हर साल 27 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व पर्यटन दिवस का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Tourism and Green Investments
- (b) Tourism and Peace
- (c) Rethinking Tourism
- (d) Tourism and Rural Development
- (e) Tourism for Inclusive Growth

Ans. b

Sol. 27 September - World Tourism Day

World Tourism Day is observed every year on 27 September.

Objective - To spread awareness and highlight social, economic and environmental benefits and the international understanding of peace and cooperation through tourism.

Theme 2024 - Tourism and Peace

World Tourism Day was 1st celebrated in 1980 by the United Nations World Tourism Organization.

448. The International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is celebrated on every year on which day?

परमाणु हथियारों के पूर्ण उन्मूलन के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 24 September
- (b) 25 September
- (c) 26 September
- (d) 27 September
- (e) 28 September

Ans. c

Sol. 26 September - International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
The International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is celebrated on September 26th every year.

Objective - To raise awareness about the threat of nuclear weapons and to promote their elimination.

It was declared by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in 2013.

The first Special Session of the UNGA devoted to disarmament, held in 1978, reaffirmed the preeminence of nuclear disarmament.

The Atomic Energy Commission (1946) to propose measures for controlling nuclear energy and eliminating weapons of mass destruction.

449. Recently (In September 2024), The central government has announced an increase in minimum wage rates by revising the Variable Dearness Allowance.

The new wage rates will take effect from _____.

हाल ही में (सितंबर 2024 में), केंद्र सरकार ने परिवर्तनीय महंगाई भत्ते में संशोधन करके न्यूनतम मजदूरी दरों में वृद्धि की घोषणा की है। नई मजदूरी दरें _____ से प्रभावी होंगी।

- (a) 1 October 2024
- (b) 1 July 2024
- (c) 1 March 2024
- (d) 1 January 2025
- (e) 1 March 2025

Ans. a

Sol. Central Government Hikes Minimum Wage Rates, Effective From 1st October

The central government has announced an increase in minimum wage rates by revising the Variable Dearness Allowance.

The new wage rates will take effect from 1st October. The minimum wage rates are categorized based on skill levels-unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled, and highly skilled, as well as by geographical areas A, B, and C.

After the revision, minimum wage rates for workers in area 'A' in construction, sweeping, cleaning, and loading & unloading for unskilled work will be 783 rupees a day.

For semi-skilled workers, the minimum wage will be 868 rupees a day, and for skilled, clerical, and watch & ward (without arms), the minimum wage will be 954 rupees a day.

For highly skilled workers and watch & ward (with arms), the revised wage will be 1,035 rupees a day.

450. How many villages were awarded under the 2nd Best Tourism Villages Competition 2024?

द्वितीय सर्वश्रेष्ठ पर्यटन गांव प्रतियोगिता 2024 के तहत कितने गांवों को पुरस्कृत किया गया?

(a) 25

(b) 36

(c) 48

(d) 72

(e) 18

Ans. b

Sol. Ministry of Tourism announces Winners of Best Tourism Villages Competition-2024

On the occasion of World Tourism Day on 27 September 2024, the Union Ministry of Tourism has announced the winners of the 2024 Best Tourism Villages Competition. The Ministry introduced the Best Tourism Villages Competition in 2023 to promote tourism in India's soul (village).

The first edition of the Best Tourism Villages Competition in 2023 saw applications from 795 villages.

In the second edition of the Best Tourism Villages Competition, a total of 991 applications were received from 30 States and UTs, out of which 36 villages were recognized as winners across 8 categories of the Best Tourism Villages competition 2024.

The eight categories were Adventure Tourism, Agri Tourism, Community Based Tourism, Craft, Heritage, Responsible Tourism, Spiritual And Wellness and Village Village.

451. In September 2024, India has signed a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) with which among the following countries, to assure the appropriate protection for the investors of both countries?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारत ने दोनों देशों के निवेशकों के लिए उचित सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किस देश के साथ द्विपक्षीय निवेश संधि (बीआईटी) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Kazakhstan
- (b) Uzbekistan
- (c) Azerbaijan
- (d) Turkmenistan
- (e) Kyrgyzstan

Ans. b

Sol. India and Republic of Uzbekistan sign Bilateral Investment Treaty in Tashkent. The Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Republic of Uzbekistan was signed by Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and H.E. Mr. Khodjayev Jamshid Abdukhakimovich, Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, at Tashkent. The BIT between India and Uzbekistan assures appropriate protection to Uzbekistan investors in India and Indian investors in the Republic of Uzbekistan, in light of relevant international precedents and practices.

It will increase the comfort level and boost the confidence of investors by assuring a minimum standard of treatment and non-discrimination.

452. In September 2024, which bank has launched new updates to its SmartWealth app, introducing features aimed at making investments simpler?

सितंबर 2024 में, किस बैंक ने अपने स्मार्टवेल्थ ऐप में नए अपडेट लॉन्च किए हैं, जिसमें निवेश को सरल बनाने के उद्देश्य से सुविधाएँ शामिल हैं?

- (a) Indian Bank
- (b) IDBI Bank
- (c) State Bank of India
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Ans. e

Sol. HDFC Bank launches instant SIP via SmartWealth app

HDFC Bank has launched updates to its SmartWealth app. One of the key additions is the Instant SIP, which allows users to invest in mutual funds on the same day they identify an opportunity.

This feature enables users to capitalise on favorable market conditions immediately. It caters to those who wish to respond quickly to market changes.

Alongside the Instant SIP, the Unified Dashboard has received a makeover. It now provides a consolidated view of all investments, including mutual funds, demat accounts, and fixed deposits.

This revamped dashboard offers users a clearer understanding of their overall financial health, simplifying money management and keeping users informed.

About HDFC Bank

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

453. Which bank has launched a special Scheme "Sugam Rinn Bhugtan Yojana (SUGAM)" to boost its recovery efforts through one-time settlement of Retail NPAs up to March 31, 2021?

किस बैंक ने 31 मार्च, 2021 तक खुदरा एनपीए के एकमुश्त निपटान के माध्यम से अपने वसूली प्रयासों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक विशेष योजना "सुगम ऋण भुगतान योजना (SUGAM)" शुरू की है?

- (a) Indian Bank
- (b) IDBI Bank
- (c) State Bank Of India
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) Federal Bank

Ans. b

Sol. IDBI Bank launched Sugam Rinn Bhugtan Yojana for one time settlement of retail NPAs

IDBI Bank has launched a special Scheme "Sugam Rinn Bhugtan Yojana (SUGAM)", to boost its recovery efforts through one time settlement of Retail NPAs up to March 31, 2021.

The scheme will be applicable to borrower's principal outstanding above Rs.0.10 crore and up to Rs.10 crore (subject to eligibility criteria), at relaxed terms.

It will provide a renewed opportunity to the borrowers who are in distress and are willing to settle their dues to avoid legal entanglement. The scheme will end on March on 2025.

The scheme will not be applicable where the sanction given under general One Time Settlement (OTS)/ Negotiated Settlement (NS), if it is in currency, where formal offer

for settlement along with upfront amount has been received before launch of this scheme and the proposal is under consideration.

454. Who has been appointed as Chairman of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank?

उत्कर्ष लघु वित्त बैंक के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Parveen Kumar Gupta
- (b) KVS Manian
- (c) Vincent Menachery Devassy
- (d) Muthuswamy Iyer
- (e) V Vaidyanathan

Ans. a

Sol. PK Gupta reappointed as Chairman of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

Reserve Bank of India has approved the reappointment of Parveen Kumar Gupta as Non-Executive Chairman of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

Gupta retired as a Managing Director of State Bank of India, after working for 38 years in India and abroad.

He was also associated with Bank of Baroda as a senior advisor post-retirement.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD and CEO of Federal Bank** - KVS Manian (replace Shyam Srinivasan)
- **Executive Director of TamilNad Mercantile Bank** - Vincent Menachery Devassy (for three years)
- **Chief Compliance Officer of CIFDAQ** - Muthuswamy Iyer
- **MD and CEO of IDFC First Bank** - V Vaidyanathan (reappointment for three years)
- **CCO of Airtel Payments Bank** - Amar Kumar Kakarlapudi

455. Kamal Chawla, who was seen in the news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sports?

सितंबर 2024 में उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए सुर्खियों में रहे कमल चावला निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Snooker
- (b) Squash
- (c) Archery
- (d) Shooting
- (e) High Jump

Ans. a

Sol. Kamal Chawla clinches Gold in IBSF World 6 Red Snooker Championship

In snooker, Indian veteran Kamal Chawla has clinched his maiden IBSF World 6-Red title with a commanding 6-2 victory over Pakistan's Asjad Iqbal in the final at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

This triumph marks a significant turnaround for Chawla, who was the runner-up in the 2017 edition of the tournament. India also won three more bronze medals through Malkeet Singh, Vidya Pillai, and Keerthana Pandian.

In the women's category, India's Vidya was unable to defend her title, finishing with a bronze medal after a hard-fought semifinal loss to Hong Kong's Ng On Yee, with the scoreline at 2-4.

456. Which bank has unveiled its Corporate Credit Card Suite designed specifically for start-ups within the New Economy Group (NEG)?

किस बैंक ने न्यू इकोनॉमी ग्रुप (NEG) के भीतर स्टार्ट-अप के लिए विशेष रूप से डिज़ाइन किए गए अपने कॉर्पोरेट क्रेडिट कार्ड सूट का अनावरण किया है?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) IDBI Bank
- (c) State Bank of India
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) Federal Bank

Ans. d

Sol. Axis Bank's new economy group launches Corporate Credit Card Suite for startups

Axis Bank has unveiled its Corporate Credit Card Suite designed specifically for start-ups within the New Economy Group (NEG).

This innovative offering is tailored to streamline various financial processes for start-ups, including travel, expenses, and vendor payments.

The suite consists of two distinct cards: the Executive Corporate Credit Card, catering to founders, and the Purchase Reward Credit Card, focused on expense management.

About Axis Bank

- **Founded** - 1993
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Rakesh Makhija
- **MD & CEO** - Amitabh Chaudhary
- **Tagline** - Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

457. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park) along the Nagpur-Hyderabad National Highway-44. Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park) is an eco-initiative developed by _____.

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने नागपुर-हैदराबाद राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-44 पर ऑक्सीजन बर्ड पार्क (अमृत महोत्सव पार्क) का उद्घाटन किया है। ऑक्सीजन बर्ड पार्क (अमृत महोत्सव पार्क) _____ द्वारा विकसित एक पर्यावरण-पहल है।

- (a) National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
- (b) Border Roads Organization
- (c) Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation Limited
- (d) National Highways Authority of India
- (e) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

Ans. d

Sol. Nitin Gadkari to inaugurate Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park)
Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park) along the Nagpur-Hyderabad National Highway-44.

Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park) is an eco-initiative developed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) near Jamtha, along the Nagpur-Hyderabad National Highway-44.

The project, which integrates environmental sustainability and recreational facilities, was formally approved in March 2023 with a development cost of ₹14.31 crores. A key aspect of the park is its focus on sustainability, showcased through its "Oxygen Park" feature.

458. In September 2024, which country has been elected to the fifteen-member steering committee of the GlobE Network following a multi-stage voting process during a plenary session in Beijing?

सितंबर 2024 में, बीजिंग में एक पूर्ण सत्र के दौरान बहु-चरणीय मतदान प्रक्रिया के बाद ग्लोबई नेटवर्क की पंद्रह सदस्यीय संचालन समिति के लिए किस देश को चुना गया है?

- (a) China
- (b) India
- (c) Japan
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) USA

Ans. b

Sol. India elected to GlobE Steering Committee on combating corruption
India has been elected to the fifteen-member steering committee of the GlobE Network following a multi-stage voting process during a plenary session in Beijing. The Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) is an initiative launched under the G20 framework to address international corruption and financial crime.

India's election to the steering committee will allow it to actively contribute to global efforts in combating corruption and facilitating asset recovery.

The GlobE Network provides a platform for international cooperation, enhancing the ability of member countries to address cross-border corruption and financial crime.

India has been a supporter of this initiative since 2020, with the network officially launched on June 3, 2021, during a UN General Assembly Special Session against Corruption (UNGASS).

During India's G20 Presidency in 2023, two key principles for combating corruption were adopted, focusing on the use of the GlobE Network to further global anti-corruption efforts. (ANI)

Today, the GlobE Network includes 121 member countries and 219 member authorities. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) serves as the Central Authority for GlobE Network in India, while the CBI and Enforcement Directorate (ED) represent India as member authorities.

459. In September 2024, the Reserve Bank of India organized a day-long conference for the Directors of Small Finance Banks, SFBs in Bengaluru. What was the theme of this conference?

सितंबर 2024 में, भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक ने बेंगलुरु में लघु वित्त बैंकों (SFB) के निदेशकों के लिए एक दिवसीय सम्मेलन आयोजित किया। इस सम्मेलन का विषय क्या था?

- (a) Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and Emerging Technologies**
- (b) Governance, Cybersecurity, and financial inclusion**
- (c) Protecting the Consumers - Building Robust Systems and Procedures**
- (d) HARBINGER 2021 – Innovation for Transformation**
- (e) Governance in SFBs – Driving Sustainable Growth and Stability**

Ans. e

Sol. RBI organizes conference on Governance in Small Finance Banks in Bengaluru
The Reserve Bank of India had organized a daylong conference for the Directors of Small Finance Banks, SFBs in Bengaluru.

The theme of the conference was 'Governance in SFBs – Driving Sustainable Growth and Stability'.

Delivering the keynote address, RBI Deputy Governor Mr. Swaminathan J. encouraged the Directors to be vigilant and proactive in identifying and mitigating emerging risks.

He emphasised the need for strengthening cybersecurity and a stronger focus on financial inclusion, customer service and grievance redressal. He also highlighted the importance of sustainable business models.

460. On the occasion of World Tourism Day, which ministry has launched a national responsible tourism initiative titled Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi?
विश्व पर्यटन दिवस के अवसर पर, किस मंत्रालय ने पर्यटन मित्र और पर्यटन दीदी नामक एक राष्ट्रीय जिम्मेदार पर्यटन पहल शुरू की है?

- (a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highway
- (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- (d) Ministry of Culture
- (e) Ministry of Tourism

Ans. e

Sol. Tourism Ministry Launches 'Paryatan Mitra' and 'Paryatan Didi' on World Tourism Day

On the occasion of World Tourism Day, the Ministry of Tourism has launched a national responsible tourism initiative titled Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi. The primary aim of this initiative is to elevate the overall experience for tourists in destinations, by having them meet 'tourist-friendly' people who are proud Ambassadors and Storytellers for their destination.

Under this initiative, special emphasis is being placed on the training of women and youth to enable them develop new tourism products and experiences like heritage walks, food tours, craft tours, nature treks, homestay experiences, and other innovative tourism products based on the potential of the destination.

461. World Rabies Day is observed every year on September 28. What is the theme of World Rabies Day?

विश्व रेबीज दिवस हर साल 28 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व रेबीज दिवस का विषय क्या है?

- (a) 28 September
- (b) 29 September
- (c) 30 September
- (d) 1 October
- (e) 2 October

Ans. a

Sol. 28 September - World Rabies Day

World Rabies Day is observed every year on September 28.

Objective - To raise awareness about rabies prevention and to highlight progress in defeating this horrifying disease.

Theme - Breaking Rabies Boundary

What is Rabies?

- Rabies is a viral infection that gets transmitted from animals to humans and is also considered a zoonotic disease.
- Rabies infection is caused by the rabies virus that belongs to the Lyssavirus genus.
- Rabies is present on all continents and affects over 150 countries. The disease is responsible for around 60,000 human deaths worldwide.

462. World Heart Day is celebrated annually on September 29th. What is the theme of World Heart Day?

विश्व हृदय दिवस हर साल 29 सितंबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व हृदय दिवस की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Use Heart for Every Heart
- (b) Use Heart for Together Heart
- (c) Use Heart to Connect
- (d) Use Heart to Beat Cardiovascular Disease
- (e) Use Heart for Action

Ans. e

Sol. 29 September - World Heart Day

World Heart Day is celebrated annually on September 29th.

Objective - To raise awareness about the importance of heart health and preventing cardiovascular diseases.

Theme 2024 - Use Heart for Action

The day brings people together to increase awareness, engage communities and advocate for universal access to cardiovascular disease prevention, detection and treatment.

The concept of World Heart Day was inspired by Antoni Bayes de Luna, who served as WHF president from 1997 to 1999. While it was first established in 1999, the first celebration did not take place until September 24, 2000.

463. In September 2024, which e-Commerce giant has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Labour and Employment to leverage the National Career Service (NCS) portal which aimed at enhancing job accessibility by allowing Amazon and its staffing agencies to post open job positions on the NCS platform?

सितंबर 2024 में, किस ई-कॉमर्स दिग्गज ने राष्ट्रीय करियर सेवा (एनसीएस) पोर्टल का लाभ उठाने के लिए श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जिसका उद्देश्य अमेज़न और उसकी स्टाफिंग एजेंसियों को एनसीएस प्लेटफॉर्म पर खुली नौकरी की स्थिति पोस्ट करने की अनुमति देकर नौकरी की पहुंच को बढ़ाना है?

- (a) Flipkart
- (b) Meesho
- (c) Amazon

(d) Snapdeal

(e) Tata Neu

Ans. c

Sol. Amazon partners with Ministry of Labour and Employment to expand job opportunities through NCS portal

Ecommerce giant Amazon's India unit Amazon India has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Labour and Employment to leverage the National Career Service (NCS) portal.

The partnership is aimed at enhancing job accessibility by allowing Amazon and its staffing agencies to post open job positions on the NCS platform. The MoU initially set for two years.

Notably, Amazon is the first e-commerce company to collaborate with the Ministry of Labour and Employment for the NCS portal.

The initiative will enable job seekers from across the country to apply for various roles at Amazon and its affiliated agencies.

464. Where is the 8th edition of the India-Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND -2024 being held?

भारत-कजाकिस्तान संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास काजिंद-2024 का 8वां संस्करण कहां आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

(a) Pithoragarh

(b) Almora

(c) Bakloh

(d) Auli

(e) Agra

Ans. d

Sol. 8th edition of India -Kazakhstan military EX KAZIND 2024 begins in Auli India -Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND -2024 commenced at the mountainous Surya Foreign Training node in Auli, Uttarakhand.

The 8th edition of KAZIND-2024 will be held in Auli from 30 September to 13 October 2024.

The last edition of the annual bilateral military exercise was held in Otar, Kazakhstan, from 30 October to 11 November 2023.

For the first time, the Air Forces of both countries and the Airborne Assault Forces of Kazakhstan participated.

The Indian Armed Forces, comprising 120 personnel, are being represented by a battalion of the KUMAON Regiment of the Indian Army, along with other arms and services, as well as personnel from the Indian Air Force. The Kazakhstan contingent

will be represented mainly by personnel from Land Forces and Air Borne Assault Troopers.

The aim of the Joint Exercise is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake counter-terrorism operations in a sub-conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

The bilateral India-Kazakhstan KAZIND was first held in 2016. It is an annual military exercise held alternately in both countries.

465. Gulveer Singh, who was seen in the news in September 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

सितंबर 2024 में उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए सुर्खियों में रहे गुलवीर सिंह निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Table Tennis
- (b) Archery
- (c) Shooting
- (d) Athletic
- (e) Javelin Throw

Ans. d

Sol. Gulveer Singh breaks his 5000m National Record in Japan

Gulveer Singh broke his national record in the men's 5000m event by clocking 13:11.82 to win gold at the World Athletics Continental Tour in Niigata, Japan.

Gulveer, in June this year, had broken Avinash Sable's record at the 2024 Portland Track Festival by clocking 13:18.92.

The 26-year-old surpassed Avinash's record of 13:19.30 set at the Sound Running On Track Fest 2023 in LA to secure a personal best.

The 26-year-old missed the Paris Olympic qualification mark by over 13 seconds.

466. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has officially opened the new National Cricket Academy (NCA) named BCCI Centre of Excellence in which city?

भारतीय क्रिकेट कंट्रोल बोर्ड (बीसीसीआई) ने आधिकारिक तौर पर किस शहर में बीसीसीआई सेंटर ऑफ एक्सीलेंस नाम से नई राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट अकादमी (एनसीए) खोली है?

- (a) Chennai
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Kochi
- (e) New Delhi

Ans. c

Sol. BCCI inaugurates state-of-the-art 'Centre of Excellence' in Bengaluru

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has officially opened the new National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru, now named the BCCI Centre of Excellence. This state-of-the-art facility, envisioned by BCCI Secretary Jay Shah, aims to cultivate the next generation of cricket talent while promoting advancements in sports science across India.

Spanning over 40 acres, the Centre of Excellence is equipped with three cricket grounds and a total of 86 pitches, offering both indoor and outdoor training options. The main ground, Ground A, features an 85-yard boundary and 13 meticulously maintained pitches made from Mumbai red soil, ready for action.

467. Keki N Daruwalla passed away recently at the age of 87. Who was he?

केकी एन दारूवाला का हाल ही में 87 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Journalist
- (b) Historian
- (c) Poet
- (d) Politician
- (e) Scientist

Ans. c

Sol. Celebrated poet and former intelligence officer Keki N Daruwalla dies. Poet, writer and former IPS officer Keki N Daruwalla, whose magic with words gained him national and international reputation, has died at the age of 87.

Daruwalla published his first volume of poetry in 1970, titled Under Orion, followed by Apparition in April (1971), Crossing of Rivers (1976), The Keeper of the Dead (1982) – for which he won the Sahitya Akademi award in 1984 – and The Scarecrow and the Ghost (2004), among others.

Apart from poems, Daruwalla was also a short story writer and a novelist – and Love Across the Salt Desert, a collection of short stories published in 2006, is one of his notable works, along with his novel Pepper and the Christ (2009).

468. The board of directors of private sector lender IndusInd Bank has approved the re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of the bank for how many years?

निजी क्षेत्र के ऋणदाता इंडसइंड बैंक के निदेशक मंडल ने कितने वर्षों के लिए बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (एमडी और सीईओ) के रूप में सुमंत कथपालिया की फिर से नियुक्ति को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) one year
- (b) two years
- (c) three years
- (d) four years

(e) five years

Ans. c

Sol. Sumant Kathpalia reappointed as MD & CEO for IndusInd Bank

The board of directors of private sector lender IndusInd Bank has approved the re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as the managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of the bank for a period of three years.

The re-appointment will be effective March 24, 2025 upto March 23, 2028. Kathpalia has been the MD&CEO of the company since March 24, 2020.

Kathpalia is a seasoned banker, with over 3 and a half decades of experience, and has previously worked in large multi-national banks such as Citibank etc.

IndusInd Bank

- **Founded** - 1994
- **Founder** - S.P. Hinduja
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- **MD & CEO** - Sumant Kathpalia
- **Tagline** - We Make You Feel Richer

469. International Translation Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अनुवाद दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 26 September
- (b) 27 September
- (c) 28 September
- (d) 29 September
- (e) 30 September

Ans. e

Sol. 30 September - International Translation Day

International Translation Day is celebrated on September 30th every year to honor the work of translators and interpreters.

Objective - To promote dialogue and understanding between people from different cultures and linguistic backgrounds.

Theme 2024 - Translation, an Art Worth Protecting: Moral and Material Rights for Indigenous Languages.

Established by the United Nations in 2017, International Translation Day serves as a tribute to the tireless efforts of translators and interpreters in promoting dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding among individuals from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds," according to UNESCO.

470. The International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFWL) is celebrated every year on which day?

खाद्य हानि और बर्बादी के बारे में जागरूकता का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस (IDAFLW) हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 26 September
- (b) 27 September
- (c) 28 September
- (d) 29 September
- (e) 30 September

Ans. d

Sol. 29 September - International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

The International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW) is celebrated on September 29th each year.

The day's goal is to raise awareness about food loss and waste, and to encourage action to reduce it.

Theme 2024 - Climate Finance for Food Loss and Waste Reduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – specifically SDG 12, Target 12.3 – calls for halving per-capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains.

471. What was India's rank in the 17th Global Innovation Index 2024?

17वें ग्लोबल इनोवेशन इंडेक्स 2024 में भारत की रैंक क्या थी?

- (a) 35th
- (b) 39th
- (c) 40th
- (d) 42nd
- (e) 24th

Ans. b

Sol. Global Innovation Index 2024 - India at 39th; topped by Switzerland

India's ranking in the 2024 Global Innovation Index (GII) has improved to 39, up from 40 in the last edition.

India's ranking has improved by 42 in the last nine years, from 81st in 2015 to 39 in 2024.

Switzerland maintained its position as the top-ranked country, while Angola, an African country, was at the bottom.

The Global Innovation Index has been published by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) every year since 2007. In the 17th edition, 133 countries and the world's top 100 science and technology clusters were ranked based on innovation performance.

The countries are evaluated using around 80 indicators grouped into four parameters: science and innovation investment, technological progress, technology adoption and the socioeconomic impact of innovation.

10 ranked countries in the 2024 Global Innovation Index

1. Switzerland
2. Sweden
3. United States
4. United Kingdom
5. Singapore
6. Finland
7. Netherland
8. Germany
9. Denmark
10. South Korea



[Download Online Mock Test Mobile APP](#)

[Join Official Telegram Channel](#)

ambitiousbaba.com