

Best 300+ MCQs

October 2024

Current Affairs PDF



1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects of ₹ 11,200 crore in which state via video conference recently?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने हाल ही में वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंस के माध्यम से किस राज्य में ₹11,200 करोड़ की विभिन्न परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन और शिलान्यास किया?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Assam
- (e) Gujarat

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi unveils projects worth ₹ 11,200 crore In Maharashtra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects of ₹ 11,200 crore in Maharashtra via video conference.

Prime Minister Modi virtually inaugurated the Pune Metro section from District Court to Swargate, which also marks the completion of the Pune Metro Rail Project (Phase-1).

The cost of the underground section between the District Court to Swargate is around ₹ 1,810 crore.

PM Modi also laid the foundation stone for the Swargate-Katraj extension of the Pune Metro Phase-1 to be developed at the cost of around ₹ 2,955 crore.

This southern extension of 5.46 km is completely underground with three stations, namely Market Yard, Padmavati and Katraj.

PM Modi also inaugurated Bidkin Industrial Area, a transformative project covering an expansive 7,855 acres under the National Industrial Corridor Development Program, situated 20 km south of Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar in Maharashtra.

The central government has approved this project with an overall project cost of more than ₹ 6,400 crore for development in three phases.

PM Modi also inaugurated the Solapur Airport, which would significantly improve connectivity, making Solapur more accessible to tourists, business travellers, and investors.

The existing terminal building of Solapur has been revamped to serve nearly 4.1 lakh passengers annually.

PM Modi also laid the foundation stone for the memorial of Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule's first girls' school at Bhidewada.

2. Which insurance has partnered with Bandhan Bank to distribute life insurance products through the bank's expansive network of 1,700 branches?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने बंधन बैंक के साथ बैंक की 1,700 शाखाओं के विशाल नेटवर्क के माध्यम से जीवन बीमा उत्पादों को वितरित करने के लिए साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Bandhan Life Insurance
- (d) Go Digit General Insurance
- (e) Universal Sampo General Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. Bandhan Life partners with Bandhan Bank to Strengthen Insurance Business Bandhan Life Insurance, following its acquisition of Aegon Life and subsequent rebranding earlier this year, has partnered with Bandhan Bank to distribute life insurance products through the bank's expansive network of 1,700 branches. This move aims to bolster Bandhan Life's focus on new business and expand its distribution capabilities.

Initially, the partnership will see around 550 bank branches offering two new life insurance products tailored for Bandhan Bank customers, with plans to extend this to all 1,700 branches by the end of the year.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- SBI General Insurance joins hand with BLS E-Services to Streamline Access to Insurance Across India
- 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

3. Who has been chosen for the 54th Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award?

54वें दादा साहब फाल्के लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार के लिए किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Amitabh Bachchan
- (b) Mithun Chakraborty
- (c) Asha Parekh
- (d) Dharmendra
- (e) Anupam Kher

Ans. b

Sol. Mithun Chakraborty nominated for highest cinema honour Dadasaheb Phalke Award

The Union Ministry for Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that the jury had selected veteran Hindi and Bengali film actor Mithun Chakraborty, 74, as the recipient of the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Awards for 2022.

Mithun Chakraborty will be the 54th recipient of the Dada Saheb Phalke Award. Last year, Waheeda Rehman received the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Awards for 2021.

Mithun Chakraborty will be conferred the award at the 70th National Film Festival award ceremony, which will be held on 8 October 2024.

Asha Parekh, Vipul Shah, and Khushbu Sundar were members of the Jury that selected the Dadasaheb Lifetime Achievement Award winner for 2022.

About Dadasaheb Phalke Award

- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was instituted by the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in honour of Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, popularly known as Dadasaheb Phalke.
- He was the pioneer of cinema in India, having made the first film Raja Harishchandra in 1913.
- The award is presented annually along with the National Film Awards. It carries a cash prize of Rs 10 lakhs, a Swarna Kamal medallion and a shawl.
- The Award was first given in 1969, and Devika Rani was the recipient.

4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently dedicated three PARAM Rudra supercomputers and two high-performance computing systems to the nation. The three supercomputers have been deployed in which cities to support cutting-edge scientific research?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने हाल ही में तीन परम रुद्र सुपरकंप्यूटर और दो उच्च प्रदर्शन कंप्यूटिंग सिस्टम राष्ट्र को समर्पित किए। अत्याधुनिक वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान का समर्थन करने के लिए तीन सुपरकंप्यूटर किन शहरों में तैनात किए गए हैं?

- (a) Pune, Delhi and Mumbai
- (b) Bengaluru, Delhi and Mumbai
- (c) Chennai, Delhi and Bengaluru
- (d) Pune, Delhi and Hyderabad
- (e) Pune, Delhi and Kolkata

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi launches PARAM Rudra Supercomputers

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated three PARAM Rudra supercomputers and two high-performance computing systems to the nation.

These Computing systems were developed and manufactured indigenously under the National Supercomputer Mission and in line with the Make in India initiative.

The three supercomputers have been deployed in Pune, Delhi, and Kolkata to support cutting-edge scientific research.

Pune's Giant Metre Radio Telescope (GMRT) will use the supercomputer to study Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) and other astronomical events.

In Delhi, the Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC) will advance research in material science and atomic physics.

Meanwhile, the S.N. Bose Centre in Kolkata will lead advanced studies in physics, cosmology, and earth sciences.

What is PARAM RUDRA SUPERCOMPUTER?

- Param Rudra, named after the fierce avatar of Lord Shiva, is designed to tackle complex computational challenges across various scientific and engineering domains.
- Three Param Rudra supercomputers have been developed at Rs 130 crores, indigenously under the National Supercomputing Mission.
- PARAM Rudra Supercomputers
- It is based on the indigenous Rudra server developed by C-DAC and has a computing speed of one petaflops (10¹⁵ operations per second).
- C-DAC, under the Union Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeiTY), started developing a High-Performance computing system in the country in 1988 and has developed a series of supercomputers called the PARAM series.

5. Who inaugurated the 21st Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Zone III Conference?

21वें राष्ट्रमंडल संसदीय संघ जोन III सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Om Birla
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Draupadi Murmu
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankar

Ans. a

Sol. Om Birla inaugurated the 21st CPA Zone III India Region Conference

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has inaugurated the 21st Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Zone III Conference at Aizawl, Mizoram.

The conference, which was held at the Mizoram Legislative Assembly Complex in Aizawl, was intended to deepen the democratic process in the country's Northeastern region.

Theme - Democratic Sanctity, Transparency, Accountability, and Results from Democracy.

The conference aims to foster collaboration and dialogue among the Northeastern state legislatures, focusing on addressing regional challenges through democratic means.

6. Where was the 2nd India Sugar & Bio-Energy Conference held?

दूसरा भारत शर्करा एवं जैव ऊर्जा सम्मेलन कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Chandigarh
- (c) Gurugram
- (d) Guwahati
- (e) Aizawl

Ans. a

Sol. Pralhad Joshi inaugurates 2nd India Sugar & Bio-Energy Conference
Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution & New & Renewable Energy, Pralhad Joshi has inaugurated the 2nd India Sugar & Bio-Energy Conference in New Delhi.

The conference brings together policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and stakeholders to encourage dialogue, innovation, and collaboration for sustainable growth and development of the sugar and bio-energy industries.

Bioenergy refers to the use of sugarcane to produce energy. Ethanol, derived from molasses, is blended with petrol to run petrol-driven vehicles. Molasses is a by-product produced during the production of sugar from sugarcane.

7. Who inaugurated the 8th Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav in Secunderabad?

सिकंदराबाद में 8वें भारतीय कला महोत्सव का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Om Birla
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Draupadi Murmu
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankar

Ans. d

Sol. President inaugurates the 8th Kala Mahotsav

President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the 8th Bhartiya Kala Mahotsav, focussed on the North-Eastern states at the Rashtrapati Nilayam, Secunderabad, Telangana.

The eight-day-long Bhartiya Kala Mahotsav will be open to the public from 29 September to 6 October 2024.

The 8th Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav, focussed on the North Eastern states, is being organised by the Union Ministry for Development of the North Eastern Region in association with the Union Ministry of Culture.

The Mahotsav will showcase the art, culture, crafts, and culinary diversity of the North-Eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.

More than 300 artists and artisans from these states will be participating in the event at the Main Lawns of Rashtrapati Nilayam, the winter home of the President.

8. Where was the 9th World Junior Wushu Championships held?

9वीं विश्व जूनियर वुशु चैंपियनशिप कहां आयोजित की गई?

- (a) China
- (b) Brunei
- (c) Japan
- (d) Maldives
- (e) India

Ans. b

Sol. 9th World Junior Wushu Championships 2024: India wins 7 medals

The Young Indian Wushu players ended their campaign at the 9th World Junior Wushu Championships 2024 by winning seven medals, including two golds, one silver, and four bronze medals.

The Championships were held at Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei.

India's Aryan clinched the gold medal after defeating Gong Huanran from China in the Boys' Group Junior 48 kg weight category. Shaurya triumphed over his Iranian opponent Alireza Zamani to win another gold medal in Boys 48kg (children) section. Nang Mingbi Borphukan won a silver medal in the Taolu Jian Shu C Group event. Indian player Tanish Nagar in the 56kg category lost to Abdulkhamid Odilov of Uzbekistan confirming a bronze medal. Abhijeet in the 60kg category, Divyanshi (60kg women) and Yuvraj (42kg) also won bronze medals. A 24-member Indian team participated in the tournament.

9. Who inaugurated the Bidkin Industrial Area in Maharashtra?

महाराष्ट्र में बिडकिन औद्योगिक क्षेत्र का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Nitin Gadkari

- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Draupadi Murmu
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankar

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi dedicates Bidkin Industrial Area of DMIC to nation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually dedicated the Bidkin Industrial Area in Maharashtra to the nation.

The Bilkin Industrial Area, situated 20 km south of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, is part of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC).

The project is part of the central government's "Make in India, Make for the World" programme, which aims to foster industrial growth, economic prosperity, and sustainable development in the region.

The government of India launched the Make in India programme on 25 September 2015, and it has been in operation for 10 years.

About Bidkin Industrial Area

- The Bidkin Industrial Area covers 7,855 acres and was developed in three phases for Rs 6,414 crore.
- The project has been developed under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) as part of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor.

10. Where will the National Centre of Excellence for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality be set up?

एनीमेशन, विजुअल इफेक्ट्स, गेमिंग, कॉमिक्स और एक्सटेंडेड रियलिटी के लिए राष्ट्रीय उत्कृष्टता केंद्र कहां स्थापित किया जाएगा?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Noida

Ans. b

Sol. National Centre of Excellence for AVGC-XR to be set up in Mumbai

The Government of India has approved the establishment of a National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) in the country.

The proposed NCoE will be in Mumbai, Maharashtra, the hub of the Indian film industry.

The NCoE is being set up on the recommendation of the Task Force on Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics in 2022.

The government of India set up a Task Force on Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics (AVGC) in 2022, headed by the then Secretary of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Apurva Chandra.

The Task Force was established after the Union Minister for Finance, Nirmala Sitharaman, announced the establishment of a task force on Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics in her budget speech for 2022-23.

The Task Force recommended creating a National AVGC-XR (Extended Reality) Mission with a budget outlay for the integrated promotion and growth of the AVGC sector.

11. On which date is the International Day of Older Persons observed in the world?

विश्व में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वृद्धजन दिवस किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?

(a) 1 October

(b) 2 October

(c) 3 October

(d) 4 October

(e) 5 October

Ans. a

Sol. 1 October - International Day of Older Persons

International Day of Older Persons is observed every year on 1 October.

Objective- To raise public awareness about the opportunities and challenges presented to the ageing populations and to mobilize families, community groups and stakeholders to address the difficulties faced by older people.

Theme 2024 - Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide

On December 14, 1990, the UN General Assembly made October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons. The International Day of Older Persons was observed for the first time on October 1, 1991.

12. The two-time Oscar-winning actor best known for playing the stern Professor McGonagall in the "Harry Potter" movie franchise, Maggie Smith, passed away recently at the age of 89. How many times she was honoured with Emmy Awards?

"हैरी पॉटर" फिल्म फ्रैंचाइज़ी में सख्त प्रोफेसर मैकगोनागल की भूमिका निभाने के लिए प्रसिद्ध दो बार ऑस्कर विजेता अभिनेता मैगी स्मिथ का हाल ही में 89 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्हें कितनी बार एमी अवार्ड्स से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) one time
- (b) two times
- (c) three times
- (d) four times
- (e) five times

Ans. d

Sol. Maggie Smith, acting legend of 'Harry Potter' and 'Downton Abbey' fame, dies Maggie Smith, the two-time Oscar-winning actor best known for playing the stern Professor McGonagall in the "Harry Potter" movie franchise and the tart-tongued Dowager Countess on "Downton Abbey," died at the age of 89.

She won Academy Awards for her performances in "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" (1969) and "California Suite" (1978). She earned four Emmy Awards.

13. At which place was the closing ceremony of the 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah held?

7वें राष्ट्रीय पोषण माह का समापन समारोह किस स्थान पर आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Ranchi
- (b) Gandhinagar
- (c) Jhunjhunu
- (d) Indore
- (e) Surat

Ans. a

Sol. 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024 closing ceremony held in Ranchi

The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024 ended on 30 September 2024 with an official ceremony in Ranchi, Jharkhand. The Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Annpurna Devi, presided over the closing ceremony.

The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024 was officially launched on 1 September 2024 by Annpurna Devi and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The Rashtriya Poshan Maah is held annually from 1-30 September 2024.

The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah focused on Anaemia, Growth Monitoring, Complementary Feeding, and Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi. It also focused on Technology for better governance and 'Environmental Sustainability'. The Anganwadi centers across the country were encouraged to plant trees under the Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam initiative to promote environmental sustainability.

About the POSHAN Abhiyaan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the POSHAN (Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition) Abhiyan in March 2018 at Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
- The POSHAN Abhiyan aims to advance nutritional outcomes holistically for children under six, adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.
- The Poshan Abhiyaan aims to reduce malnutrition across India and improve the health of children and mothers. Some key targets of the Poshan Abhiyaan include:
 1. Reducing stunting in children aged 0-6 years by 2% annually.
 2. Reducing under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) by 2% annually.
 3. Combating anaemia in children, adolescent girls, and women by 3% annually.
 4. Reduction in low birth weight by 2% annually.

14. CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) celebrated the _____ Foundation Day of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) at the National Agricultural Science Complex, Pusa, New Delhi.

सीएसआईआर-राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान संचार एवं नीति अनुसंधान संस्थान (सीएसआईआर-एनआईएससीपीआर) ने राष्ट्रीय कृषि विज्ञान परिसर, पूसा, नई दिल्ली में वैज्ञानिक एवं औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद (सीएसआईआर) का _____ स्थापना दिवस मनाया।

- (a) 75th
- (b) 78th
- (c) 80th
- (d) 83rd
- (e) 90th

Ans. d

Sol. CSIR-NIScPR Commemorates 83 Years of Scientific Excellence of CSIR
CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) celebrated the 83rd Foundation Day of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) at the National Agricultural Science Complex, Pusa, New Delhi. On the occasion, a special issue of 'Science Reporter', a monthly publication of CSIR-NIScPR was also released during the event. The title of the issue is "Science Reporter: A Six Decade Journey in Science Communication (1964-2024)". Awards were distributed by distinguished guests to retirees, employees completing 25 years of service, and meritorious 10th and 12th-class students.

15. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has participated in the Swachh Bharat Diwas 2024 programme on the occasion of _____ Gandhi Jayanti in New Delhi.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने _____ गांधी जयंती के अवसर पर नई दिल्ली में स्वच्छ भारत दिवस 2024 कार्यक्रम में भाग लिया।

- (a) 152nd
- (b) 150th
- (c) 155th
- (d) 160th
- (e) 156th

Ans. c

Sol. PM Narendra Modi participates in Swachh Bharat Diwas 2024

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has participated in the Swachh Bharat Diwas 2024 programme on the occasion of 155th Gandhi Jayanti in New Delhi.

The event marks the completion of 10 years of the launch of one of the most significant mass movements for cleanliness, the Swachh Bharat Mission.

The Prime Minister will launch several projects related to sanitation and cleanliness, worth over nine thousand six hundred crore rupees. These include projects under AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0, National Mission for Clean Ganga and 15 Compressed Biogas Plant projects under GOBARdhan Scheme.

The Swachh Bharat Diwas programme will showcase India's decade-long sanitation achievements and those in the recently concluded Swachhata Hi Seva campaign. It will also set the stage for the next phase of this national endeavour.

The theme for Swachhata Hi Seva 2024, 'Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata', has once again united the nation in its commitment to cleanliness, public health and environmental sustainability.

Under Swachhata Hi Seva 2024, over 19 lakhs programmes have been completed with public participation of more than 17 crore people. Transformation of around 6.5 lakh Cleanliness Target Units has been achieved. Nearly one lakh Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivar camps have also been organised, benefitting over 30 lakh Safai Mitras. Over 45 lakh trees have been planted under the Ek Ped Maa ke Naam campaign.

16. The Central Government has given additional charge of CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) to _____.

केंद्र सरकार ने _____ को राष्ट्रीय इस्पात निगम लिमिटेड (आरआईएनएल) के सीएमडी का अतिरिक्त प्रभार सौंपा है।

- (a) Ajit Kumar Saxena
- (b) Tarun Goel
- (c) Tapan Sakia
- (d) Anjum Singh
- (e) Abhinav Pandey

Ans. a

Sol. Govt gives additional charge of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam CMD to Ajit Kumar Saxena. The Union government has assigned the additional charge of CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) to Ajit Kumar Saxena.

Saxena is currently the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of MOIL, a PSU under the Ministry of Steel.

Atul Bhatt the CMD of RINL is on personal leave from September 9 till November 30, which is also the date of his superannuation.

About Rashtriya Ispat Nigam

- Founded- 18 February 1982
- Headquarters- Visakhapatnam
- Owner- Ministry of Steel, Government of India

17. Who has become the first woman officer to take over as the Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS)?

सशस्त्र बल चिकित्सा सेवा (DGAFMS) के महानिदेशक का पदभार संभालने वाली पहली महिला अधिकारी कौन बनी हैं?

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Bhawana Kanth
- (c) Surbhi
- (d) Pushpa Kumari
- (e) Arti Sarin

Ans. e

Sol. Arti Sarin becomes first woman to take over as DG, Armed Forces Medical Services. Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin became the first woman officer to take over as the Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS).

The DGAFMS is directly responsible to the Ministry of Defence for overall medical policy matters which relate to the Armed Forces.

Prior to assuming the appointment of 46th DGAFMS, the Flag Officer held the coveted appointments of DG Medical Services (Navy), DG Medical Services (Air) and Director & Commandant of Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), Pune. She is an alumna of AFMC, Pune and was commissioned into the Armed Forces Medical Services in December 1985.

The Flag Officer has the rare distinction of serving in all three branches of the Indian Armed Forces, having served as Lieutenant to Captain in the Indian Army, from Surgeon Lieutenant to Surgeon Vice Admiral in the Indian Navy, and as an Air Marshal in the Indian Air Force.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **Chief of Indian Air Force** - Amar Preet Singh (replace V.R. Chaudhari)
- **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

18. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has celebrated its Eighth Annual Day on 1st October 2024. Who is the chairperson of IBBI?

भारतीय दिवाला एवं शोधन अक्षमता बोर्ड (IBBI) ने 1 अक्टूबर 2024 को अपना आठवां वार्षिक दिवस मनाया है। IBBI के अध्यक्ष कौन हैं?

- (a) Shashank Bhide
- (b) V Janki Raman
- (c) Ashima Goel
- (d) TV Somnathan
- (e) Ravi Mittal

Ans. e

Sol. IBBI to celebrate its Eighth Annual Day

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has celebrated its Eighth Annual Day on 1st October 2024.

To mark the occasion, an annual publication, "IBC के आठवर्ष: शोध एवं विश्लेषण" has released. Over the past eight years, the IBC has significantly accelerated the resolution of insolvency cases, bolstered investor and stakeholder confidence and fostering a more favourable environment for business growth.

The Code's deterrent effect, enabling the transfer of control of a Corporate Debtor, has significantly influenced debtor behaviour. The risk of ownership transfer is a strong incentive, encouraging disciplined management and discouraging insolvency-triggering actions.

Chairperson of IBBI - Ravi Mittal

About IBBI

- It was established on 1st October 2016 under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016.
- It is responsible for the implementation of the IBC.
- The IBC amends and consolidates the laws relating to insolvency resolution of individuals, partnership firms and corporate persons in a time-bound manner.

19. Indian batsman Virat Kohli became only the _____ player in history to complete 27,000 runs in international cricket across formats, a feat that he

achieved on the fourth day of the ongoing second Test against Bangladesh here.

भारतीय बल्लेबाज विराट कोहली अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट में सभी प्रारूपों में 27,000 रन पूरे करने वाले इतिहास के _____ खिलाड़ी बन गए हैं। उन्होंने यह उपलब्धि बांग्लादेश के खिलाफ चल रहे दूसरे टेस्ट के चौथे दिन हासिल की।

(a) second

(b) third

(c) fourth

(d) fifth

(e) sixth

Ans. c

Sol. Virat Kohli becomes fourth player to complete 27,000 international runs
Indian batsman Virat Kohli became only the fourth player in history to complete 27,000 runs in international cricket across formats, a feat that he achieved on the fourth day of the ongoing second Test against Bangladesh here.

Kohli made a brisk 47 off 35 balls with four fours and a six as he helped India push on further in an aggressive mode to make up for the lost time in the Test due to incessant rains.

Kohli became only the second Indian to achieve the feat after the Master Blaster Sachin Tendulkar, who amassed a massive 34,357 runs across the length of his career. He is also the fastest batter to reach 27000 runs, reaching the impressive landmark in just 594 innings.

Sachin is followed by Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara (28,016 runs) and, Australia's Ricky Ponting at third (27,483 runs).

Kohli has more than 8,800 runs in Tests, 13,906 runs in 295 ODIs, and another 4,188 runs in 125 T20Is. He has only retired from the T20 format after India won the T20 World Cup 2024 earlier this year. India's talisman is still a long way from matching Sachin's record, as the former cricketer scored 15,921 runs in 200 Tests.

20. Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approved a new asset class, allowing high-net-worth investors to invest in riskier regulated products. SEBI set a minimum investment requirement for this new product, targeting those with larger financial capacity. What is the minimum investment amount required for this new asset class approved by SEBI?

बाजार नियामक भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) ने एक नए परिसंपत्ति वर्ग को मंजूरी दी है, जो उच्च-निवल-मूल्य वाले निवेशकों को जोखिम भरे विनियमित उत्पादों में निवेश करने की अनुमति देता है। सेबी ने इस नए उत्पाद के लिए न्यूनतम निवेश आवश्यकता

निर्धारित की है, जो बड़ी वित्तीय क्षमता वाले लोगों को लक्षित करता है। सेबी द्वारा अनुमोदित इस नए परिसंपत्ति वर्ग के लिए आवश्यक न्यूनतम निवेश राशि क्या है?

- (a) 5 lakh
- (b) 10 lakh
- (c) 15 lakh
- (d) 20 lakh
- (e) 25 lakh

Ans. b

Sol. SEBI approved new asset class for HNIs with riskier appetite

Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approved a new asset class, allowing high-net-worth investors to invest in riskier regulated products. The new asset class is to have a minimum investment amount of Rs 10 lakh. The offerings under the new product will be referred to as 'Investment Strategies', to maintain a clear distinction from the schemes offered under the traditional mutual funds.

The new product is intended to add depth and variety to the investment landscape of the country through a new asset class.

SEBI floated a consultation paper on introducing a 'New Asset Class' in July, inviting public comments by August 6, 2024.

The move is aimed at creating a new product that lies between mutual funds and portfolio management services (PMS), catering to investors with higher risk-taking capabilities and larger ticket sizes. Among other important decisions, the regulator also approved rules for a new investment product under mutual funds.

It introduced the liberalized Mutual Funds Lite (MF Lite) framework for passively managed schemes of mutual funds.

21. Consider the following points about the Cruise Bharat Mission that the Indian government recently launched-

- (i) Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Cruise Bharat Mission at Mumbai port on the cruise ship 'Empress'.
- (ii) The goal is to triple cruise passenger traffic by 2029.
- (iii) The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is the nodal ministry for implementing the Cruise Bharat Mission.
- (iv) The Cruise Bharat Mission will be implemented from 1 October 2024 up to 31 March 2029 in five phases.

How many of the given point(s) is/are CORRECT?

- (a) only one
- (b) only two

- (c) only three
(d) all are correct
(e) all are incorrect

Ans. a

Sol. Cruise Bharat Mission launched to promote Cruise Tourism

The 'Cruise Bharat Mission' is a new project launched by the Indian government to promote cruise tourism in India.

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal officially inaugurated at Mumbai port on the cruise ship 'Empress'.

The mission aims to tap into India's potential as a major cruise destination and increase the number of people who travel by cruise ships. The goal is to double cruise passenger traffic by the year 2029.

Aims of the Mission

- The main purpose of the Cruise Bharat Mission is to make India a global center for cruise tourism.
- The mission will focus on improving infrastructure like cruise terminals, marketing India as a great place for cruises, and developing the overall cruise experience step-by-step.

Who will implement the Cruise Bharat Mission?

- The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is the nodal ministry for implementing the Cruise Bharat Mission.
- The mission will be implemented with the support of all regulatory agencies, such as Customs, Immigration, CISF, State Tourism Departments, State Maritime Agencies, District Administrations, and local police.
- The ministry will establish a special purpose vehicle (SPV) for cruise development under the Indian Ports Association. The Indian Port Association is an association of major ports in India.

Phases of the Cruise Bharat Mission

- The Cruise Bharat Mission will be implemented from 1 October 2024 up to 31 March 2029 in three phases.

Phase -1 (1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025) - The main focus will be on planning and forming cruise alliances with neighbouring countries. The existing cruise terminals and marinas will be modernized.

Phase II (1 October 2025 to 31 March 2027) -The focus will be on developing new cruise terminals, marinas, and destinations.

Phase III (1 April 2027 to 31 March 2029) - The focus will be on integrating all cruise circuits across the Indian Subcontinent, continuing the development of cruise terminals, marinas, and destinations.

What are the Performance Targets?

Sea Cruise Passengers- The mission aims to increase the number of sea cruise passengers from 0.5 million in the first phase to 1 million by the third phase.

River Cruise Passengers- For River cruises, the mission plans to increase passengers from 0.5 million to 1.5 million.

22. The Government of India has appointed 3 people to the Monetary Policy Committee in October 2024. Who among the following has not been selected to the Monetary Policy Committee?

अक्टूबर 2024 में भारत सरकार ने मौद्रिक नीति समिति में 3 लोगों को नियुक्त किया है। निम्नलिखित में से किसे मौद्रिक नीति समिति में नहीं चुना गया है?

- (i) Ram Singh
- (ii) Tapan Ray
- (iii) Saugata Bhattacharya
- (iv) Raghu Ram Rajan
- (v) Nagesh Kumar

- (a) i & ii
- (b) ii & iii
- (c) iii & iv
- (d) iv & v
- (e) ii & iv

Ans. e

Sol. Ram Singh, Saugata Bhattacharya, Nagesh Kumar appointed as new MPC members

The Government has appointed the Director of the Delhi School of Economics, Ram Singh, noted economist Saugata Bhattacharya, and the Director of the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Nagesh Kumar, to the Monetary Policy Committee. The panel, which decides interest rates, is headed by the Reserve Bank of India Governor.

The reconstituted MPC is scheduled to have its first meeting from October 7 to 9. Following the MPC meeting, Governor Das will announce the bi-monthly monetary policy on October 9.

The members of the MPC appointed by the central government will hold office for a period of four years, with immediate effect or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

The new members have replaced Ashima Goyal, a member of the Economic Advisory Council of Prime Minister, Shashanka Bhide, senior advisor at the National Council for Applied Economic Research and Jayanth Varma, who is a professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

23. India won the 2024 SAFF Men's U17 Championship by defeating which team in the final?

भारत ने फाइनल में किस टीम को हराकर 2024 SAFF पुरुष U17 चैम्पियनशिप जीती?

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

Ans. e

Sol. India wins SAFF U-17 Championship 2024 after beating Bangladesh

The undefeated Indian football team lifted the 2024 Men's SAFF U17 Championship by defeating Bangladesh 2-0 in the final.

The final was played at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu, Bhutan.

The Indian boy's football team, also famously known as Blue Colts, remained undefeated throughout the tournament.

India and Bangladesh have met five times in the SAFF men's age group tournament finals. India has won four times - U18 in 2019, U20 in 2022, U16 in 2023 and U17 in 2024. Bangladesh has won once in U16 in 2015.

Seven teams -India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan participated in the 2024 Men's SAFF U17 Championships.

India, Bangladesh, and the Maldives were in Group A, and Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bhutan were in Group B.

Captain of Indian team - Ngamgouhou Mate

Awards Winners

- Player of the Tournament: Mohammed Arbash of India.
- Goalkeeper of the Tournament: Aheibam Suraj Singh

24. International Coffee Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कॉफी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. 1 October - International Coffee Day

International Coffee Day is celebrated on 1st October every year to promote and celebrate coffee as a beverage.

Theme 2024 - Coffee, Your Daily Ritual, Our Shared Journey

International Coffee Day was celebrated for the first time on October 1, 2015. It was organised by the International Coffee Organisation (ICO), which was established in 1963. Hosted by the ICO, International Coffee Day promotes the fair trade of the beverage.

25. How much lakh crore rupees were GST collected in September 2024?

सितंबर 2024 में कितने लाख करोड़ रुपये का जीएसटी संग्रह हुआ?

- (a) ₹1.53 lakh crore
- (b) ₹1.63 lakh crore
- (c) ₹1.73 lakh crore
- (d) ₹1.83 lakh crore
- (e) ₹1.93 lakh crore

Ans. c

Sol. GST collections hit a 40-month low in September, with revenues at ₹1.73 lakh crore

Growth in India's Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections slumped to a 40-month low of 6.5% in September, with revenues at ₹1,73,240 crore, about 1% lower than the tally in August.

Net GST receipts, after adjusting for refunds made to taxpayers, were 3.9% higher than a year ago, marking the slowest growth in this financial year.

However, net collections were 1.5% higher than August's receipts, at ₹1,52,782 crore.

In the preceding month, net GST receipts had grown 6.5% while gross collections were up 10%.

As many as seven States recorded negative revenue growth, led by a 33% contraction in Manipur, while revenues were flat in Gujarat. Ten States underperformed the national level 6% uptick in domestic revenues, including Telangana (1%), Rajasthan (2%), Uttar Pradesh (3%), and Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and West Bengal (5% each). Poll-bound Haryana recorded the sharpest rise in revenues of 24%, followed by Delhi where receipts grew 20%.

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
- August 2024 – 1.75 lakh crore
- September 2024 – 1.73 lakh crore

26. The birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri is celebrated every year on 2 October. Lal Bahadur Shastri was the India's - _____ Prime Minister. In 2024, India celebrates the _____ birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri.

महात्मा गांधी और लाल बहादुर शास्त्री की जयंती हर साल 2 अक्टूबर को मनाई जाती है। लाल बहादुर शास्त्री भारत के _____ प्रधानमंत्री थे। 2024 में, भारत ने लाल बहादुर शास्त्री की _____ जयंती मनाई।

- (a) third; 124th
(b) fourth; 120th
(c) fifth; 118th
(d) third; 120th
(e) second; 120th

Ans. d

Sol. 2 October - Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bhadur Sastri Birth Anniversary

The nation celebrated Gandhi Jayanti on October 2, to honour the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, affectionately known as Bapu, the father of the nation. This year marks the 155th birth anniversary of Gandhi.

October 2 also holds global significance as the International Day of Non-Violence. On June 15, 2007, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring October 2 as the International Day of Non-Violence, in recognition of Gandhi's contributions to non-violent resistance.

Gandhi earned the title "Father of the Nation" from Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for his pivotal role in India's fight for independence.

Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti is celebrated every year on October 2nd to honor the birth anniversary of India's third Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Known for his humility, simplicity, and strong leadership, Shastri guided the nation during critical times, most notably during the Indo-Pak War of 1965. He is also remembered for giving India the iconic slogan, "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" (Hail the Soldier, Hail the Farmer), emphasizing the importance of soldiers and farmers in shaping the nation.

In 2024, India will mark the 120th birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri, coinciding with Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary on October 2nd. Shastri, born in Mughalsarai, Uttar Pradesh, in 1904, was a leader who deeply resonated with the common man.

27. Claudia Sheinbaum has recently taken oath as the first female President of which country?

क्लाउडिया शिनबाम ने हाल ही में किस देश की पहली महिला राष्ट्रपति के रूप में शपथ ली है?

- (a) Mexico
- (b) Spain
- (c) Finland
- (d) Norway
- (e) Belgium

Ans. a

Sol. Claudia Sheinbaum sworn in as Mexico's 1st female president

Claudia Sheinbaum was sworn in as Mexico's first woman president.

She vowing to bolster women's rights and ensure Latin America's number 2 economy remains a secure destination for international investment.

The 62-year-old climate scientist and former mayor of Mexico City is set to serve a six-year term, ending in 2030.

Sheinbaum's inauguration is the culmination of a four-decade rise in Mexican politics, punctuated by her history-making election as the first woman to lead Mexico City.

About Mexico

- Capital- Mexico City
- Currency – Peso
- President- Claudia Sheinbaum (first woman president of nation)
- Continent- North America

28. Political strategist-cum-activist Prashant Kishor has launched his political outfit Jan Suraaj Party. As a political party, Jan Suraaj would contest in all 243 seats in the Assembly elections in Bihar, which is due next year in October-November. Who is the president of Jan Suraaj Party?

राजनीतिक रणनीतिकार और कार्यकर्ता प्रशांत किशोर ने अपनी राजनीतिक पार्टी जन सुराज पार्टी शुरू की है। एक राजनीतिक पार्टी के रूप में, जन सुराज अगले साल अक्टूबर-नवंबर में होने वाले बिहार विधानसभा चुनाव में सभी 243 सीटों पर चुनाव लड़ेगी। जन सुराज पार्टी के अध्यक्ष कौन हैं?

- (a) Prashant Kishore
- (b) Manoj Bharti
- (c) Yogendra Yadav

(d) Manish Kashyap

(e) Rabadi Devi

Ans. b

Sol. Prashant Kishor announces Jan Suraaj as a political party

Political strategist-cum-activist Prashant Kishor launched his political outfit Jan Suraaj Party, two years after he embarked on a campaign in Bihar to mobilise support for a "new political alternative".

As a political party, Jan Suraaj would contest all 243 seats in the Assembly elections in Bihar, next year in October-November.

His party would contest in the bypolls in four seats of Bihar which are likely to be held in November this year.

The 47-year-old also named Manoj Bharti, a Madhubani-born former Indian Foreign Service officer, as working president of the party.

Mr Bharti comes from the Dalit community, has been educated at IIT Kanpur and Delhi and was in the Indian Foreign Service. He was also Indian ambassador in four countries.

29. National carrier Air India said that flights operated by Vistara will start using the flight code _____ after the merger of the two airlines next month.

राष्ट्रीय विमानन कंपनी एयर इंडिया ने कहा कि अक्टूबर 2024 से दोनों एयरलाइनों के विलय के बाद विस्तारा द्वारा संचालित उड़ानें फ्लाइट कोड _____ का उपयोग करना शुरू कर देंगी।

(a) AI2

(b) AI4

(c) VI2

(d) AV2

(e) VA2

Ans. a

Sol. Vistara to get AI2 flight number after merger with Air India

National carrier Air India said that flights operated by Vistara will start using the flight code 'AI2' after the merger of the two airlines next month. Currently, Air India uses the airline code 'AI' while Vistara uses 'UK.'

Despite the integration on November 12, the Vistara experience will "remain the same. The merger involves Vistara, a joint venture between Tata Group and Singapore Airlines, and Air India.

Though the legal entities and Air Operator Certificates will become one on 12 November, the Vistara experience will remain.

Vistara aircraft, crew and service will continue to operate as before, but with AI2XXX flight numbers bookable via airindia.com.

In parallel, Air India's narrow-body fleet continue to be upgraded with new aircraft being delivered, legacy aircraft being refitted with entirely new interiors and Vistara's catering now also extended to Air India.

30. The 2024 edition of the annual apex-level international conference of the Indian Navy, the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD), will be held in which city?

भारतीय नौसेना के वार्षिक शीर्ष स्तरीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन, इंडो-पैसिफिक रीजनल डायलॉग (आईपीआरडी) का 2024 संस्करण किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

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

Ans. d

Sol. 2024 edition of annual apex-level international conference IPRD to held in New Delhi

The 2024 edition of the annual apex-level international conference of the Indian Navy, the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD), will be held in New Delhi.

The theme of the three-day conference is "Resource Geopolitics and Security in the Indo-Pacific."

IPRD is the principal manifestation of the Indian Navy's international engagement at the strategic level, addressing holistic maritime security issues across the Indo-Pacific. This year's conference will focus on how traditional and newly identified marine resources are influencing contemporary geopolitics and how they will shape it in the future.

31. Which state has become the first state in India to establish a chapter of NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP), an initiative aimed at promoting and supporting women entrepreneurs across various sectors?

कौन सा राज्य नीति आयोग के महिला उद्यमिता मंच (WEP) का एक अध्याय स्थापित करने वाला भारत का पहला राज्य बन गया है, जो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में महिला उद्यमियों को बढ़ावा देने और समर्थन देने के उद्देश्य से एक पहल है?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Odisha

(e) Tamil Nadu

Ans. b

Sol. NITI Aayog launches first State Chapter of Women Entrepreneurship Platform

NITI Aayog has launched its maiden State Chapter of Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) in association with WE Hub and the Telangana government.

An initiative to promote and support women entrepreneurs across various sectors by providing them access to resources, tools, and a network for enhancing their business growth, WEP thus far remained a scheme operated by the Centre.

With over 30 thousand registered women entrepreneurs and associations, the WEP has over 400 mentors from different industry sectors.

WE Hub Chief Executive Officer, Sita Pallocholla, has been appointed Mission Director of the WEP Telangana Chapter.

WE Hub will be the nodal agency for all WEP activities in the State.

The WEP will offer customised support like digital skilling, access to financial services, mentorship, and market linkages.

32. Which of the following countries will host the first-ever Kho Kho World Cup in 2025?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश 2025 में पहली बार खो-खो विश्व कप की मेजबानी करेगा?

(a) India

(b) Japan

(c) USA

(d) China

(e) Vietnam

Ans. a

Sol. India to host first-ever Kho Kho World Cup in 2025

The first edition of the Kho Kho World Cup will be held in India next year and will feature 16 men's and women's teams from 24 countries and six continents.

Kho Kho has its roots in India and this World Cup will highlight the rich cultural heritage and competitive spirit of the sport. Today, the sport that started in the mud and has gone to the mat now has a global presence with 54 countries playing the sport across the world.

33. In October 2024, which bank partnered with MakeMyTrip to unveil a co-branded credit card tailored specifically for travel enthusiasts, that offers a range of features such as infinite reward points that never expire, myCash (MakeMyTrip's reward currency) for various purchases, and a dual offering of cards powered by Mastercard and RuPay?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, किस बैंक ने यात्रा के प्रति उत्साही लोगों के लिए विशेष रूप से तैयार किए गए सह-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड का अनावरण करने के लिए मेकमाईट्रिप के साथ साझेदारी की, जो कई सुविधाएँ प्रदान करता है जैसे कि कभी समाप्त न होने वाले अनंत रिवॉर्ड पॉइंट, विभिन्न खरीदारी के लिए मायकैश (मेकमायट्रिप की रिवॉर्ड मुद्रा), और मास्टरकार्ड और रुपये द्वारा संचालित कार्ड की दोहरी पेशकश?

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) Yes Bank
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ans. b

Sol. ICICI Bank and MakeMyTrip unveils co-branded credit card for travel enthusiasts
ICICI Bank has collaborated with MakeMyTrip (MMT), the country's biggest online travel operator, and introduced a premium co-branded credit card tailored to the country's aspirational travellers.

The MakeMyTrip ICICI Bank Credit Card, with its several features, enriches the trip experience by providing infinite points that never expire.

The card provides a unique value with myCash (MakeMyTrip's reward currency), where 1 myCash equals ₹1 in spendable funds. It provides 6% myCash on hotel reservations, 3% myCash on flights, vacations, taxis, and buses, and 1% on other retail purchases—all in addition to relevant MakeMyTrip savings.

This card is a dual offering, providing the convenience of two cards, one powered by Mastercard and one powered by RuPay. Furthermore, the RuPay credit card can be linked to UPI, allowing safe and secure transactions via UPI-enabled Apps.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Axis Bank's new economy group launches **Corporate Credit Card Suite** for startups
- HDFC Bank launches instant SIP via **SmartWealth app**
- IDBI Bank 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.
- Bank of Baroda Unveils **Co-Branded Travel Debit Card in Collaboration with EaseMyTrip**
- Federal Bank unveils **NPS Vatsalya**, assuring long-term wealth building to minors

34. In October 2024, which general insurance company launched OneProtect, a personal accident insurance product that features over 20 customizable add-ons to cater to adventurous activities?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, किस सामान्य बीमा कंपनी ने वनप्रोटेक्ट लॉन्च किया, जो एक व्यक्तिगत दुर्घटना बीमा उत्पाद है, जिसमें साहसिक गतिविधियों को पूरा करने के लिए 20 से अधिक अनुकूलन योग्य ऐड-ऑन हैं?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Magma HDI General Insurance
- (d) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. Magma HDI Unveils OneProtect – A Contemporary Personal Accident Insurance India's premier general insurance provider, Magma HDI has unveiled a OneProtect, a contemporary personal accident insurance product.

With over 20 customisable add-ons adapted to today's lifestyle needs, OneProtect is the ideal companion for anybody, including thrill-seekers and explorers.

As adventure travel is popular among Indians, sports like trekking, paragliding, and scuba diving have become popular vacation options. OneProtect allows adventurers to follow their passions confidently by protecting various high-octane activities.

Another notable feature of OneProtect is its 200% coverage for accidental death while using common carriers such as trains etc.

35. Federal Bank has joined hands with Bhashini, an AI-powered language translation platform, to provide vernacular language support to Federal Bank's AI Virtual Assistant, named _____, this chatbot can now assist users in 14 different Indian languages, greatly expanding its reach and accessibility to a broader customer base across India.

फेडरल बैंक ने एआई-संचालित भाषा अनुवाद प्लेटफॉर्म भाषिणी के साथ हाथ मिलाया है, ताकि फेडरल बैंक के एआई वर्चुअल असिस्टेंट को स्थानीय भाषा में सहायता प्रदान की जा सके, जिसका नाम _____ है, यह चैटबॉट अब 14 विभिन्न भारतीय भाषाओं में उपयोगकर्ताओं की सहायता कर सकता है, जिससे पूरे भारत में व्यापक ग्राहक आधार तक इसकी पहुंच और पहुंच का विस्तार होगा।

- (a) Fed Mobile
- (b) Feddy
- (c) Fed Alexa
- (d) Feddy One
- (e) Feddy AI

Ans. b

Sol. Federal Bank join hands with Bhashini to boost Chatbot Feddy with Vernacular Language Support

Federal Bank, a renowned private sector bank in India, has inked a MoU with Bhashini, an AI-Powered Language Translation Platform, to provide vernacular language support to its AI Virtual Assistant, Feddy.

This collaboration arose as a result of the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)'s local language effort to promote banking in vernacular languages. It has considerably improved Feddy's capabilities, making it more accessible to a broader variety of clients in India.

Feddy, Federal Bank's AI-powered chatbot, is already a popular tool for customers who want quick and easy banking services. With the addition of Bhashini's language translation capabilities, Feddy can now react to user requests in 14 different Indian languages, including Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia, Assamese, Punjabi, Urdu, Manipuri, and Bodo.

36. Which edition of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup begins in Sharjah, UAE recently?

हाल ही में संयुक्त अरब अमीरात के शारजाह में ICC महिला T20 विश्व कप का कौन सा संस्करण शुरू हुआ?

- (a) 8th
- (b) 9th
- (c) 5th
- (d) 10th
- (e) 11th

Ans. b

Sol. ICC Women's T20 World Cup begins in Sharjah

The ninth edition of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup begins in Sharjah, UAE. The opening match will feature Bangladesh against debutant Scotland.

Captain Harmanpreet Kaur will be leading India's campaign, starting against New Zealand.

India is carrying a spin-heavy bowling arsenal to the stage. With Deepti Sharma, Radha Yadav, Sajana Sajeevan, Asha Sobhana Joy, Tanuja Kanwer, and Shreyanka Patil, the team has versatility and effectiveness in its ranks.

Australia, the defending champions who have won the last three T20 World Cups, are in Group A alongside India, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Group B includes Bangladesh, England, Scotland, South Africa, and the West Indies.

The Indian women's team has yet to hold the trophy at an ICC event, making this tournament a significant opportunity for the Women in Blue. A total of ten teams will participate in the event, which will conclude on the 20th of this month.

37. In tennis, Carlos Alcaraz beat defending champion and world No. 1 Jannik Sinner, winning 6-7 6-4 7-6 to claim his first China Open title. Carlos Alcaraz is from which country?

टेनिस में कार्लोस अल्काराज़ ने गत चैंपियन और विश्व नंबर 1 जैनिक् सिनर को 6-7, 6-4, 7-6 से हराकर अपना पहला चाइना ओपन खिताब जीता। कार्लोस अल्काराज़ किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Spain
- (b) Serbia
- (c) China
- (d) Belgium
- (e) France

Ans. a

Sol. Carlos Alcaraz defeats Jannik Sinner to win first China Open Title

In tennis, second-seeded Spain's Carlos Alcaraz beat defending champion and world No. 1 Jannik Sinner, winning 6-7 6-4 7-6 to claim his first China Open title.

Meanwhile, China's Zheng Qinwen stormed into the quarterfinals of the women's singles after defeating Amanda Anisimova of the United States.

Aryna Sabalenka secured her place in the quarterfinals by overcoming Madison Keys of the United States. Sabalenka will face the Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova.

38. India has become an affiliate member of the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF), which will open doors to invaluable opportunities for reliance and collaboration with regulatory authorities worldwide. In which year IMDRF was established?

भारत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय चिकित्सा उपकरण विनियामक फोरम (IMDRF) का एक संबद्ध सदस्य बन गया है, जो दुनिया भर में विनियामक प्राधिकरणों के साथ निर्भरता और सहयोग के लिए अमूल्य अवसरों के द्वार खोलेगा। IMDRF की स्थापना किस वर्ष की गई थी?

- (a) 2010
- (b) 2011
- (c) 2015
- (d) 2018
- (e) 2008

Ans. b

Sol. India becomes affiliate member of International Medical Device Regulators Forum

India has become an affiliate member of the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF), which will open doors to invaluable opportunities for reliance and collaboration with regulatory authorities worldwide.

The IMDRF, which was established in 2011, is a group of global medical device regulators whose aim is to speed up the adoption of, international medical device regulatory harmonisation and convergence.

Its members include national regulatory authorities of the U.S., Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Russia, China, South Korea, Singapore and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The membership helps to harmonise regulatory requirements across the globe, which reduces complexities for manufacturers and helps safeguard public health by promoting collaboration, harmonising regulations, and promoting convergence.

39. Decorated all-rounder Dwayne Bravo has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. He is from which country?

मशहूर ऑलराउंडर ड्वेन ब्रावो ने क्रिकेट के सभी प्रारूपों से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Netherland
- (b) England
- (c) West Indies
- (d) Sri Lanka
- (e) New Zealand

Ans. c

Sol. West Indies legend Dwayne Bravo announces retirement from all forms of cricket West Indies decorated all-rounder Dwayne Bravo has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket after his farewell Caribbean Premier League (CPL) season was cut short due to an injury.

Bravo, who is going to turn 41 next month, is the leading wicket-taker in the T20 format. Bravo retired from international cricket in 2021 and decided to end his time in the IPL.

Bravo has finished his career by setting a benchmark in the T20 format across the globe, with 631 wickets in the format in 582 appearances.

Bravo was set to retire from the CPL after the conclusion of the ongoing campaign. His accolades boast him as the most decorated player to feature in the tournament, lifting five titles, including three with the Trinbago Knight Riders.

Recently Retired Players

- Luis Suarez (Uruguay) - National Football 
- 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

40. In October 2024, A proposed acquisition of Bharat Serums and Vaccines by Mankind Pharma for ₹_____ was approved by the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

अक्टूबर 2024 में, मैनकाइंड फार्मा द्वारा भारत सीरम और वैक्सीन के ₹_____ करोड़ मूल्य के प्रस्तावित अधिग्रहण को भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) द्वारा मंजूरी दी गई थी।

- (a) 13,230 crore
- (b) 13,530 crore
- (c) 13,430 crore
- (d) 13,830 crore
- (e) 13,630 crore

Ans. e

Sol. Mankind Pharma secures CCI approval for ₹13,360-crore worth acquisition of Bharat Serums and Vaccines

A proposed acquisition of Bharat Serums and Vaccines by Mankind Pharma for ₹13,630 crore was approved by the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

Mankind Pharma had announced in July that it will fully acquire Bharat Serums and Vaccines from private equity firm Advent International for around ₹13,630 crore.

The company has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire a 100 per cent stake in the Bharat Serums and Vaccines for an enterprise value of around ₹13,630 crore.

Mankind is a public listed company and is engaged in developing, manufacturing, and marketing a diverse range of pharmaceutical finished dosage formulations (FDFs) across various acute and chronic therapeutic areas, as well as several consumer healthcare products such as condoms, emergency contraceptives, pregnancy tests, vitamins, minerals, nutrients, antacids etc.

In India, the activities of BSV (including its wholly owned Indian subsidiary, BSV Pharma Private Limited, which is in the process of merging with BSV) are limited to developing, manufacturing, and marketing a range of biological, biotech, and pharmaceutical products in the therapeutic areas of women's health, critical care, IUI-IVF, and emergency medicine.

41. In October 2024, Markets regulator SEBI has imposed a penalty of how much rupees on NSE Data And Analytics Ltd for its failure to segregate IT infrastructures and manpower between itself and its parent firm National Stock Exchange (NSE)?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, बाजार नियामक सेबी ने एनएसई डेटा एंड एनालिटिक्स लिमिटेड पर अपने और अपनी मूल कंपनी नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज (एनएसई) के बीच आईटी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर और मैनपावर को अलग करने में विफल रहने के लिए कितने रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) 5 crore
- (b) 5 lakh
- (c) 12 Crore
- (d) 12 lakh
- (e) 10 crore

Ans. d

Sol. Market regulator Sebi slaps Rs 12 lakh fine on NSE Data And Analytics

Markets regulator SEBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 12 lakh on NSE Data And Analytics Ltd for its failure to segregate IT infrastructures and manpower between itself and its parent firm National Stock Exchange (NSE).

It has been directed to pay the fine within 45 days, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said in its order.

In its order, SEBI noted irregularities with respect to the backup of records and details of the Business Continuity Plan/Disaster Recovery policy, delay in sending acknowledgement letters to investors, irregularities with respect to system audit reports and cyber security audit framework and failure to validate KYC records.

SEBI conducted an inspection of NSE Data And Analytics Ltd, a KYC Registration Agency (KRA) on September 6-7, 2023, to ascertain possible violation of regulatory norms. The period covered in the inspection was from April 1, 2022, to July 31, 2023.

42. Where was the 12th International Film Festival and Forum on Environment and Wildlife, known as CMS Vatavaran, held?

12वां अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव और पर्यावरण एवं वन्यजीवन पर फोरम, जिसे CMS वातावरण के नाम से जाना जाता है, कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

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

Ans. a

Sol. International Film Festival on Environment & Wildlife 'Vatavaran' Inaugurated

The 12th edition of International Film Festival and Forum on Environment and Wildlife, Vatavaran has inaugurated at Paryavaran Bhawan in New Delhi.

The theme for the three-day film festival is "Wetlands for Life", focusing on the awareness and conservation of the wetlands eco-system.

The festival uses films and documentaries to raise awareness about contemporary environmental issues and seeks to change the perception, practice, policy and governance regarding environmental issues.

CMS India organises the International Film Festival and Forum on Environment and Wildlife with support from the Union Ministry of Forest, Climate Change and Environment.

CMS is a multi-disciplinary research think tank in India. The first CMS Vatavaran was organised in 2002 and is held every two years.

43. How many Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) were signed during Jamaica's Prime Minister's visit to India in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में जमैका के प्रधानमंत्री की भारत यात्रा के दौरान कितने समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए?

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

Ans. d

Sol. India & Jamaica sign 4 MoU to boost ties during Jamaica PM visit
India and Jamaica signed four MoU to strengthen and boost their bilateral relationships. The agreement was signed during Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness's visit to India.

Prime Minister Andrew Holness is the first Prime Minister of Jamaica to visit India.

Four MoUs are as follows:

1. Sharing of Successful Indian Digital Public Infrastructure with Jamaica to Promote Financial Inclusion and Social and Economic Transformation.
2. Cooperation between NPCI International Payments Limited and Egov Jamaica Limited.
3. Cultural Exchange Programme between the two countries years for 2024-2029.
4. Cooperation in Sports.

About Jamaica

- Capital- Kingston
- Currency- Jamaican Dollar
- Prime Minister- Andrew Holness

44. Which ministry of the GoI is the nodal ministry for the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan of the government of India that was recently inaugurated by PM Modi?

भारत सरकार का कौन सा मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के धरती आबा जनजातीय ग्राम उत्कर्ष अभियान के लिए नोडल मंत्रालय है जिसका हाल ही में पीएम मोदी ने उद्घाटन किया था?

- (a) Ministry of Culture
- (b) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (c) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- (d) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (e) Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi launch Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan in Jharkhand Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.

PM also laid foundation stones and inaugurated projects worth Rs 83,000 crore. It included Eklavya Model Residential Schools and the foundation stones of various developmental projects under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN), targeting the tribal communities.

About Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan

- Tribal Affairs Ministry has launched the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan.
- The Abhiyan aims to fill critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, and livelihood through 25 intervention schemes implemented by 17 central government Ministries and the Department of Government of India.
- The scheme's total expenditure is Rs 79,150 crore.
- The Abhiyan will cover around 63,000 villages in 549 districts and 2,740 blocks across 30 States and Union Territories.
- It is expected to benefit more than 5 crore tribal people in the targeted areas.

45. Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and which country's Aerospace Industries (IAI), have established a joint venture company (JVC), which has been incorporated in the name of BEL IAI AeroSystems Private Ltd?

नवरत्न रक्षा पीएसयू भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड (बीईएल) और किस देश की एयरोस्पेस इंडस्ट्रीज (आईएआई) ने एक संयुक्त उद्यम कंपनी (जेवीसी) की स्थापना की है, जिसे बीईएल आईएआई एयरोसिस्टम्स प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के नाम से शामिल किया गया है?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Israel
- (c) USA

(d) France

(e) Japan

Ans. b

Sol. Bharat Electronics, Israel Aerospace Industries form joint venture firm Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), Israel's leading aerospace and defence company, have established a joint venture company (JVC), which has been incorporated in the name of BEL IAI AeroSystems Private Ltd.

The JVC with its registered office in Delhi shall be the single point of contact (SPOC) for extending long-term product support to the Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM) systems of India's defence forces.

MRSAM is an advanced, path-breaking air and missile defence system that provides protection against a variety of aerial threats, according to the company.

It was jointly developed by IAI and DRDO for India's defence forces and is currently used by the Indian Air Force, Indian Army, Indian Navy and also Israeli defence forces, it was noted. The system includes an Advanced Phased Array Radar, Command and Control shelter, mobile launchers and interceptors with an advanced RF seeker.

46. Which company has signed an MoU with the Mumbai Port Authority (MbPA) and the Mumbai Port Sustainability Foundation (MPSF) to create a state-of-the-art green fuel ecosystem at Mumbai Port?

किस कंपनी ने मुंबई बंदरगाह पर अत्याधुनिक हरित ईंधन पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र बनाने के लिए मुंबई बंदरगाह प्राधिकरण (एमबीपीए) और मुंबई बंदरगाह स्थिरता फाउंडेशन (एमपीएसएफ) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. e

Sol. BPCL and Mumbai Port Authority to launch India's first green fuel ecosystem Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has an MoU with the Mumbai Port Authority (MbPA) and the Mumbai Port Sustainability Foundation (MPSF) to create a state-of-the-art green fuel ecosystem at Mumbai Port.

This MoU represents a crucial advancement in India's shift toward cleaner energy alternatives. With a focus on innovations in green fuel, the initiative seeks to significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions, thereby supporting the nation's climate objectives.

BPCL, MbPA, and MPSF are dedicated to pioneering sustainable practices that align with India's commitment to environmental stewardship.

47. Indian Air Force has signed an MoU with which IIT to collaborate on advancing innovative technologies for aviation textiles focusing on parachutes and other safety equipment.

भारतीय वायु सेना ने पैराशूट और अन्य सुरक्षा उपकरणों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए विमानन वस्त्रों के लिए नवीन प्रौद्योगिकियों को आगे बढ़ाने पर सहयोग करने के लिए आईआईटी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं।

- (a) IIT Kanpur
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Madras
- (d) IISc Bengaluru
- (e) IIT Roorkee

Ans. a

Sol. IIT Delhi, IAF join hands for AI-powered research on aviation textile IIT Delhi and Headquarters Maintenance (HQ) Command, Indian Air Force, Nagpur, have signed an MoU to collaborate on advancing innovative technologies for aviation textiles focusing on parachutes and other safety equipment.

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and HQ Maintenance will cooperate, collaborate and promote research and development in areas of obsolescence management, self-reliance, upgradations and digitisation through indigenisation in the field of aviation-grade textiles.

Some of the areas of interest for collaboration include raw material selection for various parachutes and safety equipment.

IITs in News

- DRDO and IIT Delhi developed light weight bullet proof jackets, named ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat), which offer 360 degree protection.
- National Health Authority and IIT Kanpur sign MoU for development of digital public goods for AI in Healthcare
- 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

48. Which company has signed an agreement with US-based defence companies AM General and Mandus Group. The collaboration focuses on the development

and production of advanced artillery gun platforms designed to meet the evolving needs of modern armies?

किस कंपनी ने अमेरिकी रक्षा कंपनियों एएम जनरल और मैडस ग्रुप के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। यह सहयोग आधुनिक सेनाओं की उभरती जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए उन्नत आर्टिलरी गन प्लेटफ़ॉर्म के विकास और उत्पादन पर केंद्रित है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Bharat Forge teams up with US defence giants for next-gen artillery systems
Bharat Forge subsidiary of Kalyani Strategic Systems has signed an agreement with US-based defence companies AM General and Mandus Group. The collaboration focuses on the development and production of advanced artillery gun platforms designed to meet the evolving needs of modern armies.

The companies aim to create compact, robust, lightweight, ruggedized, and mobile artillery systems capable of operating in all weather conditions and terrains.

This initiative includes the development of 105mm and 155mm next-generation artillery platforms featuring disruptive technology that enhances responsiveness, survivability, and transportability.

This strategic collaboration aims to co-develop and co-produce the most versatile and innovative weapon systems.

49. Consider the following points about the National Mission on Edible Oils and Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds) that was recently approved by the union government-

- (i) The duration of the scheme is seven years from 2024-25 to 2030-31.
- (ii) The total outlay for the scheme is Rs 10,103 crore.
- (iii) The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare will implement the NMEO-Oilseeds.
- (iv) The mission aims to increase primary oilseed production from 39 million metric tonnes in 2024-25 to 69.7 million metric tonnes by 2030 –31.

How many of the given point (s) is/are CORRECT?

- (a) only one
- (b) only two
- (c) only three
- (d) all are correct

(e) all are incorrect

Ans. c

Sol. Govt Approves ₹10,103 Crore National Mission on Edible Oils to Boost Self-Reliance in Oilseed Production by 2030

The government has approved the National Mission on Edible Oils and Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds) for 2024-25 to 2030-31 with an outlay of 10 thousand 103 crore rupees.

This has been done with an aim to make India self-reliant in oilseed production in the next seven years.

The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare will implement the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds).

The newly approved NMEO-Oilseeds will focus on enhancing the production of key primary oilseed crops such as rapeseed mustard, groundnut, soybean, sunflower, and sesamum.

It will also focus on increasing collection and extraction efficiency from secondary sources like cottonseed, rice bran, and tree-butter oils.

The mission aims to increase primary oilseed production from 39 million metric tonnes in 2022–23 to 69.7 million metric tonnes by 2030–31. He said that together with NMEO-OP (Oil Palm), the mission targets to increase domestic edible oil production to 25.45 million metric tonnes by 2030–31, meeting around 72% of the projected domestic requirement.

India is the world's largest importer of edible oils and meets around 60-65 per cent of its requirements through imports. India sources most of its palm oil from Indonesia and Malaysia, while Argentina, Brazil, Russia, and Ukraine are the major sources of soy oil and sunflower oil.

50. The Union Cabinet has decided to merge all Central schemes in the agriculture sector into two new schemes, Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and Krishonnati Yojana (KY). In which year was the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana launched?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने कृषि क्षेत्र में सभी केंद्रीय योजनाओं को दो नई योजनाओं, प्रधानमंत्री राष्ट्रीय कृषि विकास योजना (पीएम-आरकेवीवाई) और कृषोन्ति योजना (केवाई) में विलय करने का निर्णय लिया है। राष्ट्रीय कृषि विकास योजना किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

(a) 2005-06

(b) 2006-07

(c) 2007-08

(d) 2008-09

(e) 2009-10

Ans. c

Sol. Central Govt approves PM-RKVY and KY Schemes for Agriculture sector

The Union Cabinet has decided to merge all Central schemes in the agriculture sector into two new schemes, Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and Krishonnati Yojana (KY).

With a projected expenditure of ₹ 1,01,321.61 crore, the schemes will have a Central share of ₹ 69,088.98 crore and the States will have to add the remaining ₹32,232.63 crore.

PM-RKVY, with an allocation of ₹57,074.72 crore, is aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and KY will address food security and agricultural self-sufficiency, with a fund of ₹44,246.89 crore. Both the schemes will be implemented through State governments.

The rationalisation of various schemes is to avoid duplication, ensure convergence and provide flexibility to States. Focussing on emergent challenges of agriculture such as nutrition security, sustainability, climate resilience, value chain development and private sector participation is also envisaged under two schemes.

State governments will be able to draw a comprehensive strategic plan suiting their requirements for agriculture sector. Annual Action Plan (AAP) of States can be approved in one go rather approving individual scheme-wise AAPs.

Schemes such as Soil Health Management, Rainfed Area Development, Agro Forestry, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana will be merged in the two new schemes.

About Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY)

- The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) was launched by the central government in 2007-08.
- The scheme provides incentives to the state government to draw up comprehensive agriculture development plans to ensure more inclusive and integrated development of agriculture and allied sectors.
- In the 2017 -18 fiscal year, the RKVY was converted into Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) with a major focus on pre and post-harvest infrastructure, besides promoting agri - entrepreneurship, innovations and value addition.
- Now, it has been replaced by Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY).
- The PM-RKVY scheme comprises the following central government schemes-
 - Accelerator Fund for Agri Startups

- Agroforestry
- Agricultural Mechanization, including Crop Residue Management
- Crop Diversification Programme
- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
- Per Drop More Crop
- Rainfed Area Development
- RKVY DPR component
- Soil Health Management

About Krishonnati Yojana

- Krishonnati Yojana was launched in 2005, during the 10th five-year plan.
- It is an umbrella scheme of 12 schemes/missions of the central government and centrally sponsored schemes related to the agriculture sector.
- These schemes aim to develop the agriculture and allied sectors holistically and scientifically.
- It aims to increase farmers' income by enhancing production, productivity and better returns on produce.

51. Which Indian languages have the central government accorded classical language status in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में केंद्र सरकार ने किन भारतीय भाषाओं को शास्त्रीय भाषा का दर्जा दिया है?

- (a) Hindi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese
- (b) Marathi, Gujarati, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese
- (c) Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Oriya and Assamese
- (d) Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Sindhi
- (e) Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese

Ans. e

Sol. Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese Get Classical Language Status

The Union Cabinet has approved giving the status of 'classical language' to five more languages - Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese. With this cabinet decision, the number of languages that have the status will nearly double from 6 to 11.

The languages that had the tag earlier were Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia. Tamil was granted the status in 2004 and the last language to get it was Odia, in 2014

Tamil was the first language to be accorded classical language status in India in 2004.

About Criteria for being Classical Language

- The Union Ministry of Culture set up a Linguistic Expert Committee under Sahitya Akademi in 2004 to set the criteria for recognising an Indian language as a classical language.

- The criteria have been revised from time to time, and the present set of criteria are as follows:
- Antiquity: Language's early texts/recorded history must be 1500- 2000 years old.
- Language shall have ancient literature/texts considered a heritage by generations of speakers.
- Language must include knowledge texts, especially prose texts, poetry, and epigraphical and inscriptional evidence.
- Classical Languages and literature could be distinct from their current form or discontinuous with later forms of their offshoots.

52. Animal Welfare Day is observed annually on October 4. What is the theme of Animal Welfare Day 2024?

पशु कल्याण दिवस हर साल 4 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। पशु कल्याण दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Great or Small, Love Them All
- (b) A Shared Planet
- (c) Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet
- (d) Men and Animal
- (e) The World Is Their Home Too

Ans. e

Sol. 4 October - Animal Welfare Day

Animal Welfare Day is observed annually on October 4.

The day aims to inform people about the essential protection and care of animals while striving to inculcate empathy toward them.

Theme 2024 - The World Is Their Home Too

World Animal Day was first celebrated in 1925 by Heinrich Zimmermann, a German writer and animal welfare activist.

Zimmermann initially held the event on March 24, 1925, in Berlin, attracting more than 5,000 attendees. By 1929, the date was moved to October 4 to align with the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, who is known for his love and respect for animals.

53. World Space Week is an annual event celebrated from _____ to _____, highlighting the benefits of space exploration and promoting international cooperation in space activities.

विश्व अंतरिक्ष सप्ताह _____ से _____ तक मनाया जाने वाला एक वार्षिक कार्यक्रम है, जिसमें अंतरिक्ष अन्वेषण के लाभों पर प्रकाश डाला जाता है और अंतरिक्ष गतिविधियों में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग को बढ़ावा दिया जाता है।

- (a) 4 October to 10 October
- (b) 3 October to 9 October

- (c) 5 October to 11 October
(d) 6 October to 12 October
(e) 7 October to 13 October

Ans. a

Sol. 4 - 10 October - World Space Week

World Space Week is an annual event celebrated from October 4 to 10, highlighting the benefits of space exploration and promoting international cooperation in space activities.

Theme 2024 - Space & Climate Change

In 1999, the UN General Assembly proclaimed World Space Week by resolution 54/68.

The main aim is to celebrate the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition.

54. Which state will celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Hornbill Festival 2024 from 1 December to 10 December, in a vibrant cultural showcase attracting global visitors?

कौन सा राज्य 1 दिसंबर से 10 दिसंबर तक हॉर्नबिल महोत्सव 2024 की रजत जयंती मनाएगा, जिसमें वैश्विक आगंतुकों को आकर्षित करने वाला जीवंत सांस्कृतिक प्रदर्शन होगा?

- (a) Tripura
(b) Nagaland
(c) Assam
(d) Meghalaya
(e) Arunachal Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. Nagaland gears up for spectacular silver jubilee Hornbill Festival 2024

The Department of Tourism, Nagaland, will celebrate the silver jubilee of the Hornbill Festival, scheduled from December 1 to 10 at the Heritage Village, Kisama.

The tribal bodies are the core and backbone of the Hornbill Festival, and with their cooperation and collaboration, the state has successfully hosted twenty-four Hornbill Festivals so far.

Kisama Heritage Village, main venue, is undergoing renovations to welcome thousands of tourists, ensuring a grand celebration of Naga heritage. Naga morungs are traditional huts that were used as dormitories back in the day.

These morungs play a crucial role in imparting the knowledge of customs, traditions, and warfare to young men. The festival features replicas of these morungs.

About Nagaland

- Formation - 1 December 1963

- Capital- Kohima
- Chief Minister- Neiphiu Rio
- Governor- La. Ganesan

55. In October 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated GAIL's first CBG plant in which district of Jharkhand?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने झारखंड के किस जिले में गेल के पहले सीबीजी संयंत्र का उद्घाटन किया?

- (a) Bokaro
- (b) Deoghar
- (c) Dhanbad
- (d) Ranchi
- (e) Hazaribagh

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated GAIL's first CBG Plant in Jharkhand

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated GAIL's first CBG Plant in Jharkhand, through a virtual ceremony. The plant is built in an area of 7.86 acres at Ranchi Jharkhand, Jhir Dumping Site Mouza Jhiri.

This 12,500 m³ per day capacity plant is designed to process 150 tonnes of Municipal Solid Waste to produce 5,000 kg Bio-CNG and 25 tons of fermented bio manure per day.

The biogas generated in this facility is to be supplied to nearby CNG stations which can fuel over 600 vehicles per day in the region, contributing to the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative and promoting the use of clean and green fuel.

In March 2021, GAIL and Ranchi Municipal Corporation signed a Concession Agreement (CA) in the presence of Chief Minister of Jharkhand Hemant Soren to set up this plant.

About Jharkhand

- **Capital** – Ranchi
- **Chief Minister** – Hemant Soren (replace Champai Soren)
- **Governor** - Santosh Kumar Gangwar

56. The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) and which payment bank have joined forces to introduce co-branded National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC), aimed at streamlining travel for commuters?

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र परिवहन निगम (एनसीआरटीसी) और किस भुगतान बैंक ने मिलकर सह-ब्रांडेड नेशनल कॉमन मोबिलिटी कार्ड (एनसीएमसी) शुरू किया है, जिसका उद्देश्य यात्रियों के लिए यात्रा को सुव्यवस्थित करना 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. NCRTC and Airtel Payments Bank Launch Co-Branded National Common Mobility Cards to Enhance Commuter Convenience

The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) and Airtel Payments Bank have joined forces to introduce co-branded National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC), aimed at streamlining travel for commuters.

The cards offer multiple payment options including Debit, Prepaid, and Prepaid Payment Instruments for Mass Transit Solutions (PPI-MTS).

The NCMC cards are designed to simplify travel across various modes of transport, such as metros, railways, and buses, by offering a unified payment solution. This eliminates the need for multiple tickets or cards.

The NCMC-enabled cards also extend their utility to everyday purchases, allowing users to shop, dine, and make payments at various retail outlets.

57. Dr. Jitendra Singh disclosed that the 10th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held in IIT Guwahati, marking a significant milestone in the region's journey towards becoming a hub for scientific and technological innovation. What is the theme of this Festival?

डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने बताया कि भारत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान महोत्सव (IISF) का 10वां संस्करण आईआईटी गुवाहाटी में आयोजित किया जाएगा, जो वैज्ञानिक और तकनीकी नवाचार का केंद्र बनने की दिशा में क्षेत्र की यात्रा में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर साबित होगा। इस महोत्सव का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal
- (b) Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Science, Technology, and Innovation
- (c) Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- (d) RISEN India – Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation
- (e) Transforming India into an S&T driven Global Manufacturing Hub

Ans. e

Sol. Northeast to hold first ever India International Science Festival showcasing PM's vision for the Region

Dr. Jitendra Singh disclosed that the 10th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held at Guwahati, marking a significant milestone in the region's journey towards becoming a hub for scientific and technological innovation.

The festival, to be hosted at IIT Guwahati from November 30th to December 3rd 2024, is a testimony to the Government's commitment to the Northeast and aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's focus on the region as a key player in India's growth story.

The 10th edition of IISF carries the theme "Transforming India into an S&T driven Global Manufacturing Hub" reflecting the government's ambition to merge science and technology with industrial growth, propelling India towards self-reliance and global leadership in manufacturing.

58. Jio Financial Services' joint venture with BlackRock to enter the mutual fund (MF) space in India has received the nod from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Where is the headquarters of BlackRock?

भारत में म्यूचुअल फंड (MF) क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने के लिए ब्लैकरॉक के साथ जियो फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज के संयुक्त उद्यम को भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (SEBI) से मंजूरी मिल गई है। ब्लैकरॉक का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Paris
- (b) Berlin
- (c) Switzerland
- (d) New York
- (e) Singapore

Ans. d

Sol. SEBI gives in-principle nod to Jio Fin-BlackRock for mutual fund entry Jio Financial Services' joint venture with BlackRock to enter the mutual fund (MF) space in India has received the nod from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Jio's entry into the MF space is expected to intensify competition in the industry, which currently has over Rs 66 trillion in assets under management.

The firms inked a tie-up for the MF business in July 2023 and applied for a licence with the Indian regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), in October 2023.

Headquartered of BlackRock - New York ·

59. Aviral Jain has been appointed as the Executive Director of which of the following organizations in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में अविरल जैन को निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन का कार्यकारी निदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) SEBI
- (b) SIDBI
- (c) RBI

(d) NABARD**(e) LIC****Ans. c****Sol.** RBI appoints Aviral Jain as new Executive Director

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Aviral Jain as Executive Director (ED). Prior to being promoted to ED, Jain was serving as Regional Director for Maharashtra. As Executive Director, he will look after the Legal Department, the Premises Department and the Right to Information Act (First Appellate Authority). The new ED has experience of more than three decades in areas of supervision, currency management, foreign exchange regulation and human resource management.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **New Members of Monetary Policy Committee** - Ram Singh, Saugata Bhattacharya, Nagesh Kumar (replace Ashima Goyal, Shashanka Bhide, Jayanth Varma)
- **MD & CEO for IndusInd Bank** - Sumant Kathpalia (reappointment for 3 years)
- **Chairman of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank** - Parveen Kumar Gupta
- **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

60. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated DefConnect 4.0 in which city?

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने किस शहर में डेफकनेक्ट 4.0 का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Noida**(b) Mumbai****(c) Delhi****(d) Hyderabad****(e) Jaipur****Ans. c****Sol.** Rajnath Singh inaugurated DefConnect 4.0 in Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated DefConnect 4.0 at Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt.

The event has organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence - Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO), Department of Defence Production.

DefConnect 4.0 marks a milestone in India's defence innovation journey, bringing together the Armed Forces, Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), industry

leaders, innovators, start-ups and MSMEs, academia, incubators, investors and policymakers.

Till date, iDEX has launched 11 editions of Defence India Start-up Challenges and has garnered over 9,000 applications. It is currently collaborating with more than 450 start-ups/MSMEs on important projects.

Launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2018, iDEX continues to provide a unified platform for various stakeholders in the defence and aerospace sectors, contributing to the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

61. Which Indian city will host the Malabar International Naval Exercise 2024 from October 8 to 18, aimed at strengthening maritime cooperation, enhancing interoperability among participating countries, and addressing shared maritime security challenges in the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific regions?

कौन सा भारतीय शहर 8 से 18 अक्टूबर तक मालाबार अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नौसैनिक अभ्यास 2024 की मेजबानी करेगा, जिसका उद्देश्य समुद्री सहयोग को मजबूत करना, भाग लेने वाले देशों के बीच अंतर-संचालन को बढ़ाना और हिंद महासागर और भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्रों में साझा समुद्री सुरक्षा चुनौतियों का समाधान करना है?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Visakhapatnam
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Jodhpur
- (e) Umroi

Ans. b

Sol. Visakhapatnam to host Malabar 2024 from October 8

India will host the joint naval exercise of QUAD nations from October 8 to 18 in Visakhapatnam.

Hosted by India, this year's exercise will see the participation of Australia, Japan, and the United States of America.

The exercise, named Malabar 2024, includes sea and harbor phases focusing on cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. It features various Indian naval platforms, such as guided missile destroyers, submarines, and fighter aircraft.

The Malabar exercise started in 1992 as a US-India drill and evolved into a multilateral event to enhance interoperability and address maritime challenges.

International Naval Exercise Malabar 2024 is scheduled to take place from October 8 to 18, beginning with the Harbour Phase in Visakhapatnam, followed by the Sea Phase.

Hosted by India, this year's exercise will see the participation of Australia, Japan, and the United States of America.

Malabar Exercise, which began in 1992 as a bilateral naval drill between the United States and Indian Navy, has evolved into a key multilateral event aimed at enhancing interoperability, fostering mutual understanding, and addressing shared maritime challenges in the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific region.

Recent Exercise

- 8th edition of **Exercise KAZIND 2024** between India -Kazakhstan military in Auli, Uttrakhand.
- **7th edition of Exercise Eastern Bridge** between Indian Air Force and Royal Oman Air Force - Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.
- **5th edition of Exercise Al NAJAH** between Indian Army and Royal Army of Oman - Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.
- **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

62. Prakash Man Singh Raut has been appointed as the new Chief Justice of which country in October 2024?

प्रकाश मान सिंह राउत को अक्टूबर 2024 में किस देश का नया मुख्य न्यायाधीश नियुक्त किया गया है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Prakash Man Singh Raut appointed as new Chief Justice of Nepal

Nepal's President Ramchandra Paudel appointed Prakash Man Singh Raut as the new Chief Justice of the country.

Mr. Paudel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Chief Justice Raut at a special ceremony organised at Sheetal Niwas, the President's Office.

His appointment comes after the retirement of outgoing Chief Justice Bishowambhar Prasad Shrestha, who reached the mandatory retirement age of 65.

About Nepal

- **Capital-** Kathmandu
- **Currency-** Nepalese rupee
- **President-** Ram Chandra Paudel
- **Prime minister-** - K.P. Sharma Oli (replace Pushpa Kamal Dahal)

- **Chief Justice** - Prakash Man Singh Raut (replace Bishowambhar Prasad Shrestha)

63. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled the logo and mascot for the Women's Asian Champions Trophy-2024, which will be held in Rajgir from November 11-20. What is the name of this mascot?

बिहार के मुख्यमंत्री नीतीश कुमार ने 11-20 नवंबर तक राजगीर में आयोजित होने वाली महिला एशियाई चैंपियंस ट्रॉफी-2024 के लिए लोगो और शुभंकर का अनावरण किया। इस शुभंकर का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Phryges
- (b) Blaze and Tonk
- (c) Lyla
- (d) La'eeb
- (e) Gudiya

Ans. e

Sol. Bihar CM Nitish Kumar unveils logo, mascot for Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled the logo and mascot for the Women's Asian Champions Trophy-2024, which will be held in Rajgir from November 11-20. The mascot, named 'Gudiya', is inspired by the state bird of Bihar, Sparrow. The hockey stick in Gudiya's hand is the symbol of the hockey competition and the goalkeeper's glove in the hand, and the defensive posture reflect the strategic qualities of alertness.

The design of the 'logo' of this competition is a symbol of the rich cultural heritage and all-round progress of glorious Bihar. The Bodhi tree and hockey stick have been kept in the logo.

The Bodhi tree is a symbol of knowledge, power, harmony, tolerance and development which connects people with the rich spiritual and cultural history of Bihar.

The Women's Asian Champions Trophy-2024 is a joint venture of Hockey India and the Bihar government and will be held at the newly developed Rajgir Hockey Stadium.

The state cabinet recently sanctioned Rs 10 crore to Hockey India for the purpose. Six countries, including India, China, Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea and Japan, are participating in the championship.

64. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted three flight tests of the 4th Generation technically-advanced

miniaturised VSHORADS at the Pokhran Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. What is the meaning of 'R' in 'VSHORADS'?

रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने राजस्थान के पोखरण फील्ड फायरिंग रेंज में चौथी पीढ़ी के तकनीकी रूप से उन्नत लघु VSHORADS के तीन उड़ान परीक्षण सफलतापूर्वक किए हैं। 'VSHORADS' में 'R' का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Radar
- (b) Range
- (c) Reimage
- (d) Research
- (e) Regenerate

Ans. b

Sol. DRDO successfully test the 4th Gen VSHORADS Air defence system
Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted three flight tests of the 4th Generation Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) at the Pokhran Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.

The tests, conducted in the last two days were carried out against a high-speed target, demonstrating very critical parameters of maximum range and maximum altitude interception.

The VSHORADS has been designed and developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad, in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and private companies.

About the VSHORADS System

- VSHORADS is a Man-Portable Air Defence System (MANPADS) being developed for the Indian Army, Air Force, and Navy. It is a surface-to-air missile system with a range of up to six kilometres.
- The VSHORADS is an air defence system that can neutralise aerial threats such as low-flying aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles flying at a low altitude.
- The VSHORADS being developed by DRDO has an imaging infrared (IIR) homing system.
- Due to its weight of around 21 kg, the VSHORADS missile can be launched through a tripod.

65. Which company has signed an MoU with the leading global resources company, BHP to support steelmaking decarbonization in October 2024?

किस कंपनी ने अक्टूबर 2024 में स्टीलमेकिंग डीकार्बोनाइजेशन का समर्थन करने के लिए अग्रणी वैश्विक संसाधन कंपनी, BHP के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. d

Sol. BHP signed MoU with SAIL to accelerate potential pathways to steel decarbonisation

The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has signed an MoU with the leading global resources company, BHP to support steelmaking decarbonisation.

This collaboration is an important step for SAIL and BHP in promoting lower carbon steelmaking technology pathways for the blast furnace route in India.

Under this MoU, the parties are already exploring several workstreams supporting the potential decarbonisation at SAIL's integrated steel plants which operate Blast Furnaces (BF), with an initial study to assess various strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).

Chairman of SAIL - Amarendu Prakash

66. Who was the captain of the Mumbai team that won the 2024-25 season Irani Cup?

2024-25 सीज़न ईरानी कप जीतने वाली मुंबई टीम का कप्तान कौन था?

- (a) Sarfraz Khan
- (b) Ajinkye Rahane
- (c) Ruturaj Gaikwad
- (d) Murali Vijay
- (e) Shivam Dube

Ans. b

Sol. Mumbai win Irani Cup for first time in 27 years

Mumbai has won the 2024-25 season Irani Cup under its first-innings lead over the Rest of India.

Mumbai won the trophy after 27 years, having won it in the 1997/98 season. This was the 16th Irani Cup title for the current Ranji Champion, Mumbai.

The Irani Cup is a first-class domestic cricket tournament held at the Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Eakana Stadium in Lucknow.

This year, the 2023-24 season Ranji Champion Mumbai, led by Ajinkye Rahane, faced the Rest of India, led by Ruturaj Gaikwad.

Sarfraz Khan (Mumbai) was declared the Player of the match for his unbeaten knock of 222.

About the Irani Cup

- BCCI instituted the ZR Irani Cup (popularly known as Irani Cup) in memory of its long-time Treasurer and President Zal R Irani.
- The first Irani Cup was held in the 1959-60 season and was won by Mumbai (then Bombay) due to its first-inning lead.
- The Rest of India is the most successful team in the Irani Cup's history, having won it 26 times out of the 61 finals it has played.
- Mumbai has won it 16 times (shared once and 15 wins).

67. Which of the following countries recently signed a trilateral agreement to facilitate cross-border electricity trade, allowing one of them to export its surplus electricity to another at a fixed rate of 6.4 cents per unit?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने हाल ही में सीमा पार बिजली व्यापार को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए एक त्रिपक्षीय समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जिससे उनमें से एक देश को अपनी अधिशेष बिजली दूसरे देश को 6.4 सेंट प्रति यूनिट की निश्चित दर पर निर्यात करने की अनुमति मिल गई?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Nepal, India, Bangladesh sign pact to facilitate cross-border electricity trade
India, Nepal, and Bangladesh have signed a trilateral agreement to export 40 megawatts of electricity from Nepal to Bangladesh via India's power grid.

As per the agreement, Bangladesh will now import 40 megawatts of electricity from Nepal. The Indian side has also been involved in the trade deal, as Nepal's electricity will be transmitted to Bangladesh through the transmission infrastructure on the Indian territory.

For now, Nepal will transmit the energy to India through the 400 KV Dhalkebar-Muzaffarpur cross-border transmission line before India transmits the equivalent to Bangladesh.

The rate per unit of electricity has been fixed at 6.4 cents. From the export of electricity, Nepal will make an annual income of around \$ 9.2 million.

68. World Teachers' Day is celebrated every year on October 5. What is the theme of World Teachers Day 2024?

विश्व शिक्षक दिवस हर साल 5 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व शिक्षक दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) The teachers we need for the education we want: The global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage
- (b) Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future
- (c) The transformation of education begins with teachers
- (d) Teachers at the heart of education recovery
- (e) Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education

Ans. e

Sol. 5 October - World Teachers Day

World Teachers' Day is celebrated every year on October 5.

The role of a teacher holds profound importance in our lives, and they play a very important role in shaping our careers, right from our childhood.

Theme 2024 - Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education

The history of World Teachers' Day can be traced back to 1966 when The International Labor Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) organised a Special Intergovernmental Conference on the Status of Teachers in Paris.

World Teachers' Day is held annually on 5 October to celebrate all teachers around the globe. It commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, which sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers, and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment.

The Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel was adopted in 1997 to complement the 1966 Recommendation by covering teaching personnel in higher education. World Teachers' Day has been celebrated since 1994.

69. World Cerebral Palsy Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व सेरेब्रल पाल्सी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. 6 October - World Cerebral Palsy Day

World Cerebral Palsy Day is celebrated every year on 6 October globally.

Objective - To raise awareness about the condition and promote inclusivity.

This day aims to challenge stereotypes and work towards creating an inclusive society where individuals with cerebral palsy are respected for their identities and talents.

Theme 2024 - Uniquely CP

To mark this day, various national institutes and regional centres under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) will host programs across the nation to raise awareness about cerebral palsy and empower those affected by it.

70. World Smile Day is celebrated every year on first _____ of October?

विश्व मुस्कान दिवस हर साल अक्टूबर के पहले _____ को मनाया जाता है?

(a) Wednesday

(b) Thursday

(c) Friday

(d) Saturday

(e) Sunday

Ans. c

Sol. 4 October 2024 - World Smile Day

The world celebrates World Smile Day 2024 every year on the first Friday of October month, and this year the festival will be celebrated on October 4, 2024.

This is a special day to set a positive tone for both yourself and those around you.

Theme 2024 - Do an act of kindness

The World Smile Day spreads smiles, and fosters connections, positivity, and a wave of happiness. It inspires individuals, organisations, and communities to perform good deeds and celebrate the transformative power of a simple smile.

71. World Cotton Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व कपास दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 5 October

(b) 6 October

(c) 7 October

(d) 8 October

(e) 9 October

Ans. c

Sol. 7 October - World Cotton Day

World Cotton Day is celebrated every year on 7 October.

Objective - To raise awareness about the challenges faced by cotton farmers and the cotton industry worldwide.

Theme 2024 - Cotton for Good

The first World Cotton Day (WCD) event was initiated in Geneva and observed on October 7, 2019.

Cotton is mainly used in the textile industry, it is also important for animal feed, medical supplies, and making edible oil.

Currently, India is the second-largest cotton producer in the world, after China.

72. Indian Air Force Day (IAF) is observed every year on 8 October. This year marks the _____ anniversary of the IAF.

भारतीय वायु सेना दिवस (IAF) हर साल 8 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। इस साल IAF की _____ वर्षगांठ है।

- (a) 90th
- (b) 91st
- (c) 92nd
- (d) 93rd
- (e) 94th

Ans. c

Sol. 8 October - Indian Air Force Day

Indian Air Force Day is observed every year on 8 October.

This day is dedicated to honouring the servicemen and pilots who have sacrificed their lives for the nation and commemorating the establishment of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

This year marks the 92nd anniversary of the IAF.

Theme 2024 - Bharatiya Vayusena: Saksham, Sashakt aur Aatmnirbhar' (Potent, Powerful, and Self-Reliant)

The Indian Air Force, also known as Bharatiya Vayu Sena' was established in the country on October 8, 1932, by the British Empire.

The first operational squadron came into being on April 1, 1933, with six RAF-trained officers and 19 Havai Sepoys (air soldiers). The aircraft inventory consisted of four Westland Wapiti IIA army co-operation biplanes at Drigh Road as the "A" Flight nucleus of the planned No.1 (Army Co-operation) Squadron.

In January 1950, India became a Republic within the British Commonwealth and the Indian Air Force dropped its "Royal" prefix.

73. How much loan has been sanctioned by the Asian Development Bank to the Himachal Pradesh Sustainable and Inclusive Tourism Development Project in October 2024?

एशियाई विकास बैंक ने अक्टूबर 2024 में हिमाचल प्रदेश सतत एवं समावेशी पर्यटन विकास परियोजना के लिए कितना ऋण स्वीकृत किया है?

- (a) \$120 million
- (b) \$152 million
- (c) \$162 million
- (d) \$180 million
- (e) \$250 million

Ans. c

Sol. ADB grants \$162 mn loan for new infra, tourism boost in Himachal Pradesh

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of \$162 million to support tourism development in Himachal Pradesh.

The loan has been provided to finance the state government's Sustainable and Inclusive Tourism Development Project.

The state government's Sustainable and Inclusive Tourism Development Project aims to revive the tourism economy in the five districts—Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, and Shimla which were badly affected during the pandemic.

The loan will finance the promotion of heritage and cultural sites in the Mandi and Hamirpur districts and the restoration of the historic Naggar Castle in Kullu.

Upgrades to facilities along key travel routes in Kullu, Hamirpur, and Kangra are also part of the plan, focusing on incorporating environmentally friendly technologies such as solar-powered lighting and electric vehicles. These initiatives also aim to improve accessibility for the elderly, women, children, and people with disabilities.

Recent Loan approved by ADB

- India and ADB sign \$50 million **to improve water resources management, access to water, and community resilience to the effects of climate change in Meghalaya.**
- 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

74. In October 2024, which financial institution launched a new product called 'Uday', offering Small Ticket Loans Against Property (STLAP)?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, किस वित्तीय संस्थान ने 'उदय' नामक एक नया उत्पाद लॉन्च किया है, जो संपत्ति के खिलाफ लघु टिकट ऋण (STLAP) की पेशकश करता है?

- (a) Muthoot Finance

(b) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited

(c) Shriram Transport Finance Corporation Ltd.

(d) Kotak Mahindra Bank

(e) Arka Fincap Limited

Ans. e

Sol. Arka Fincap launches 'Uday' to boost MSME Growth with Small Ticket Loans
Arka Fincap Limited, a subsidiary of Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited (KOEL), has introduced a new product called 'Uday', offering Small Ticket Loans Against Property (STLAP).

Targeted at micro, small, and medium enterprise (MSME) owners, these loans will range from ₹10 lakh to ₹30 lakh.

The company aims to address the growing credit demands of small businesses in Tier II, III, and IV cities, providing crucial financial backing for their growth and expansion. 'Uday' will be initially rolled out in five important places in Tamil Nadu: Salem, Vellore, Tirupur, Porur, and Coimbatore.

This launch marks the start of a larger, pan-India push deeper into Bharat. Arka Fincap Limited has ambitious ambitions to expand the product's accessibility to MSMEs across the country, ensuring that small business owners in all regions may take advantage of this accessible and flexible lending solution.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Magma HDI General Insurance unveiled a **OneProtect**, a contemporary personal accident insurance product
- ICICI Bank and MakeMyTrip unveils **co-branded credit card for travel enthusiasts**
- Axis Bank's new economy group launches **Corporate Credit Card Suite** for startups
- HDFC Bank launches instant SIP via **SmartWealth app**
- IDBI Bank 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.
- Bank of Baroda Unveils Co-Branded Travel Debit Card in Collaboration with EaseMyTrip

75. Which Insurance company has unveiled a new deferred annuity plan, the Nishchit Pension, which is designed to provide a guaranteed lifelong income, allowing customers to streamline their retirement income and protect against any decline in long-term interest rates?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने एक नई आस्थगित वार्षिकी योजना, निश्चित पेंशन का अनावरण किया है, जो एक गारंटीकृत आजीवन आय प्रदान करने के लिए डिज़ाइन की गई है, जिससे ग्राहकों को अपनी सेवानिवृत्ति आय को सुव्यवस्थित करने और दीर्घकालिक ब्याज दरों में किसी भी गिरावट से बचाने की अनुमति मिलती है?

- (a) Reliance Nippon Life Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Go Digit General Insurance
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. a

Sol. Reliance Nippon Life Insurance unveils 'Nishchit Pension' to help Indians secure guaranteed long-term retirement income

Reliance Nippon Life Insurance Company Limited, a leading private life insurer, has unveiled a new deferred annuity plan, the Reliance Nippon Life Nishchit Pension, which is designed to provide a guaranteed lifelong income, allowing customers to streamline their retirement income and protect against any decline in long-term interest rates.

RNL Nishchit Pension solves significant retirement-related concerns such as establishing lifetime income guarantees, ensuring income for the last surviving couple, and leaving a legacy for future generations

RNL Nishchit Pension provides a lifelong rate guarantee for self and family, which is critical for good retirement planning.

Customers can choose their annuity start date by postponing payouts, as well as the frequency of their income payouts (monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or yearly) to meet their specific demands.

76. Which state government has launched the Sankalp initiative to tackle drug trafficking and support the rehabilitation of drug addicts in the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में मादक पदार्थों की तस्करी से निपटने और नशा करने वालों के पुनर्वास का समर्थन करने के लिए संकल्प पहल शुरू की है?

- (a) Gujrat
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Himachal Pradesh

Ans. e

Sol. Himachal Pradesh CM launches Sankalp Initiative to tackle drug menace

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has launched a drug eradication initiative 'Sankalp' that also aims to address drug trafficking and supporting rehabilitation efforts.

The Sankalp initiative was announced by the chief minister, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, at an event organised by Divya Jyoti Jagriti Sansthan in the state capital, Shimla.

About the Sankalp Initiative

- The state government will set up a state-level model of de-addiction and rehabilitation center under the Sankalp initiative at Kotla Barog in the Pachhad subdivision of the Sirmaur district.
- The model center will assist drug addicts in de-addiction and help them reintegrate into mainstream society.

About Himachal Pradesh

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

77. In October 2024, India has agreed to provide a currency swap facility of how much to Maldives ?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, भारत मालदीव को कितनी राशि की मुद्रा स्वैप सुविधा प्रदान करने पर सहमत हो गया है?

- (a) \$100 million
- (b) \$200 million
- (c) \$300 million
- (d) \$400 million
- (e) \$500 million

Ans. d

Sol. India to provide \$400 Million Credit Swap Facility to Maldives

India has extended support of 400 million dollars and a bilateral currency swap of 3,000 crore rupees to the Maldives.

The support will be instrumental in tackling the ongoing financial challenges faced by the Maldives.

Besides, the currency swap agreement, the two countries signed two MoUs including bilateral cooperation on preventing and combating corruption. Two MoUs were also renewed between the two countries on Capacity Building Programs for Maldivian judicial officers and in the field of Sports and Youth Affairs.

About Maldives

- **Capital** – Male

- **Currency** – Rufiya
- **President** - Mohamed Muizzu

78. Dipa Karmakar, who announced her retirement, belongs to which sport?

दीपा करमाकर, जिन्होंने अपने संन्यास की घोषणा की है, किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Cycling
- (b) Swimming
- (c) Gymnastic
- (d) Squash
- (e) Golf

Ans. c

Sol. Olympian Dipa Karmakar retires from Gymnastic

Olympian and Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Dipa Karmakar has announced her retirement from Gymnastics.

Dipa Karmakar, nicknamed 'Small Wonder,' was the first female Indian gymnast to establish India's name at the international level in the sport.

Dipa, who hails from Agartala, Tripura, holds the distinction of being the first Indian female gymnast to compete at the Olympics. Her only Summer Games appearance at Rio 2016 saw her narrowly miss a medal in the women's vault event.

She also has the distinction of being the first Indian woman to win a gymnastics medal at the Commonwealth Games. She won a bronze medal at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Dipa Karmakar is the first Indian to win a gold medal at an international gymnastics event. She won a gold medal in the women's vault at the 2018 Artistic Gymnastics World Cup in Mersin, Turkiye.

Dipa Karmakar became the first indian women gymnast to win a gold medal in the Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships. She won a gold medal in the Vault event at the 2024 Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships, held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Awards and Biography

- Dipa Karmakar was honoured with India's fourth-highest civilian award, Padma Shri in 2017.
- In 2016, she was awarded the country's highest sports award, the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (then the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award).
- In 2015, Dipa Karmakar was awarded the Arjuna Award.
- Dipa Karmakar: The Small Wonder - co-authored by Digvijay Singh Deo, Vimal Mohan and Dipa Karmakar Coach, Bishweshwar Nandi.

Recently Retired Players

- Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) - All forms of Cricket
- Luis Suarez (Uruguay) - National Football ⚽
- 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

79. Japan's parliament formally elected Shigeru Ishiba, head of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, as the country's new prime minister. Shigeru Ishiba as the _____ Prime Minister of Japan.

जापान की संसद ने सत्तारूढ़ लिबरल डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टी के प्रमुख शिगेरु इशिबा को औपचारिक रूप से देश का नया प्रधानमंत्री चुना। शिगेरु इशिबा जापान के _____ प्रधानमंत्री बने।

- (a) 100th
- (b) 101st
- (c) 102nd
- (d) 103rd
- (e) 104th

Ans. c

Sol. Shigeru Ishiba appointed as the 102nd PM of Japan

Japan's parliament elected Shigeru Ishiba, head of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, as the country's new prime minister.

Shigeru Ishiba as the 102nd Prime Minister of Japan.

The 67-year-old Shigeru Ishiba replaces Fumio Kishida, who was also from the same political party - the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)

The LDP has ruled Japan almost continuously since its formation in 1955.

Former Prime Minister Fumio Kishida resigned as the Prime Minister of Japan in September this year due to a series of political scandals.

Shigeru Ishiba has appointed Takeshi Iwaya as the new Foreign Minister of Japan.

About Japan

- **Capital** – Tokyo
- **Currency** – Yen
- **Prime Minister** - Shigeru Ishiba (replace Fumio Kishida)

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Mexico - Claudia Sheinbaum (first woman president of nation)

- President of Sri Lanka - Anura Kumara Disanayake; 9th (replace Ranil Wickremesinghe)
- PM of Jordan - Jafar Hassan
- President of Algeria - Abdelmadjid Tebboune
- PM of France - Michel Barnier
- PM of Thailand - Paetongtarn Shinawatra (youngest PM of country)

80. Who has been appointed as the new head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit?

बीसीसीआई की भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक इकाई का नया प्रमुख किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Arti Sarin

(b) Ajit Kumar Saxena

(c) Alok Ranjan

(d) Amit Garg

(e) Sharad Kumar

Ans. e

Sol. Retired IPS Sharad Kumar appointed new head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit. Retired IPS officer Sharad Kumar, who headed anti-terror organisation NIA for four years, has been appointed as the new chief of the BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit, bringing extensive experience to the role.

Hailing from Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh, the appointment of 68-year-old Kumar was done on October 1 by the cricketing body.

BCCI's ACU head has been appointed for a three-year term.

He is a 1979 batch IPS officer from the Haryana cadre and has had a distinguished career especially as the chief of the National Investigation Agency from 2013 to 2017.

He will take over from KK Mishra, also a former Haryana cadre IPS officer, who was appointed last year but did not complete his term due to unspecified reasons.

Recent Appointment

- **First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services** - Arti Sarin
- **CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)** - Ajit Kumar Saxena (additional charge)
- **Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** - Alok Ranjan
- **Chief of Hyderabad-based Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA)** - Amit Garg
- **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)

81. Who was elected as the Chairperson of the 77th session of the WHO's Regional Committee for Southeast Asia?

दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया के लिए डब्ल्यूएचओ की क्षेत्रीय समिति के 77वें सत्र के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया?

- (a) Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- (b) T Raja
- (c) S Jaishankar
- (d) Ruchika Kamboj
- (e) JP Nadda

Ans. e

Sol. JP Nadda elected as Chairperson of 77th Session of WHO Regional Committee Union Health Minister JP Nadda was elected Chairperson of the 77th session of WHO's Regional Committee for Southeast Asia.

The committee shapes WHO's health policies in the region.

The member nations include Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste.

The focus is on improving public health systems and addressing key epidemiological and demographic challenges.

About World Health Organization (WHO)

- **Formation** - 7 April 1948
- **Headquarters** - Geneva, Switzerland
- **First President** - Andrija Štampar
- **Director General** - Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)
- **Deputy Director General** - Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- **Member Countries** - 194

82. The Union Health Minister J P Nadda announced that, all TB patients will now receive nutritional support of _____ to _____ under Ni-Kshay Poshan Yojana (NPY) which aims to enhance support for patients and their household contacts, especially those with a BMI less than 18.5, through the introduction of Energy Dense Nutritional Supplementation (EDNS).

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जे पी नड्डा ने घोषणा की कि सभी टीबी रोगियों को अब नि-क्षय पोषण योजना (एनपीवाई) के अंतर्गत _____ से _____ तक की पोषण सहायता मिलेगी, जिसका उद्देश्य ऊर्जा सघन पोषण अनुपूरण (ईडीएनएस) की शुरुआत के माध्यम से रोगियों और उनके घरेलू संपर्कों, विशेष रूप से 18.5 से कम बीएमआई वाले लोगों के लिए सहायता बढ़ाना है।

- (a) Rs 1000; Rs 2000
- (b) Rs 2000; Rs 4000
- (c) Rs 3000; Rs 6000

(d) Rs 4000; Rs 8000**(e) Rs 5000; Rs 10000****Ans. c**

Sol. Health Minister JP Nadda announces enhanced nutrition support for TB patients
 Union Health Minister JP Nadda has announced several key initiatives aimed at enhancing nutrition support for TB patients and their household contacts.
 The monthly nutrition support under Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana has been doubled from the existing 500 rupees to 1000 rupees for all TB patients during the period of treatment.

The government has also decided to introduce energy-dense nutrition supplementation for all patients with BMI less than 18.5.

The government also decided to permit expansion of scope and coverage of Ni-Kshay Mitra initiative under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (PMTBMBA) including the family members of TB patients.

All TB patients will now receive nutritional support of 3,000 rupees to 6,000 rupees under Ni-Kshay Poshan Yojana (NPY). The enhancement of NPY support will benefit all 25 lakh TB patients annually and the introduction of Energy Dense Nutritional Supplementation (EDNS) would cover approximately 12 lakh underweight patients. EDNS will be provided to all eligible patients for the first two months of their treatment. This initiative will cost the government an additional 1,040 crores rupees, which will be shared between the central and state governments on a 60:40 basis. Ni-kshay Mitras will now provide food baskets to the household contacts of TB patients to improve their immunity. This initiative is expected to significantly reduce out-of-pocket expenses incurred by TB patients and their families.

3,202 crore rupees have been disbursed to 1.13 crore beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer under the Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana.

83. India's largest private sector lender HDFC Bank has approved 100% stake sale of subsidiary HDFC Education to Vama Sundari Investments in an all-cash deal amounting to how much crore. As per the agreement, the bank will sell 91% of its stake by October 31, 2024, and the remaining 9% before June 30, 2025, after which HDFC Edu will cease to be a subsidiary of the bank?

भारत के सबसे बड़े निजी क्षेत्र के ऋणदाता एचडीएफसी बैंक ने अपनी सहायक कंपनी एचडीएफसी एजुकेशन की 100% हिस्सेदारी वामा सुंदरी इन्वेस्टमेंट्स को कितने करोड़ रुपये के नकद सौदे में बेचने को मंजूरी दे दी है। समझौते के अनुसार, बैंक 31 अक्टूबर, 2024 तक अपनी 91% हिस्सेदारी और शेष 9% हिस्सेदारी 30 जून, 2025 से पहले बेचेगा, जिसके बाद एचडीएफसी एडु बैंक की सहायक कंपनी नहीं रहेगी?

(a) Rs 150 cr

- (b) Rs 100 cr
- (c) Rs 182 cr
- (d) Rs 192 cr
- (e) Rs 212 cr

Ans. d

Sol. HDFC Bank Divests 100% Stake in HDFC Edu for ₹192 Crore

India's largest private sector lender HDFC Bank has approved 100% stake sale of subsidiary HDFC Education to Vama Sundari Investments in an all-cash deal amounting to Rs 192 crore. The sale price is Rs. 9.60 per share.

It would divest 91% stake in HDFC Edu on or before October 31, 2024, and the remaining 9% stake will be divested before June 30, 2025. With this sale HDFC Edu would cease to be a subsidiary of the bank.

Vama Sundari Investments is a related party of HDFC Asset Management Company hence the sale of shares to Vama Sundari would be a related party transaction for the Bank.

HDFC Edu is in the business of providing services related to schools, higher education, vocational education and training, and supplemental education. It was incorporated in 2011 and has a total income of Rs 18.18 crore at the end of March 2024 and total assets of Rs 197.05 crore.

84. In October 2024, who among the following RBI Deputy Governor's tenure has been extended by one year?

अक्टूबर २०२४ में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन से आरबीआई डिप्टी गवर्नर का कार्यकाल एक साल के लिए बढ़ा दिया गया है?

- (a) Michael D Patra
- (b) M Rajeshwar Rao
- (c) Tavarana Rabi Sankar
- (d) J Swaminathan
- (e) Both b and d

Ans. b

Sol. Government extends tenure of RBI Deputy Governor for 1 year

The Central Government has extended the tenure of Mr M. Rajeshwar Rao as Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India with effect from the 9th of October. 2024.

The extension is for one year or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

This is the second one-year extension for Mr Rao, who was initially appointed as Deputy Governor in October 2020 for three years.

Mr. Rao will continue to look after the Department of Regulation, Department of Communication, Enforcement Department, Legal Department and Risk Monitoring Department.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Updated 17/06/24

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

85. World Habitat Day is celebrated every year on the first Monday of October. This year it was celebrated on 7 October. What is the theme of World Habitat Day?

विश्व पर्यावास दिवस हर साल अक्टूबर के पहले सोमवार को मनाया जाता है। इस साल यह 7 अक्टूबर को मनाया गया। विश्व पर्यावास दिवस का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Mind the Gap: Leave No One and Place Behind
- (b) Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world
- (c) Housing for All: A better Urban Future
- (d) Frontier Technologies as an innovative tool to transform waste to wealth
- (e) Engaging youth to build a better urban future

Ans. e

Sol. 7 October 2024 - World Habitat Day

World Habitat Day is celebrated every year on the first Monday of October. This year it was celebrated on 7 October.

The day serves as a powerful reminder that everyone has the right to a decent and safe place to live.

On this day, governments, communities and individuals are urged to work towards improving housing conditions, creating safe environments and making neighbourhoods safer.

Theme 2024 - Engaging youth to build a better urban future

World Habitat Day was first celebrated in 1985.

86. United States-based Scientists Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun have won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for which discovery?

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के वैज्ञानिक विक्टर एम्ब्रोस और गैरी रुवकुन ने किस खोज के लिए फिजियोलॉजी या मेडिसिन में 2024 का नोबेल पुरस्कार जीता है?

- (a) For the nucleoside base modification of messenger Ribonucleic Acid (mRNA) Vaccine
- (b) For their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch
- (c) For the discovery of Hepatitis C virus
- (d) For the discovery of microRNA and its role in gene regulation
- (e) For the discoveries concerning the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution.

Ans. d

Sol. Victor Ambros & Gary Ruvkun win Nobel medicine for microRNA discovery
Scientists Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun have won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their discovery of microRNA and its role in gene regulation.

The United States-based laureates discovered the new class of tiny RNA molecules, which play a crucial role in regulating gene activity.

Ambros conducted the research that led to his prize at Harvard University. He is currently a professor of natural science at the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School.

Ruvkun's research was performed at Massachusetts General Hospital and the Harvard Medical School, where he is a professor of genetics.

The winners for medicine are selected by the Nobel Assembly of Sweden's Karolinska Institute Medical University and receive a prize sum of 11 million Swedish crowns (\$1.1m).

Created in the will of Swedish dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel, the prizes have been awarded for breakthroughs in science, literature and peace since 1901, while economics is a later add.

87. World Post Day is celebrated annually on which day?

विश्व डाक दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 7 October
- (b) 8 October
- (c) 9 October
- (d) 10 October
- (e) 11 October

Ans. c

Sol. 9 October - World Post Day

World Post Day is celebrated annually on October 9 to highlights the significant role of the postal system in daily life, global communication, and economic development. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), established in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland, which paved the way for modern international mail exchange.

Theme 2024 - 150 years of enabling communication and empowering peoples across nations.

88. The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) Observatory was inaugurated by Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Secretary DAE & Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, at _____.

प्रमुख वायुमंडलीय चेरेंकोव प्रयोग (एमएसीई) वेधशाला का उद्घाटन डीएई सचिव और परमाणु ऊर्जा आयोग के अध्यक्ष डॉ. अजीत कुमार मोहंती द्वारा _____ में किया गया।

- (a) Hanle, Ladakh
- (b) Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir
- (c) Sri Nagar, Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Leh, Ladakh
- (e) Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir

Ans. a

Sol. DAE inaugurates MACE, Asia's Largest and World's Highest Imaging Cherenkov Observatory, at Hanle Ladakh

The Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) Observatory was inaugurated by Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Secretary DAE & Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, at Hanle, Ladakh

MACE is the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia. Located at an altitude of ~4,300 m, it is also the highest of its kind in the world.

The telescope is indigenously built by BARC with support from ECIL and other Indian industry partners.

The inaugural of MACE Observatory was a part of the Platinum Jubilee year celebrations of the DAE.

The MACE Observatory is a monumental achievement for India, placing our nation globally at the forefront of cosmic-ray research. This telescope will allow us to study high-energy gamma rays, paving the way for deeper understanding of the universe's most energetic events.

89. Who has launched the 'Humsafar Policy' in New Delhi to enhance convenience of travelling on National Highways and accelerate development of the Wayside Amenities?

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर यात्रा की सुविधा बढ़ाने और सड़क किनारे सुविधाओं के विकास में तेजी लाने के लिए नई दिल्ली में 'हमसफर नीति' किसने शुरू की है?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Nitin Gadkari
- (c) Atishi
- (d) VK Saxena
- (e) both c and d

Ans. b

Sol. Nitin Gadkari unveils 'Humsafar Policy' for Onboarding Service Providers
Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari launched the 'Humsafar Policy' in New Delhi to enhance convenience of travelling on National Highways and accelerate development of the Wayside Amenities in presence of Shri Ajay Tamta, Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways.

This scheme will help in facilitation of a smooth, safe, and pleasant journey for users. It will be environment friendly and has been prepared to keep the ecology and cleanliness in perspective.

The policy aims to provide a comprehensive framework to ensure that commuters have access to standardized, well-maintained, and hygienic facilities by onboarding both existing and upcoming service providers along National Highways and Expressways. Existing and upcoming service providers under the categories of Eateries, Fuel Station and Trauma Centres will be eligible, to register under the Humsafar Policy.

The policy aims to benefit all stakeholders. Registered service providers will benefit from waiver of fees for renewal for existing access permission and will be provided space on National Highways to put up signages of their establishment to increase visibility.

In addition, the service providers will be featured on NHAI 'Rajmarg Yatra', mobile app to boost their online visibility.

The 'Humsafar' policy will also benefit commuters by enabling access to standardized, well maintained and hygienic facilities. Commuters will be able to find details of relevant service providers near their location instantly on the 'Rajmarg Yatra' app.

The app will also empower commuters to report issues and rate the service provided and facilities. Registered service providers will be able to avail a waiver of renewal fees for access permissions, if they maintain an average rating of 3 or higher.

90. Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd delivered survey vessel named _____ to the Indian Navy, that is the second in a series of four such vessels being constructed by GRSE, with the first delivered to the Navy 10 months ago in December 2023.

गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एंड इंजीनियर्स (जीआरएसई) लिमिटेड ने भारतीय नौसेना को _____ नामक सर्वेक्षण पोत सौंपा, जो जीआरएसई द्वारा निर्मित चार ऐसे जहाजों की श्रृंखला में दूसरा है, पहला 10 महीने पहले दिसंबर 2023 में नौसेना को दिया गया था।

- (a) INS Dharti
- (b) INS Sukanya
- (c) INS Sindhu
- (d) INS Disha
- (e) INS Nirdeshak

Ans. e

Sol. GRSE delivers second survey vessel INS Nirdeshak to Indian Navy
Defence PSU Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd delivered survey vessel INS Nirdeshak to the Indian Navy.

INS Nirdeshak is the second in a series of four such vessels being constructed by GRSE, with the first delivered to the Navy 10 months ago in December 2023.

These are the largest survey vessels for the Indian Navy to be built in the country.

At 110 metres long, INS Nirdeshak will join INS Sandhayak, the first Survey Vessel Large (SVL) delivered by GRSE, to keep the country's naval forces equipped with the latest survey data, which is essential for operations.

The Sandhayak-class SVLs can undertake surveys of maritime limits and collect oceanographic and geographical data for defence applications, which adds muscle to India's maritime capabilities.

91. John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton have been awarded the Physics Nobel Prize 2024 for which achievement?

जॉन हॉपफील्ड और जेफ्री हिंटन को किस उपलब्धि के लिए 2024 का भौतिकी नोबेल पुरस्कार दिया गया है?

- (a) for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter
- (b) for experiments with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneering quantum information science

(c) for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming

(d) *for foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks*

(e) for the discovery that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the general theory of relativity

Ans. d

Sol. John Hopfield, Geoffrey Hinton awarded for Nobel Prize in Physics 2024

The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden, has chosen John J.

Hopfield and Geoffrey E. Hinton for the Nobel Prize in Physics for the year 2024.

American John Hopfield and British-Canadian Geoffrey Hinton were chosen for their pioneering work in the development of artificial intelligence (AI). They have been honoured for their discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks.

Hopfield, a professor at Princeton University in the U.S., is credited with developing the Hopfield network, a type of recurrent neural network. Its neurons learn and process information based on Hebbian learning — an idea in neuropsychology that, if one neuron repeatedly triggers a second, the connection between the two becomes stronger.

The rules of a Hopfield network are based on the physics of a group of atoms, each producing its small magnetic field. The processes the network performs to complete an incomplete pattern or to denoise an image are the same ones that, by analogy, would reduce the total energy of the magnetic atoms.

Hinton, a professor at the University of Toronto, and his peers adapted another network called the Boltzmann machine to perform cognitive tasks, building on the principles of the Hopfield network among others.

He made a breakthrough in the 2000s by developing a learning algorithm for a modified ANN called a restricted Boltzmann machine (RBM). A layer of neurons could be trained as an RBM and multiple layers could be stacked, creating the first ANNs capable of deep learning.

Both the winners will share the prize money of 11 million Swedish kroner, and they will be conferred the prize on 10 December 2024 in Stockholm.

About Machine learning

- Machine learning is a branch of computer science that uses data and algorithms to enable artificial intelligence to mimic the way humans learn and continuously improve its accuracy.

About Artificial intelligence

- Artificial intelligence is a technology that enables computers and machines to simulate human learning, comprehension, problem-solving, decision-making, creativity, and autonomy.

Indian/Indian origin scientists to win Physics Nobel Prize

- The first Indian who won the Nobel Prize in Physics was Sir Chandrashekhara Venkata Raman (C.V. Raman) in 1930.
- In 1983, Indian -American Subhramanayam Chandrashekhar got the Nobel Prize for Physics.

92. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has proposed to sell its operations to Bank Dhofar as part of rationalising a foreign operation. The bank has accorded approval for accepting the offer to acquire the banking business of operations by Bank Dhofar on a going concern basis. Bank Dhofar belongs to which of the following countries?

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा (BoB) ने विदेशी परिचालन को तर्कसंगत बनाने के तहत बैंक ढोफर को अपना परिचालन बेचने का प्रस्ताव दिया है। बैंक ने चालू वित्त वर्ष के आधार पर बैंक ढोफर द्वारा परिचालन के बैंकिंग कारोबार को अधिग्रहित करने के प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करने की मंजूरी दे दी है। बैंक ढोफर निम्नलिखित में से किस देश से संबंधित है?

- (a) UAE
- (b) Iran
- (c) Qatar
- (d) Oman
- (e) Bangladesh

Ans. d

Sol. BoB to sell Oman operation to Bank Dhofar as part of rationalisation
State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) has proposed to sell its Oman operation to Bank Dhofar as part of rationalisation of foreign operation.

The bank has accorded approval for accepting the offer for acquisition of the banking business of Bank's Oman territory operations by Bank Dhofar on a going concern basis.

The total business of BoB operation in the country was 113.35 million Omani Rial while the net worth stood at 25.54 million Omani Rial.

About Bank of Baroda (BOB)

- **Founded** - 1908
- **Headquarters** - Vadodara, Gujarat
- **MD & CEO** - Debadatta Chand
- **Chairman** – Hasmukh Adhia

- **Tagline** - India's International Bank
- Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank merger came into effect on 1 April 2019

93. The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has partnered with which bank to provide a \$500 million loan to help develop a blue finance market and scale up financing of green projects in India?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्त निगम (आईएफसी) ने भारत में ब्लू फाइनेंस मार्केट विकसित करने और हरित परियोजनाओं के वित्तपोषण को बढ़ाने में मदद करने के लिए 500 मिलियन डॉलर का ऋण प्रदान करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) Yes Bank
- (e) Canara Bank

Ans. b

Sol. IFC partners with Axis Bank to provide \$500 million climate loan in India

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has partnered with Axis Bank to provide a \$500 million loan to help develop a blue finance market and scale up financing of green projects in India.

This is IFC's first blue investment in India and the first blue transaction by a financial institution in the country.

Blue loans are financing instruments that raise and earmark funds for investments such as water and wastewater management, reduction of marine plastic pollution, restoration of marine ecosystems, sustainable shipping, eco-friendly tourism, and offshore renewable energy.

This transaction is also the largest green financing by IFC in the country. The funding will enable Axis Bank to expand its climate finance portfolio.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- NCRTC and Airtel Payments Bank Launch Co-Branded National Common Mobility Cards to Enhance Commuter Convenience
- Federal Bank join hands with Bhashini to boost Chatbot Feddy with Vernacular Language Support
- Bandhan Life partners with Bandhan Bank to Strengthen Insurance Business
- SBI General Insurance joins hand with BLS E-Services to Streamline Access to Insurance Across India
- ICICI Bank partners with PFRDA to launch NPS Vatsalya, a pension account for minors

94. Who has been elected as the president of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for the year 2024-25?

वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए भारतीय विज्ञापन एजेंसी संघ (AAAI) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Sharad Kumar
- (b) KK Mishra
- (c) Ajit Kumar Saxena
- (d) Prasanth Kumar
- (e) Alok Ranjan

Ans. d

Sol. India's Prasanth Kumar re-elected as president of AAAI

GroupM Media India, the Indian arm of the US-based media investment group's chief executive officer (CEO) – South Asia, Prasanth Kumar, has been re-elected as the president of the Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for the year 2024-25.

The AAAI is a not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed trade association of advertising agencies, formed in 1945.

Prasanth Kumar is a GroupM veteran with over two decades of experience in advertising, having worked in other organisations as well.

He has previously worked at Pepsi, The Hindu, The Media Edge, and McCann Erickson before joining GroupM. He also served as vice-president of AAAI during 2020-22.

Recent Appointment

- **Head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit** - Sharad Kumar (replace KK Mishra)
- **First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services** - Arti Sarin
- **CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)** - Ajit Kumar Saxena (additional charge)
- **Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** -Alok Ranjan

95. Who has been appointed as the Vice Chief of Air Staff?

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

- (a) Arti Saren
- (b) Amar Preet Singh
- (c) Amit Mohan Prasad
- (d) Rajwinder Singh Bhatti
- (e) SP Dharkar

Ans. e

Sol. Air Marshal SP Dharkar appointed as the next IAF Vice Chief

Air Marshal SP Dharkar, a distinguished fighter pilot, has been appointed as the next Vice Chief of Air Staff.

He will succeed Air Marshal AP Singh, who is set to become the Chief of Air Staff. With more than 3,600 flying hours, Air Marshal Dharkar brings extensive experience to the position.

He is an alumnus of the Rashtriya Indian Military College in Dehradun, the National Defence Academy in Pune, the Defence Services Staff College in Wellington, and the Air War College in the United States.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services** - Arti Sarin
- **Chief of Indian Air Force** - Amar Preet Singh (replace V.R. Chaudhari)
- **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

96. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company for a five-year term?

पांच साल के कार्यकाल के लिए चोलामंडलम इन्वेस्टमेंट एंड फाइनेंस कंपनी के प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Aviral Jain
- (b) Ram Singh
- (c) Ravindra Kumar Kunda
- (d) Praveen Gupta
- (e) Nagesh Kumar

Ans. c

Sol. Ravindra Kunda takes charge as Cholamandalam MD

Ravindra Kumar Kunda has been appointed as the Managing Director of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company for a five-year term.

Kundu's journey at Cholamandalam began in 2000 when he joined as a Senior Executive in Marketing. Over the years, he progressed through various leadership roles, overseeing critical functions such as credit, collections, and business operations.

With over 36 years of experience in the automobile and financial services sectors, Kundu has been a key figure in the company, serving as Executive Director since January 2020.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - M. Rajeshwar Rao (reappointment for 1 year)

- **Executive Director of RBI** - Aviral Jain
- **New Members of Monetary Policy Committee** - Ram Singh, Saugata Bhattacharya, Nagesh Kumar (replace Ashima Goyal, Shashanka Bhide, Jayanth Varma)
- **MD & CEO for IndusInd Bank** - Sumant Kathpalia (reappointment for 3 years)
- **Chairman of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank** - Parveen Kumar Gupta

97. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has granted approval for transactions including the acquisition of _____ of the total paid-up share capital of JM Financial Credit Solutions Limited (JMFCSL) by JM Financial Limited (JMFL).

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (सीसीआई) ने जेएम फाइनेंशियल लिमिटेड (जेएमएफएल) द्वारा जेएम फाइनेंशियल क्रेडिट सॉल्यूशंस लिमिटेड (जेएमएफसीएसएल) की कुल चुकता शेयर पूंजी के _____ के अधिग्रहण सहित अन्य लेनदेन को मंजूरी दे दी है।

- (a) 22.99%
- (b) 32.99%
- (c) 42.99%
- (d) 52.99%
- (e) 62.99%

Ans. c

Sol. CCI approves acquisition of paid up share capital of JM Financial Credit Solutions Limited by JM Financial Limited

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has granted approval for transactions including the acquisition of 42.99 per cent of the total paid-up share capital of JM Financial Credit Solutions Limited (JMFCSL) by JM Financial Limited (JMFL).

And the acquisition of 71.79 per cent of the total paid-up share capital of JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (JMFARC) by JMFCSL.

According to CCI, this proposed combination involves simultaneous acquisitions aimed at strengthening JM Financial's foothold in the financial sector.

JM Financial Limited, as the operating and holding company of the JM Financial Group, plays a crucial role in providing integrated and diversified financial services.

JM Financial Credit Solutions Limited, a subsidiary of JMFL, is classified as a systemically important non-deposit-taking Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC). Registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), JMFCSL is categorised as a middle-layer NBFC, primarily engaged in wholesale lending activities, with a focus on real estate and corporate financing.

98. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth more than Rs 7600 crore in which state through video conference in October 2024?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने अक्टूबर 2024 में वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंस के माध्यम से किस राज्य में 7600 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की विभिन्न विकास परियोजनाओं की आधारशिला रखी?

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

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi laid foundation stone for various development projects in Maharashtra worth over Rs 7600 crore

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for various development projects in Maharashtra worth over Rs 7600 crore via video conference. The projects include the foundation stone laying of the upgradation of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport, Nagpur with a total estimated project cost of around Rs 7000 crore.

The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the New Integrated Terminal Building at Shirdi Airport worth over Rs 645 crore. It will provide world-class facilities and amenities for the religious tourists coming to Shirdi.

In line with his commitment to ensuring affordable and accessible healthcare for all, the Prime Minister launched the operationalization of 10 Government Medical Colleges, in Maharashtra located at Mumbai, Nashik, Jalna, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Buldhana, Washim, Bhandara, Hingoli and Ambernath (Thane). While enhancing the undergraduate and postgraduate seats, the colleges will also offer specialized tertiary healthcare to the people.

In line with his vision to position India as the 'Skill Capital of the World', PM also inaugurated the Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) Mumbai, with an aim to create an industry-ready workforce with cutting-edge technology and hands-on training. Established under a Public-Private Partnership model, it is a collaboration between the Tata Education and Development Trust and Gol.

Further, the Prime Minister inaugurated the Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) of Maharashtra. VSK will provide students, teachers, and administrators with access to crucial academic and administrative data through live chatbots such as Smart Upasthiti, Swadhyay among others. It will offer high-quality insights to schools to manage resources effectively, strengthen ties between, parents and the state, and

deliver responsive support. It will also supply curated instructional resources to enhance teaching practices and student learning.

99. Where is the National Maritime Museum Complex being set up?

राष्ट्रीय समुद्री संग्रहालय परिसर कहाँ स्थापित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) Lothal, Gujarat
- (b) Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Surat, Gujarat
- (e) Mumbai, Maharashtra

Ans. a

Sol. Cabinet Approves National Maritime Heritage Complex and Border Roads

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved two major infrastructure projects that highlight the government's focus on both heritage preservation and border area development.

The first project is the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat, while the second focuses on improving road infrastructure in the border areas of Rajasthan and Punjab.

Development of National Maritime Heritage Complex, Lothal, Gujarat

- The Cabinet has given the nod for the development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.
- The project, designed to celebrate India's rich maritime history, will be executed in phases.
- The first phase, which is already under construction with over 60 per cent progress, is expected to be completed by 2025.
- The total development of the NMHC will include world-class facilities, including multiple galleries showcasing naval artifacts and a replica of the ancient Lothal township, a major Indus Valley port city.
- The NMHC aims to highlight India's 4,500-year-old maritime heritage, drawing in tourists, researchers, and cultural organisations. The complex will be one of the world's largest maritime museums, reinforcing India's historical significance in naval trade and exploration.

Road Infrastructure in Rajasthan and Punjab Border Areas

- The Cabinet has sanctioned the construction of 2,280 kilometres of roads in the border areas of Rajasthan and Punjab, with an investment of Rs 4,406 crore. This project is part of a broader strategy to improve infrastructure in the nation's border areas.

- The new roads will not only enhance road and telecom connectivity but also improve access to essential services like water supply, healthcare, and education.

100. The Reserve Bank of India decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.50 per cent for the _____ time in a row in October 2024.

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने अक्टूबर 2024 में लगातार _____ बार नीतिगत रेपो दर को 6.50 प्रतिशत पर अपरिवर्तित रखने का निर्णय लिया।

- (a) Ninth
- (b) Tenth
- (c) Eleventh
- (d) Twelfth
- (e) Eighth

Ans. b

Sol. Repo rate remains unchanged at 6.50% for tenth time in a row

The Reserve Bank of India decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.50 per cent for the tenth time in a row.

Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains at 6.25 percent and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75 per cent. The RBI has maintained status quo on benchmark interest rate since February 2023.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) also decided to change the monetary policy stance to 'neutral' and to remain unambiguously focused on a durable alignment of inflation with the target, while supporting growth.

These decisions are in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4 per cent within a band of plus or minus 2 per cent, while supporting growth.

The RBI statement issued also mentioned that the real gross domestic product (GDP) registered a growth of 6.7 per cent in the first quarter of financial year 2024-25, driven by private consumption and investment.

The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled for 4th to 6th of December 2024.

RBI Current Policy Rate are as under

- Policy Repo Rate – 6.50%
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) - 6.25%
- Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) - 6.75%
- Bank Rate - 6.75%
- Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35%
- Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) – 4.50%
- Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) – 18%

101. Renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata passed away recently at the age of 86. In which year he was awarded India's second highest civilian honour?

प्रसिद्ध उद्योगपति और परोपकारी रतन टाटा का हाल ही में 86 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्हें किस वर्ष भारत के दूसरे सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान से सम्मानित किया गया था?

- (a) 2010
- (b) 2008
- (c) 2006
- (d) 2014
- (e) 2000

Ans. b

Sol. Doyen of Indian industry Ratan Tata passes away

Renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata passed away at the age of 86.

In 2008, he received the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian honour in

India, after receiving the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian honour in 2000.

He joined Tata in 1961, where he worked on the shop floor of Tata Steel. He later

succeeded J R D Tata as chairman of Tata Sons upon the latter's retirement in 1991.

Under his tenure the Tata Group acquired Tetley, Jaguar Land Rover, and Corus, in an attempt to turn Tata from a largely India-centric group into a global business.

102. World Mental Health Day is observed every year on October 10. What is the theme of World Mental Health Day 2024?

विश्व मानसिक स्वास्थ्य दिवस हर साल 10 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व मानसिक स्वास्थ्य दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Mental health is a universal human right
- (b) Make mental health & well-being for all a global priority
- (c) Mental Health in an unequal world
- (d) Move for mental health: Increased investment in mental health
- (e) Mental Health At Work

Ans. e

Sol. 10 October - World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on October 10.

This day aims to increase understanding, dispel misconceptions, and encourage mental wellness support.

Theme 2024 - Mental Health At Work

World Mental Health Day was founded in 1992 by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), led by Deputy Secretary General Richard Hunter.

This was first observed on October 10th when 12 countries participated. The goal of this day is to spread awareness, reduce stigma related to mental health and mobilise global supports

103. How many seats have been won by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the 2024 Haryana legislative election?

2024 के हरियाणा विधानसभा चुनाव में भारतीय जनता पार्टी (भाजपा) ने कितनी सीटें जीती हैं?

(a) 37

(b) 48

(c) 51

(d) 40

(e) 54

Ans. b

Sol. BJP Sweeps Haryana, NC & Cong alliance wins J&K Assembly election

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was swept back to power for the historic third consecutive time in Haryana. In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the National Conference-led alliance secured the majority to form a government. For the first time, an election was held to constitute a new legislative assembly in Jammu and Kashmir after its status was changed from a state to a Union Territory in 2019.

The BJP won 48 seats, while the main opposition party, Congress, won 37 seats. The Indian Lok Dal won 2 seats, while independents won 3 seats.

Since the formation of the Haryana state on 1 November 1966, no party has been able to win three consecutive legislative elections in the state.

BJP became the first political party in the history of the state to be voted back to power for the third consecutive time. It won the 2014, 2019 and 2024 legislative assembly elections.

BJP first came to power in Haryana in 2014 when it secured 47 seats in the 90-member assembly. In the 2019 legislative assembly election, BJP failed to secure a majority on its own with 40 seats. It formed a coalition government in the state in alliance with Dushyant Chautala's Jananayaka Janata party (JJP).

Out of the 90 seats that went to poll in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the National Conference-led alliance won 49 seats. The National Conference won 42 seats, Congress 6, and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) 1 seat.

104. In October 2024, the central government released tax devolution of over ₹ 1,78,173 to the state governments as against the normal monthly devolution of

₹89,086.50 crore. Which state has received the largest chunk of tax devolution of 31,962 crore rupees?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, केंद्र सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को ₹89,086.50 करोड़ के सामान्य मासिक हस्तांतरण के मुकाबले ₹1,78,173 से अधिक का कर हस्तांतरण जारी किया। किस राज्य को 31,962 करोड़ रुपये का सबसे बड़ा कर हस्तांतरण प्राप्त हुआ है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Madhya Pradesh
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Ans. a

Sol. Govt releases advance instalment of Rs 1.78 lk cr for state govts amid festive season

The central government released tax devolution of over ₹ 1,78,173 to state government as against the normal monthly devolution of ₹89,086.50 crore.

It includes one advanced installment, in addition to the regular installment due in October 2024.

According to the Finance Ministry, an advance installment was released in view of the upcoming festive season and to enable states to accelerate capital spending and finance their development and welfare-related expenditures.

Uttar Pradesh received the largest chunk of tax devolution of 31,962 crore rupees, followed by Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

105. In October 2024, the government announced the establishment of _____ new ESIC Medical Colleges at various locations in the country.

अक्टूबर 2024 में, सरकार ने देश में विभिन्न स्थानों पर _____ नए ईएसआईसी मेडिकल कॉलेजों की स्थापना की घोषणा की।

- (a) 5
- (b) 8
- (c) 10
- (d) 15
- (e) 20

Ans. c

Sol. Govt to set up 10 new ESIC medical colleges, extend unemployment allowance

The government will set up 10 new ESIC medical colleges and extend the unemployment allowance scheme for ESI Corporation members until June 2026.

Labour & Employment Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya at a meeting of ESI Corporation here announced several key decisions for further strengthening the infrastructure and medical facilities of ESIC.

The establishment of 10 New ESIC Medical Colleges across various locations in the country. This decision will support the announcement made by Prime Minister during the Independence Day (2024) speech of creating new 75000 medical seats in the next 5 years.

He has given an extension to Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for a period of another two years starting July 1, 2024, upto June 30, 2026.

The scheme introduced in 2018 intends to provide support in the form of an Unemployment Allowance during the period when an insured person searches for a new engagement for earnings.

Besides, it was also decided to provide medical care to ESIC beneficiaries under a convergence program of ESIC with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) on pan India basis There shall not be any expenditure limit for insured persons of ESIC in empanelled hospitals under PMJAY.

106. Diplomat Sanjeev Kumar Singla has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to which country?

राजनयिक संजीव कुमार सिंगला को किस देश में भारत का अगला राजदूत नियुक्त किया गया है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Sanjeev Kr Singla appointed as India's next Ambassador to France

Diplomat Sanjeev Kumar Singla has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to France.

An Indian Foreign Service officer of batch 1997, Singla presently serves as the Ambassador of India to Israel. His contributions to shaping India's foreign policy towards Israel have been described as significant.

Singla handled sensitive matters, particularly the complex Israel-Palestine conflict, with caution and diplomacy.

His careful approach to these issues ensured that India maintained balanced relations in the region during volatile times.

Recent Appointment in Foreign

- Ravindra appointed as India's next Ambassador to Iceland
- Arun Goel 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

107. Who has been appointed as Managing Director (MD) of Nestlé India, effective August 1, 2025?

1 अगस्त 2025 से नेस्ले इंडिया के प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Prashanth Kumar
- (b) Sharad Kumar
- (c) Arti Sarin
- (d) Manish Tiwary
- (e) Alok Ranjan

Ans. d

Sol. Manish Tiwary appointed as MD of Nestlé India Limited

Manish Tiwary, former head of Amazon India, has been appointed as the Managing Director of Nestlé India Limited.

His tenure will begin on 1st August 2025, following the retirement of the company's current Chairman and Managing Director, Suresh Narayanan, who will step down on 31st July 2025.

This transition comes as the current chairman and managing director, Suresh Narayanan, prepares to retire after a 26-year tenure with the Nestlé group.

Tiwary brings nearly three decades of diverse experience to the role, currently serving as a director at Amazon Digital Services and More Consumer Brands.

Recent Appointment

- **President of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for 2024-25** - Prasanth Kumar
- **Head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit** - Sharad Kumar (replace KK Mishra)
- **First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services** - Arti Sarin

- **CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)** - Ajit Kumar Saxena (additional charge)
- **Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** -Alok Ranjan

108. Kais Saied has been re-elected as the president of Tunisia for the second time. What is the term of the President of Tunisia?

कैस सैयद को दूसरी बार ट्यूनीशिया का राष्ट्रपति चुना गया है। ट्यूनीशिया के राष्ट्रपति का कार्यकाल कितना होता है?

- (a) 3 years
- (b) 4 years
- (c) 5 years
- (d) 6 years
- (e) 8 years

Ans. c

Sol. Kais Saied reelected President of Tunisia for a second 5-year term

Tunisian President Kais Saied has been re-elected for the second time for a five-year term.

The Independent High Authority for Elections of Tunisia (ISIE) announced the election result, with President Saied securing 90.7 per cent of the votes polled.

The Presidential election was marked by a very low voter turnout of 28.8 per cent.

This was the lowest voter turnout in an election since the Jasmine Revolution of 2011, which overthrew the dictator Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali's government and introduced democracy.

About Tunisia

- Capital- Tunis
- Currency- Tunisian dinar (TND)
- President- Kais Saied
- Prime Minister - Kamel Madour
- Official language- Arabic

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Mexico - Claudia Sheinbaum (first woman president of nation)
- PM of Japan - Shigeru Ishiba (replace Fumio Kishida)
- President of Sri Lanka - Anura Kumara Dissanayake;9th (replace Ranil Wickremesinghe)
- PM of Jordan - Jafar Hassan
- President of Algeria - Abdelmadjid Tebboune

109. After the success of Chandrayaan-3 in August 2023, India's National Space Commission (NSC) has approved a new lunar mission, called the Lunar Polar

Exploration Mission (Lupex). This mission is a partnership between India's space agency ISRO and _____ and it will focus on exploring the Moon's resources, especially water at the lunar south pole.

अगस्त 2023 में चंद्रयान-3 की सफलता के बाद, भारत के राष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष आयोग (NSC) ने एक नए चंद्र मिशन को मंजूरी दी है, जिसे लूनर पोलर एक्सप्लोरेशन मिशन (लुपेक्स) कहा जाता है। यह मिशन भारत की अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी इसरो और _____ के बीच एक साझेदारी है और यह चंद्रमा के संसाधनों, विशेष रूप से चंद्र दक्षिणी ध्रुव पर पानी की खोज पर ध्यान केंद्रित करेगा।

- (a) Japan's space agency JAXA
- (b) Russia's space agency Roscomos
- (c) USA's space agency NASA
- (d) France's space agency CNES
- (e) SpaceX

Ans. a

Sol. National Space Commission approves India's Fifth Lunar Mission 'Lupex'
After the success of Chandrayaan-3 in August 2023, India's National Space Commission (NSC) has approved a new lunar mission, called the Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (Lupex).

This mission is a partnership between India's space agency ISRO and Japan's space agency JAXA, and it will focus on exploring the Moon's resources, especially water at the lunar south pole.

The collaborative moon expedition, set to touch down at the precise southern tip of the moon (90-degree latitude), is focused on exploring the moon for water and other valuable resources.

In this mission, JAXA (Japan) will build the rover and the rocket, while ISRO (India) will build the lander that will carry the rover to the Moon's surface.

The Lupex rover will be about 350 kg in weight, much larger than the Pragyan rover from Chandrayaan-3, which weighed just 26 kg.

Lupex's information will help plan future missions to the Moon, including those that may bring lunar samples back to Earth. It is also part of India's larger plan to send astronauts to the Moon by 2040.

Objectives of the Lupex Mission -

- The main goal of the Lupex mission is to study water and other important resources on the Moon.
- Scientists want to understand how much water is present, where it is located, and whether it is just on the surface or also beneath the Moon's soil, known as regolith.

How long will the Mission Last?

- Lupex is designed to operate for up to 100 days on the Moon's surface. This is a longer time compared to previous lunar missions, allowing the mission to gather more information.
- It will explore areas that are permanently shadowed places that sunlight never reaches—using special tools for drilling and on-site experiments.

110. The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved the continuation of the universal supply of Fortified Rice under all schemes of the Government including Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) upto _____.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने प्रधानमंत्री गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना (पीएमजीकेएवाई) सहित सरकार की सभी योजनाओं के तहत फोर्टिफाइड चावल की सार्वभौमिक आपूर्ति को _____ तक जारी रखने की मंजूरी दे दी है।

- (a) March 2026
- (b) December 2026
- (c) April 2027
- (d) December 2028
- (e) April 2029

Ans. d

Sol. Cabinet approves supply of fortified rice under welfare schemes till Dec 2028 at cost of Rs 17,082 cr

The Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved the continuation of the universal supply of Fortified Rice under all schemes of the Government including Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and Other Welfare Schemes etc. in its present form, from July 2024 and upto December 2028.

The rice fortification initiative will continue as a central sector initiative with 100% funding by the Government of India as part of PMGKAY (Food Subsidy), thus providing a unified institutional mechanism for implementation.

Food fortification has been used globally as a safe and effective measure to address anaemia and, micronutrient malnutrition in the vulnerable population.

Rice is an ideal vehicle for supplying micronutrients in the Indian Context as 65% of India's population consumes rice as a staple food. Rice fortification involves the addition of Fortified Rice Kernels (FRK) enriched with micronutrients (Iron, Folic Acid, Vitamin B12) as standards prescribed by FSSAI regular rice.

111. The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has announced the integration of the which of the following app with DigiLocker- India's Digital Wallet, that aims to provide citizens with seamless access to a wide range of

government services bringing greater convenience and allowing users to manage multiple services through a single platform in October 2024?

राष्ट्रीय ई-गवर्नेंस डिवीजन (NeGD) ने अक्टूबर 2024 में डिजिलॉकर-भारत के डिजिटल वॉलेट के साथ निम्नलिखित में से किस ऐप को एकीकृत करने की घोषणा की है, जिसका उद्देश्य नागरिकों को अधिक सुविधा लाते हुए सरकारी सेवाओं की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला तक सहज पहुंच प्रदान करना और उपयोगकर्ताओं को एक ही मंच के माध्यम से कई सेवाओं का प्रबंधन करने की अनुमति देना है?

- (a) UMANG
- (b) mAadhaar
- (c) MyGov.in
- (d) cVIGIL
- (e) ePathshala

Ans. a

Sol. DigiLocker Partners with UMANG: Unlock Seamless Access to Government Services

The National e-Governance Division has announced the integration of the UMANG app with DigiLocker to provide citizens seamless access to a wide range of government services.

This collaboration will allow users to manage multiple services through a single platform.

The UMANG app is accessible to all Android users, and its services can be accessed through the DigiLocker app.

About DigiLocker

- DigiLocker is a flagship initiative under the Digital India program aimed at providing secure cloud-based storage of essential documents.
- The UMANG app provides a single platform for all Indian citizens to access pan-India e-government services ranging from central to local government bodies.

112. David Baker was awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for which of his achievements?

डेविड बेकर को उनकी किस उपलब्धि के लिए 2024 का रसायन विज्ञान का नोबेल पुरस्कार दिया गया?

- (a) For protein structure prediction
- (b) For the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots
- (c) For the development of click chemistry
- (d) For computational protein design
- (e) For the development of asymmetric organocatalysis

Ans. d

Sol. David Baker, Demis Hassabis & John Jumper win Nobel Prize 2024 for Chemistry
The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, has chosen David Baker, Demis Hassabis, and John M. Jumper for the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

American David Baker was honoured for his work on 'computational protein design'.
British Demis Hassabi and American John M. Jumper were honoured for their work in predicting protein structures from their amino acid sequences.

The cash prize of 11 million kroner will be shared among the three winners. Half of the prize will go to David Baker, and the other half will be equally shared between Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper.

The award will be conferred to them in a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, on 10 December 2024.

Indian/Indian origin scientists to win Chemistry Nobel Prize

The Indian-born Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, who holds dual nationality of Britain and the United States, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 2009.

Madame Marie Curie was the first woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911 for discovering polonium and radium.

113. Which IIT has introduced a new device for the early detection of breast cancer, specifically designed to help women in rural and remote areas?

किस आईआईटी ने स्तन कैंसर का शीघ्र पता लगाने के लिए एक नया उपकरण पेश किया है, जिसे विशेष रूप से ग्रामीण और दूरदराज के क्षेत्रों में महिलाओं की मदद के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है?

- (a) IIT Guwahati
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Indore
- (d) IIT Bhubaneswar
- (e) IIT Roorkee

Ans. c

Sol. IIT Indore launches Affordable Device for Early Breast Cancer Detection

IIT Indore has introduced a new device for the early detection of breast cancer, specifically designed to help women in rural and remote areas.

This device, created by Prof. Srivathsan Vasudevan, is an important step in making cancer screening more affordable and accessible.

The device uses Photoacoustic Spectral Response (PASR) technology, which combines light and sound to detect abnormal changes in tissue. This helps identify cancer at an early stage.

What makes this device special is its low cost. Once it is commercially produced, it will cost about one-tenth of traditional methods like MRI and CT scans, making it much more affordable for people in poor and underserved areas.

This new cost-effective device, made in India, could change that by offering a cheaper, reliable option for early cancer detection, helping to close the gap in healthcare for rural communities.

114. The International Day of the Girl Child is celebrated annually on October

11. What is the theme of International Day of the Girl Child 2024?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बालिका दिवस हर साल 11 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बालिका दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

(a) Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being

(b) Girls' Vision for the Future

(c) Our time is now—our rights, our future

(d) Digital generation, Our generation

(e) My Voice, Our Equal Future

Ans. b

Sol. 11 October - International Day of the Girl Child

The International Day of the Girl Child is celebrated annually on October 11.

Objective - To raise awareness about the unique challenges girls face worldwide and promote their empowerment.

Theme 2024 – Girls' Vision for the Future

International Day of the Girl Child was established by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2011 to recognise the challenges and discrimination faced by girls worldwide and to promote their rights and empowerment.

115. Rafael Nadal, one of the greatest men's tennis players in the open era, has announced his retirement from professional tennis. He is from which country?

ओपन एरा के सबसे महान पुरुष टेनिस खिलाड़ियों में से एक राफेल नडाल ने पेशेवर टेनिस से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश से हैं?

(a) Serbia

(b) France

(c) Spain

(d) Belgium

(e) Netherlands

Ans. c

Sol. Rafael Nadal announced his retirement from Tennis

One of the greatest men's tennis players in the open era, Rafael Nadal (from Spain), has announced his retirement from professional tennis.

The upcoming Davis Cup Final in Spain will be his last tournament as a professional player.

The 2024 Davis Cup Final will take place from 19 to 24 November 2024 in Malaga, Spain.

Rafael Nadal will be part of the Spanish team that will take on the Netherlands in the quarter-finals on 19 November 2024.

Achievements of Rafael Nadal

- 22 Grand Slam singles titles: - 14 French Open, 4 US Open, 2 Wimbledon, 2 Australian Open.
- Olympic Medals - 2 gold medals (Singles gold medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and gold in the men's double at the 2016 Rio Olympics).
- ATP No.1 Player - He was the ATP World No.1 ranked player for five years- 2008, 2010, 2013, 2017 and 2019. He won 92 ATP titles and was the number-one ranked player for 209 weeks
- Davis Cup - He has been part of the Spanish Davis Cup-winning team on five occasions: 2004, 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2019.

Recently Retired Players

- Dipa Karmakar (Tripura, India) - Gymnastic
- Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) - All forms of Cricket
- Luis Suarez (Uruguay) - National Football 🏆
- Barinder Sran (India) - International Cricket
- Shannon Gabriel (West Indies) - International Cricket

116. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popular radio program Mann Ki Baat has completed how many years on 3 October 2024?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के लोकप्रिय रेडियो कार्यक्रम मन की बात को 3 अक्टूबर 2024 को कितने साल पूरे हो गए हैं?

- (a) 5 years
- (b) 6 years
- (c) 7 years
- (d) 8 years
- (e) 10 years

Ans. e

Sol. PM Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' Completes 10 Years

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popular radio programme Mann Ki Baat has completed ten yearson 3 October.

It was on this day in 2014 that Mr Modi started sharing his thoughts through the programme on Akashvani.

In the ten-year journey of the programme, the Prime Minister has touched on significant social, cultural, environmental, and behavioural issues that have created a positive impact in the country.

Mann Ki Baat has become an important platform for interaction between the Prime Minister and the citizens.

117. India has officially launched its 'Study in India' campaign at the 20th International Education Show in which city, marking a significant push to attract international students to its universities?

भारत ने किस शहर में 20वें अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा शो में आधिकारिक तौर पर अपना 'भारत में अध्ययन' अभियान शुरू किया है, जो अंतरराष्ट्रीय छात्रों को अपने विश्वविद्यालयों में आकर्षित करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रयास है?

- (a) Dubai
- (b) Tokyo
- (c) New York
- (d) Sharjah
- (e) Kathmandu

Ans. d

Sol. India launches 'Study in India' campaign at International Education Show in Sharjah

India has officially launched its 'Study in India' campaign at the 20th International Education Show in Sharjah, marking a significant push to attract international students to its universities.

Organized by EdCIL, a Miniratna company under the Ministry of Education, the campaign seeks to position India as a leading global education hub.

The India Pavilion at Expo Centre Sharjah was inaugurated by Ahmed Mohamed Obaid Al Naboodah of the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Shri Yatin Patil, Deputy Consul General of India in Dubai.

The 'Study in India' programme showcases over 590 Indian universities and institutions, offering a variety of courses and exclusive benefits such as fee waivers and scholarships for international students.

118. The World Bank upped India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal year, ending in March 2025, to how much per cent year-on-year, up from April's estimate of 6.6%?

विश्व बैंक ने मार्च 2025 में समाप्त होने वाले चालू वित्त वर्ष के लिए भारत के आर्थिक विकास पूर्वानुमान को अप्रैल के 6.6% के अनुमान से बढ़ाकर सालाना आधार पर कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 7.0%

(b) 7.1%

(c) 7.2%

(d) 7.3%

(e) 7.4%

Ans. a

Sol. World Bank ups India's growth forecast for FY25 to 7% due to rising private consumption

The World Bank upped India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal year, ending in March 2025, to 7% year-on-year, up from April's estimate of 6.6%, helped by a rebound in agricultural output and increased private consumption.

The RBI's rate-setting panel retained its real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) forecast at 7.2 per cent for FY25.

With this, the RBI has now pegged growth rate for Q2 at 7% (reduced from 7.2%), Q3 at 7.4% (up from 7.3%) and Q4 at 7.4%. For Q1 FY26, the growth rate was kept at 7.3%.

Updated GDP List

- World Bank – 7% (FY25)
- 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)
- Goldman Sachs – 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)
- SBI – 7%
- Deloitte – 7 - 7.2% (FY25)
- India Ratings – 7.5% (FY25)
- FICCI – 7% (FY25)

119. Instant payment system Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transaction volumes recorded a _____ percent year-on-year surge to 78.97 billion in the first six months of 2024, according to a report.

एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, त्वरित भुगतान प्रणाली यूनिफाइड पेमेंट इंटरफेस (UPI) लेनदेन की मात्रा 2024 के पहले छह महीनों में साल-दर-साल _____ प्रतिशत बढ़कर 78.97 बिलियन हो गई।

(a) 45%

(b) 50%

(c) 55%

(d) 52%

(e) 65%

Ans. d

Sol. UPI transactions volume increases 52% to 78.97 bn in Jan-Jun: Report
Instant payment system Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transaction volumes recorded a 52 percent year-on-year surge to 78.97 billion in the first six months of 2024, according to a report.

In its India Digital Payments Report for the first half of 2024 (January to June), payment technology service provider Worldline that UPI continues to rule the payment market.

The number of UPI transactions rose significantly from 8.03 billion in January 2023 to 13.9 billion by June 2024. This volume growth was matched by an increase in transaction value, which climbed from Rs 12.98 trillion in January 2023 to an impressive Rs 20.07 trillion in June 2024.

In terms of volume and value contribution, PhonePe emerged as the top UPI app, followed by Google Pay and Paytm. However, average ticket size (ATS) of UPI transactions saw a decline of 8 percent, the report noted.

The average ticket size (ATS) of all UPI transactions in H1 2023 was Rs 1,603, while it dropped to Rs 1,478 in 1H 2024, it said.

ATS consists of person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions. ATS in P2P transactions registered an almost flat year-on-year rise from Rs 2,812 to Rs 2,836. ATS for P2M transactions dropped from Rs 667 to Rs 643, representing a 4 percent reduction.

According to the research, they collectively accounted for almost 53 percent of the overall transaction value and 68 percent of the transaction volume.

E-commerce, gaming, utilities, government services, and financial services made up around 81 percent of the overall transaction volume and 74 percent of the total transaction value in the online industry.

120. The Royal Swedish Academy of Science has selected novelist Han Kang for the 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life. She is from which country?

रॉयल स्वीडिश एकेडमी ऑफ साइंस ने उपन्यासकार हान कांग को उनके गहन काव्यात्मक गद्य के लिए साहित्य में 2024 के नोबेल पुरस्कार के लिए चुना है, जो ऐतिहासिक आघातों का सामना करता है और मानव जीवन की नाजुकता को उजागर करता है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) China
- (b) South Korea
- (c) North Korea
- (d) Myanmar

(e) Taiwan

Ans. b

Sol. South Korean author Han Kang awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature
The Royal Swedish Academy of Science has selected South Korean novelist Han Kang for the 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature.

The 2016 International Booker Prize-winning novelist Han Kang was selected by the Swedish Academy "for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life."

Han Kang is the first Asian woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

She is the second South Korean to win the Nobel Prize after former President Kim Dae-Jung. President Kim Dae-Jung was conferred the Nobel Peace Prize in 2000.

Han Kang will receive her 11 million Kroner prize at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, on 10 December 2024, Alfred Nobel's death anniversary.

About the Nobel Prize winner Han Kang

- 53-year-old Han Kang, who writes in Korean, published her first poems in a magazine in 1993 and her first short story collection in 1995.
- Her novel 'The Vegetarian' brought her international recognition and the 2016 International Booker Prize.
- Her important works include Your Cold Hands, Greek Lessons, Human Acts, The White Book, etc.

Indian Nobel Prize Winner in Literature

- Rabindranath Tagore was the first Asian and Indian to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature (1913). He is the only Indian to receive the prize.

121. The Central Government has approved to develop Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve. It is located in which state?

केंद्र सरकार ने कैमूर वन्यजीव अभयारण्य को टाइगर रिजर्व के रूप में विकसित करने की मंजूरी दे दी है। यह किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Rajasthan

Ans. c

Sol. Bihar to develop Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary as tiger reserve, gets Centre's nod
The Bihar government will develop the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) as the state's second tiger reserve.

The Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR), which is the state's only national park, has reached its capacity, and now the state government was finalising modalities for translocating the big cats to KWLS.

The Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary is spread over an area of 1,504.96 sq km.

The KWLS is bounded in the north by Bhojpur, Buxar and parts of UP's Ghazipur, in the south by the districts of Palamu and Garhwa of Jharkhand and in the west by the districts of Sonabhadra and Varanasi of UP. On its east are the Aurangabad and Jehanabad districts of Bihar.

The sanctuary supports sizable populations of leopard, sloth bear, chital, sambar, wild pig, nilgai, and chowsingha, besides about 70 species of birds.

About Bihar

- **Capital** – Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar (9th time)
- **Deputy CM** - Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha
- **Governor** – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- **Rajya Sabha** - 16 seats
- **Lok Sabha** - 40 seats

122. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved appointment of Partha Pratim Sengupta as MD & CEO of which bank for a period of three years?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आरबीआई) ने तीन साल की अवधि के लिए पार्थ प्रतिम सेनगुप्ता को किस बैंक के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में नियुक्त करने की मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) Bandhan Bank
- (d) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- (e) Yes Bank

Ans. c

Sol. RBI approves appointment of Partha Sengupta as MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved appointment of former Indian Overseas Bank MD & CEO Partha Pratim Sengupta as MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank for a period of three years.

Sengupta, a career banker, was groomed at State Bank of India and rose through the ranks to the role of deputy managing director and chief credit officer, before moving to IOB to head it for around two years till December 2022.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company** - Ravindra Kumar Kunda

- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - M. Rajeshwar Rao (reappointment for 1 year)
- **Executive Director of RBI** - Aviral Jain
- **New Members of Monetary Policy Committee** - Ram Singh, Saugata Bhattacharya, Nagesh Kumar (replace Ashima Goyal, Shashanka Bhide, Jayanth Varma)
- **MD & CEO for IndusInd Bank** - Sumant Kathpalia (reappointment for 3 years)

123. Which state will host the 38th National Games from 28 January to 14 February 2025?

कौन सा राज्य 28 जनवरी से 14 फरवरी 2025 तक 38वें राष्ट्रीय खेलों की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Goa
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Himachal Pradesh

Ans. d

Sol. Uttarakhand to host 38th National Games in 2025

The 38th edition of the National Games (Summer & Winter) will be held in Uttarakhand from January 28 to February 14, 2025, the Indian Olympic Association announced.

The 37th National Games was held in Goa from 25 September to 9 November 2023. Maharashtra claimed the top spot with a whopping 228 medals, including 80 gold. This will be the first time Winter Games are held outside Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The National Games, organized by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), aim to identify talent for the Summer Olympics.

The first National Games were held in 1924 in Lahore, originally called the All-India Olympic Games.

124. Where was the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024 held ?

27वीं एशियाई टेबल टेनिस चैंपियनशिप 2024 कहाँ आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) Kazakhstan
- (b) Uzbekistan
- (c) Kyrgyzstan
- (d) Tajikistan
- (e) Uzbekistan

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Men & Women's team wins Bronze at Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024

The Indian men's and women's teams have won bronze medals in their respective events at the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024, held in Astana, Kazakhstan.

This was the first medal for the women's team in the championships after 1960, when they won bronze at Bombay, while for the men's team, it was their third consecutive bronze medal.

Bronze for the Indian Men's Team

- The India men's team of Sharath Kamal, Manav Thakkar and Harmeet Desai lost their semi-final match against the Chinese Taipei (Taiwan) 3-0 to settle for a bronze medal in the Championships.
- This was the third consecutive bronze medal for the India team in the Championships. The Indian team won a bronze medal at the 2021 (Doha, Qatar) and 2023 (Pyeongchang, South Korea) editions of the Asian Table Tennis Championship.
- Earlier, the Indian team defeated host Kazakhstan's team 3-1 in the quarter-finals to reach the semi-finals.

Bronze for the Indian Women's Team

- The Indian women's Table Tennis team of Ayhika Mukherjee, Manika Batra, and Sutirtha Mukherjee lost their semi-final match against the eventual winner, Japan, 3-1.
- This was the first medal for the Indian women's team at the Asian Table Tennis Championships since the Asian Table Tennis Union (ATTU) started organising the competition in 1972.
- The Asian Table Tennis Championships were earlier organised by the Table Tennis Federation of Asia (TTFA). The Indian team won a bronze medal at the 1960 Championships organised by TTFA.
- The Japanese team won the gold medal in the women's team event by defeating China in the final.

125. The Indian Navy has signed an MoU with which insurance company to offer life insurance options, including term insurance, tailored specifically for Naval Civilians, thereby providing essential financial security for their families?

भारतीय नौसेना ने किस बीमा कंपनी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं, जिसके तहत विशेष रूप से नौसेना के नागरिकों के लिए टर्म इंश्योरेंस सहित जीवन बीमा विकल्प उपलब्ध कराए जाएंगे, जिससे उनके परिवारों को आवश्यक वित्तीय सुरक्षा प्रदान की जा सके?

(a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

(b) Bharti AXA General Insurance

(c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance

(d) Life Insurance Corporation of India

(e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Navy Collaborates with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance to Provide Insurance for Naval Civilians

The Indian Navy has signed an MoU with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance to offer life insurance options, including term insurance, tailored specifically for Naval Civilians, thereby providing essential financial security for their families.

The year 2024 has been declared the "Year of Naval Civilians" by the Indian Navy, underscoring its commitment to improving the work environment and overall quality of life for civilian staff.

This new initiative aligns with the Navy's focus on fostering inclusivity, instilling a sense of belonging, and promoting welfare measures to support its civilian workforce.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- IFC partners with Axis Bank to provide \$500 million climate loan in India
- NCRTC and Airtel Payments Bank Launch Co-Branded National Common Mobility Cards to Enhance Commuter Convenience
- Federal Bank join hands with Bhashini to boost Chatbot Feddy with Vernacular Language Support
- Bandhan Life partners with Bandhan Bank to Strengthen Insurance Business
- SBI General Insurance joins hand with BLS E-Services to Streamline Access to Insurance Across India

126. Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has notified Scheme Guidelines for implementation of 'Innovative Projects' under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana in October 2024. Which of the following statements is/are CORRECT regarding this?

- (i) Under the scheme component 'Innovative Projects', ₹500 crores has been earmarked to encourage advancements in rooftop solar technologies, business models, and integration techniques.
- (ii) The scheme has an outlay of Rs 75,021 crore and is to be implemented till FY 2027-28.
- (iii) The Government of India has approved the PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana on August 2023, to increase the share of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity.

(a) only i

- (b) only ii
- (c) only i & ii
- (d) only ii & iii
- (e) all are correct

Ans. a

Sol. MNRE notifies Scheme Guidelines for ₹500 crore 'Innovative Projects' component under PM-Surya Ghar Yojana

Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has notified Scheme Guidelines for implementation of 'Innovative Projects' under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana on 8th October 2024.

Under the scheme component 'Innovative Projects', ₹500 crores has been earmarked to encourage advancements in rooftop solar technologies, business models, and integration techniques.

The component seeks to identify and support startups, institutions, and industries in piloting new concepts, focusing on emerging solutions like blockchain-based peer-to-peer solar trading, smart materials, and rooftop solar integrated with electric vehicles and battery storage.

To drive this forward, MNRE will invite proposals and encourage joint research and international collaborations. National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) will serve as the Scheme Implementation Agency (SIA) for the Innovative Projects Component. Selected projects will receive financial assistance of up to 60% of the project cost or ₹30 crore, whichever is lower.

Additionally, annual awards for innovation will be granted to encourage further advancements, with prizes up to ₹1 crore.

The GoI approved the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana on 29th February 2024, to increase the share of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity.

The scheme has an outlay of Rs 75,021 crore and is to be implemented till FY 2026-27.

127. In October 2024, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually dedicated to the nation how many project infrastructure projects of Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at Rs 2,236 crore?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने 2,236 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से सीमा सड़क संगठन (BRO) की कितनी बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजनाएं राष्ट्र को समर्पित कीं?

- (a) 40
- (b) 50
- (c) 75

(d) 100

(e) 25

Ans. c

Sol. Defence Minister virtually dedicates to the nation 75 BRO infrastructure projects, worth Rs 2,236 crore

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has virtually dedicated to the nation 75 infrastructure projects of Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at Rs 2,236 crore.

These projects - 22 roads, 51 bridges & two others - are spread across 11 States/Union Territories. 19 are in Jammu & Kashmir, 18 in Arunachal Pradesh, 11 in Ladakh, 9 in Uttarakhand, 6 in Sikkim, 5 in Himachal Pradesh, 2 each in West Bengal & Rajasthan, and 1 each in Nagaland, Mizoram, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Singh also inaugurated the projects from the Headquarters, of Trishakti Corps in Sukna, West Bengal. One of the main highlights was the inauguration of the Kupup-Sherathang Road in Sikkim, which serves as a crucial link between Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg and Zuluk axis.

With the inauguration of these 75 projects, BRO has completed a total of 111 infrastructure projects in 2024 at an overall cost of Rs 3,751 crore which includes 36 projects worth Rs 1,508 crore, such as the state-of-the-art Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh, inaugurated by Prime Minister earlier.

Last year, 125 infrastructure projects of BRO were dedicated to the nation at a cost of Rs 3,611 crore.

128. In October 2024, The Union Government released the first installment of the 15th Finance Commission grants for the Financial Year 2024–25 to the Rural Local Bodies (ULBs) for which of the following states?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, केंद्र सरकार ने निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य के ग्रामीण स्थानीय निकायों (ULB) को वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए 15वें वित्त आयोग अनुदान की पहली किस्त जारी की?

- (a) Punjab and Rajasthan
- (b) Haryana and Rajasthan
- (c) Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat
- (d) Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan
- (e) Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

Ans. d

Sol. Union Government releases 15th Finance Commission Grants for Rural Local Bodies in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan

The Union Government has released the first instalment of the 15th Finance Commission grants for the FY 2024–25 to the Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Andhra Pradesh has received untied grants amounting to ₹395.5091 crores and tied grants totalling ₹593.2639 crores.

These funds are for duly elected 9 eligible District Panchayats, 615 eligible Block Panchayats, and 12,853 eligible Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh.

While in Rajasthan, untied grants of ₹507.1177 crores and tied grants of ₹760.6769 crores have been released for the duly elected 22 eligible District Panchayats, 287 eligible Block Panchayats and 9,068 eligible Gram Panchayat in the state.

The untied grants will enable Panchayats to address specific local needs across 29 subjects under the 11th Schedule of the Constitution of India, ranging from agriculture and rural housing to education and sanitation. These funds, however, cannot be used for salaries or establishment costs.

The tied grants will focus on core services such as sanitation, maintenance of open-defecation free (ODF) status and water management, including rainwater harvesting, water recycling, and treatment of household waste.

In line with Article 243G of the Indian Constitution, these funds empower Panchayats to manage essential services and infrastructure.

Government of India through Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation) recommends release of 15th-FC Grants to States for Rural Local Bodies which are then released by Ministry of Finance. The allocated Grants are recommended and released in 2 instalments in a financial year.

129. The Government data showed Net direct tax collection grew _____ to about Rs 11.25 trillion as of October 10 this fiscal, the mop-up includes personal income tax collection of Rs 5.98 trillion and corporate tax collection of Rs 4.94 lakh crore.

सरकारी आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि इस वित्त वर्ष में 10 अक्टूबर तक शुद्ध प्रत्यक्ष कर संग्रह _____ बढ़कर लगभग 11.25 ट्रिलियन रुपये हो गया, जिसमें 5.98 ट्रिलियन रुपये का व्यक्तिगत आयकर संग्रह और 4.94 लाख करोड़ रुपये का कॉर्पोरेट कर संग्रह शामिल है।

- (a) 11.3%
- (b) 15.3%
- (c) 18.3%
- (d) 22.3%
- (e) 25.3%

Ans. c

Sol. Net direct tax collection grows 18.3% to ₹11.25 lakh crore

Net direct tax collection grew 18.3% to about ₹11.25 lakh crore as of October 10 this fiscal, government data showed.

The mop-up includes personal income tax collection of ₹5.98 lakh crore and corporate tax collection of ₹4.94 lakh crore.

Securities Transaction Tax (STT) stood at ₹30,630 crore, while other taxes (including equalisation levy and gift tax) earned ₹2,150 crore.

The income tax department had collected ₹9.51 lakh crore during the same period a year ago.

Refunds worth Rs 2.31 trillion were issued between April 1 and October 10, a growth of 46 percent. On a gross basis, direct tax collection grew 22.3 percent to Rs 13.57 lakh crore. The collection includes personal income tax of Rs 7.13 trillion and corporate tax of Rs 6.11 lakh crore.

The government has budgeted to collect Rs 22.07 trillion in the current fiscal from direct taxes.

130. To whom has the government given the additional charge of CEO of the public procurement portal Government e-Marketplace (GeM)?

सरकार ने सार्वजनिक खरीद पोर्टल गवर्नमेंट ई-मार्केटप्लेस (GeM) के सीईओ का अतिरिक्त प्रभार किसे दिया है?

- (a) Manish Tiwary
- (b) Arti Sarin
- (c) Ajit Kumar Saxena
- (d) L Satya Srinivas
- (e) Sharad Kumar

Ans. d

Sol. Srinivas gets additional charge as CEO of public procurement portal GeM

The government has given L Satya Srinivas, additional secretary in Department of Commerce, the additional charge of CEO of public procurement portal GeM.

The additional charge was given as the last CEO of the Government e Marketplace (GeM) P K Singh has been appointed as secretary in the renewable energy ministry. Srinivas is an officer of the 1991 batch of the Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes).

The government has given L Satya Srinivas, Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce, the additional charge of CEO of public procurement portal GeM.

The GeM portal was launched on August 9, 2016, for online purchases of goods and services by all central government ministries and departments.

Recent Appointment

- **MD of Nestlé India Limited** - Manish Tiwary (replace Suresh Narayanan);
effect from 1 August 2025

- **President of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for 2024-25** - Prasanth Kumar
- **Head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit** - Sharad Kumar (replace KK Mishra)
- **First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services** - Arti Sarin
- **CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)** - Ajit Kumar Saxena (additional charge)
- **Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** -Alok Ranjan

131. The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has reduced its growth forecast for the volume of global merchandise trade in 2025 to how much per cent from 3.3 per cent?

विश्व व्यापार संगठन (डब्ल्यूटीओ) ने 2025 में वैश्विक माल व्यापार की मात्रा के लिए अपने विकास पूर्वानुमान को 3.3 प्रतिशत से घटाकर कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 3.2%
- (b) 3.1%
- (c) 3.0%
- (d) 2.8%
- (e) 2.9%

Ans. c

Sol. WTO cuts 2025 world merchandise trade growth forecast to 3% from 3.3%

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has reduced its growth forecast for the volume of global merchandise trade in 2025 to 3 per cent from 3.3 per cent, amid escalating conflict in the West Asia region, which has blocked the crucial Red Sea shipping route for nearly a year.

For 2024, the WTO revised upwards its forecast for merchandise trade growth to 2.7 per cent, up from the previous estimate of 2.6 per cent.

The trade body warned that an intensification of the conflict in West Asia could have adverse consequences for global and regional trade flows, with effects also being felt in other regions. These may include "further disruptions" to shipping and rising energy prices due to higher risk premiums.

132. The Nobel Peace Prize 2024 was awarded to the Nihon Hidankyo Organization" for its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and for demonstrating through witness testimony that nuclear weapons must never be used again". This organization is located in which country?

नोबेल शांति पुरस्कार 2024 निहोन हिडानक्यो संगठन को "परमाणु हथियारों से मुक्त दुनिया हासिल करने के प्रयासों और गवाहों की गवाही के माध्यम से यह प्रदर्शित करने के लिए कि परमाणु हथियारों का दोबारा कभी इस्तेमाल नहीं किया जाना चाहिए" के लिए प्रदान किया गया। यह संगठन किस देश में स्थित है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Japanese organisation Nihon Hidankyo wins 2024 Nobel Peace Prize for Disarmament

Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Nihon Hidankyo, a Japanese organization made up of survivors of the atomic bombings, known as the Hibakusha.

This prize highlights the critical role these survivors have played in raising awareness about the devastating impact of nuclear weapons and their ongoing work to create a world free from nuclear arms.

All Nobel Prizes are awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, except for the Nobel Peace Prize, which is awarded in Oslo, Norway. The founder of the Nobel Prize, Alfred Nobel, was a Swedish cosmopolitan.

About Nihon Hidankyo

- Nihon Hidankyo, founded in 1956, is a group that brings together atomic bomb survivors from across Japan.
- The full name of the organization translates to "Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations." Their mission is to advocate for nuclear disarmament and protect the rights of Hibakusha.
- The group works to educate people about the dangers of nuclear war and collects stories from survivors to preserve their experiences.
- Nihon Hidankyo also collaborates with international peace organizations to promote a global movement against nuclear weapons.

133. The first phase of the Second Army Commanders' Conference for the year 2024 has been organised in a hybrid mode in which city?

वर्ष 2024 के लिए द्वितीय सेना कमांडरों के सम्मेलन का पहला चरण हाइब्रिड मोड में किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?

- (a) Shillong
- (b) Gangtok
- (c) Guwahati
- (d) Shimla
- (e) Dehradun

Ans. b

Sol. First phase of 2024 Army Commanders' Conference concluded in Gangtok

The first phase of the Second Army Commanders' Conference for the year 2024 has been organised in a hybrid mode at Gangtok in Sikkim.

The two-day conference will serve as a forum for Senior Commanders to review current operational preparedness, deliberate on critical strategies and outline future directives.

During the conference, discussions will focus on critical national security issues and strategic aspects aimed at sharpening the Indian Army's warfighting capabilities.

The major issues to be deliberated during the session include the growing importance of a multi-pronged national security strategy that incorporates integration of Civil-Military Fusion and the Diplomatic, Information, Military, and Economic (DIME) pillars to counter contemporary threats.

The second phase of the Army Commanders' Conference will be held in Delhi on the 28th and 29th of October.

134. The Telangana state government has launched a new effort to study the sub-classification of Scheduled Castes (SCs) for reservation benefits. This is being done to ensure that the different groups within SCs get a fair share of the benefits offered by the government. _____ has been given the task of leading this investigation.

तेलंगाना राज्य सरकार ने आरक्षण लाभों के लिए अनुसूचित जातियों (एससी) के उप-वर्गीकरण का अध्ययन करने के लिए एक नया प्रयास शुरू किया है। यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए किया जा रहा है कि एससी के भीतर विभिन्न समूहों को सरकार द्वारा दिए जाने वाले लाभों का उचित हिस्सा मिले। _____ को इस जांच का नेतृत्व करने का काम सौंपा गया है।

(a) Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde

(b) Justice Shameem Akhtar

(c) Justice Uday Lalit

(d) Justice N. V. Ramana

(e) Justice Ranjan Gogoi

Ans. b

Sol. Telangana appoints Commission for Scheduled Castes Sub-Classification

The Telangana state government has launched a new effort to study the sub-classification of Scheduled Castes (SCs) for reservation benefits. This is being done to ensure that the different groups within SCs get a fair share of the benefits offered by the government.

This move follows the recommendations made by a Cabinet sub-committee, which looked at ways to ensure that the advantages of the reservation system are fairly shared among all SC sub-groups.

The government set up this one-person Commission of Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952. Justice Shameem Akhtar has been given the task of leading this investigation.

The commission has been given a time limit of 60 days from the time the commission officially starts its work to complete the inquiry.

135. The 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) was held in which country?

19वां पूर्वी एशिया शिखर सम्मेलन (ईएएस) किस देश में आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Laos
- (b) Vietnam
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) Singapore
- (e) Malaysia

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi attended the 19th East Asia Summit (EAS)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took part in the 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Vientiane, Laos PDR.

The Prime Minister emphasized the important part that ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) plays in shaping the future of the Indo-Pacific.

He mentioned India's vision for the region, known as the Pacific Vision, which focuses on collaboration with countries like the Quad nations (India, Australia, Japan, and the United States) to promote peace and cooperation in the region.

136. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Tata Trusts?

टाटा ट्रस्ट्स के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Neville Tata
- (b) Leah Tata
- (c) Cyrus Mistry
- (d) Vikram Kirloskar
- (e) Noel Tata

Ans. e

Sol. Noel Tata succeeds Ratan Tata, appointed chairman of Tata Trusts

Noel Tata has been named the chairman of Tata Trusts, the charitable division of the Tata Group. He is the son of Naval H. Tata and Simone N. Tata.

Noel takes over from his half-brother, Ratan Tata, who passed away earlier this week at the age of 86.

Noel Tata is currently a trustee of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, which collectively own a substantial 66% stake in Tata Sons, the holding company of the diversified Tata Group.

Noel N. Tata is the Chairman and Non-Executive Director of Tata International Limited and has been associated with the Tata group for 40 years.

He holds various board positions within the group, including Chairman of Trent, Voltas, and Tata Investment Corporation, as well as Vice Chairman of Tata Steel and Titan Company Limited.

In his most recent executive role as Managing Director of Tata International Limited, he led the company through a period of significant growth, with revenue rising from \$500 million to over \$3 billion between August 2010 and November 2021.

137. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated every year on the second Saturday of May and October. This year, the dates are May 11 and October 12, 2024.

What is the theme of World Migratory Bird Day 2024?

विश्व प्रवासी पक्षी दिवस मई और अक्टूबर के दूसरे शनिवार को मनाया जाता है। इस वर्ष, ये तिथियाँ 11 मई और 12 अक्टूबर, 2024 हैं। विश्व प्रवासी पक्षी दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Water: Sustaining Bird Life
- (b) Dim the Lights for Birds at Night
- (c) Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird
- (d) Birds Connect Our World
- (e) Protect Insects, Protect Birds

Ans. e

Sol. 12 October - World Migratory Bird Day

World Migratory Bird Day Celebrated in the second Saturdays of May and October. This year the dates are May 11 and October 12, 2024.

The two days of World Migratory Bird Day serve as a means to reflect the cyclical nature of bird migration, as well as the varying peak migration periods in the northern and southern hemispheres.

World Migratory Bird Day is a global awareness raising campaign that aims to highlight the need for international cooperation to conserve migratory birds and concerns related to decreasing populations of insects.

Theme - Protect Insects, Protect Birds

World Migratory Bird Day was initiated in 2006 by the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). On 26 October 2017 in the margins of the CMS COP12 in Manila, Environment for the Americas (EFTA), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA), announced an innovative partnership to increase awareness of the plight of migratory birds around the world.

138. Which Indian Naval Ship arrived at Port Mina Rashid, Dubai, UAE, as part of its Long Range Training Deployment that aims to enhance maritime security, interoperability, and foster goodwill between India & UAE?

कौन सा भारतीय नौसेना जहाज अपनी लंबी दूरी की प्रशिक्षण तैनाती के हिस्से के रूप में पोर्ट मीना राशिद, दुबई, संयुक्त अरब अमीरात पहुंचा, जिसका उद्देश्य भारत और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात के बीच समुद्री सुरक्षा, अंतर-संचालन और सद्भावना को बढ़ाना है?

- (a) INS Shardul
- (b) INS Sahyadri
- (c) INS Tabar
- (d) INS Talwar
- (e) INS Karma

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Naval Ship Shardul arrives in UAE

The Indian Naval Ship Shardul, part of the First Training Squadron of the Indian Navy, arrived at Port Mina Rashid, Dubai, UAE, as part of its Long Range Training Deployment.

This visit marks a significant milestone in strengthening maritime cooperation and fostering mutual understanding between India and UAE.

Shardul is scheduled to engage in various activities designed to enhance maritime security and interoperability. These include harbour interactions and joint exercises including visit to the Naval Officers Training Academy and UAE Naval Ship.

139. World Arthritis Day is observed annually on which day?

विश्व गठिया दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 11 October
- (b) 12 October
- (c) 13 October
- (d) 14 October
- (e) 15 October

Ans. b

Sol. 12 October - World Arthritis Day

World Arthritis Day is observed annually on October 12th to raise awareness about arthritis, a condition affecting millions worldwide.

Arthritis primarily affects the joints, causing pain, stiffness, and swelling. Joint pain is a common symptom of arthritis due to the inflammation or degradation of the cartilage that cushions joints.

While there is no cure for arthritis, exercise plays a significant role in reducing joint pain by strengthening the muscles around the joints, improving flexibility, and maintaining overall mobility.

140. World Sight Day is observed every year on the second _____ of October.

विश्व दृष्टि दिवस हर साल अक्टूबर के दूसरे _____ को मनाया जाता है।

- (a) Thursday
- (b) Friday
- (c) Saturday
- (d) Sunday
- (e) Monday

Ans. a

Sol. 10 October 2024 - World Sight Day

World Sight Day is observed every year on the second Thursday of October. This year it falls on 10 October.

Objective - To raise awareness about the preventive measures to avoid blindness, promote eye health and ensure equitable access to quality vision care.

Theme 2024 - Children, Love Your Eyes

World Sight Day was started as part of the "Sight First" campaign which was organised by the Lions Club International Foundation in 1988.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) partnered with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) in 1999 to officially establish World Sight Day, and it was first observed on October 12, 2000.

141. In October 2024, The World Health Organisation (WHO) certified India, Nepal, and Myanmar as having eliminated Trachoma as a public health problem. Trachoma is a disease that affects which part of the human body?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (डब्ल्यूएचओ) ने भारत, नेपाल और म्यांमार को सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य समस्या के रूप में ट्रेकोमा को समाप्त करने के रूप में प्रमाणित किया। ट्रेकोमा एक ऐसी बीमारी है जो मानव शरीर के किस अंग को प्रभावित करती है?

- (a) Ears
- (b) Eyes
- (c) Heart
- (d) Kidney
- (e) Lungs

Ans. b

Sol. Trachoma no longer a public health problem in India: WHO

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has certified India, Nepal, and Myanmar as having eliminated trachoma as a public health problem.

India joins 19 other countries in the world that have successfully eliminated trachoma as a public health problem.

According to the WHO, trachoma is still a major public health problem in 39 countries in the world and causes blindness in around 19 lakh people worldwide.

Trachoma was amongst the leading cause of blindness in the country during 1950-60.

The Government of India launched the National Trachoma Control Program in 1963 and later on Trachoma control efforts were integrated into India's National Program for Control of Blindness (NPCB).

In 1971, blindness due to Trachoma was 5% and today, owing to the various interventions under the National Programme for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment (NPCBVI), it has come down to less than 1%.

WHO SAFE strategy was implemented throughout the country wherein SAFE stands for adoption of surgery, antibiotics, facial hygiene, environmental cleanliness etc. As a result, in 2017, India was declared free from infective Trachoma. However, surveillance continued for trachoma cases in all the districts of India from 2019 onwards till 2024.

What is Trachoma?

- Trachoma is a bacterial infection that affects the eyes. It is caused by the bacterium Chlamydia Trachomatis.
- Trachoma is contagious, spreading through contact with the eyes, eyelids, nose or throat secretions of infected people, if left untreated it causes irreversible blindness.

About World Health Organization (WHO)

- **Formation** - 7 April 1948
- **Headquarters** - Geneva, Switzerland
- **First President** - Andrija Štampar
- **Director General** - Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)
- **Deputy Director General** - Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- **Member Countries** - 194

142. Who has inaugurated the eMigrate V2.0 web portal and Mobile App in Delhi?

दिल्ली में eMigrate V2.0 वेब पोर्टल और मोबाइल ऐप का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) S Jaishankar
(b) Narendra Modi
(c) Amit Shah

(d) JP Nadda

(e) Ashwani Vishnaw

Ans. a

Sol. EAM Jaishankar launches eMigrate V2.0 web portal & mobile app

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has inaugurated the eMigrate V2.0 web portal and Mobile App in Delhi.

The eMigrate portal has 2.81 lakh registered foreign employers. It promotes safe and legal mobility channels for Indian migrants.

The launch of the eMigrate V2.0 portal is a testament to the government's efforts to create safe, transparent and inclusive mobility for Indians.

The revamped version of the portal is a symbol of the government's commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of Indian workers in foreign lands. This is important because it also aligns with Goal 10 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals which promotes the facilitation of orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people.

143. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has become the _____ Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) of India.

हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड (एचएएल) भारत का _____ महारत्न केंद्रीय सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र उद्यम (सीपीएसई) बन गया है।

(a) 12th

(b) 13th

(c) 14th

(d) 15th

(e) 16th

Ans. c

Sol. HAL becomes 14th Maharatna CPSE in India

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will now be the 14th 'Maharatna' company among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE), the Finance Ministry announced.

This status will give more autonomy to the company in terms of financial and strategic matters.

HAL is a Department of Defence Production (DoDP) CPSE with an annual turnover of ₹28162 crore and a net profit of ₹7595 crore for FY2023-24.

14th Maharatna CPSEs

1. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
2. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
3. Coal India Limited
4. GAIL India Limited

5. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
6. Indian Oil Corporation Limited
7. NTPC Limited
8. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited,
9. Power Finance Corporation
10. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
11. Steel Authority of India Limited
12. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
13. Oil India Ltd
14. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

144. India's Tanya Hemanth beat Tung Ciou-Tong of Taipei in straight games to win the women's singles title at the Bendigo International Challenge Badminton Tournament. This tournament has been organized in which country?

भारत की तान्या हेमंत ने ताइपे की तुंग सिउ-टोंग को सीधे गेम में हराकर बेंडिगो इंटरनेशनल चैलेंज बैडमिंटन टूर्नामेंट में महिला एकल का खिताब जीत लिया। यह टूर्नामेंट किस देश में आयोजित किया गया है?

- (a) New Zealand
- (b) Australia
- (c) Japan
- (d) Taiwan
- (e) India

Ans. b

Sol. India beat Taipei to win women's single Bendigo International Challenge Badminton Tournament

India's Tanya Hemanth beat Tung Ciou-Tong of Taipei in straight games to win the women's singles title at the Bendigo International Challenge badminton tournament in Bendigo, Australia.

The second-seeded Tanya beat her opponent Tung, seeded sixth in the tournament, 21-17, 21-17 in the women's singles final.

This was 21-year-old Tanya's third international title and first of the year. She finished runner-up at the Polish Open and Azerbaijan International in 2024. She won titles at the India International in 2022 and Iran Fajr International in 2023.

In the men's doubles final, the top-seeded Indian pair of Hariharan Amsakarunan and Ruban Kumar Rethinasabapathi lost to the Taipei duo of Chen Cheng Kuan and Po Li-Wei 17-21, 14-2.

145. Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee, who were seen in the news in October 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, are associated with which of the following sports?

अयहिका मुखर्जी और सुतीर्था मुखर्जी, जो अक्टूबर 2024 में एक उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए खबरों में रहीं, निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़ी हैं?

- (a) Billiards
- (b) Golf
- (c) Badminton
- (d) Table Tennis
- (e) Chess

Ans. d

Sol. Historic medal for Ayhika & Sutirtha at Asian T T Championships 2024

In Table Tennis, India's top-ranked pair of Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee have scripted history by clinching the first-ever medal for the country in Women's Doubles of Asian Championships 2024 at Astana in Kazakhstan.

The Indian pair settled for the bronze medal after losing to the Japanese combination of Miwa Harimoto and Miyuu Kihara 0-3 in the semi-finals.

Miwa Harimoto was part of Japan's Paris 2024 Olympics silver-medal team, and Miyuu Kihara is a three-time World Championships medal winner.

This was the first medal for the Indian women's doubles team in the Asian Table Tennis Championships since 1972.

India ended the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships with three bronze medals.

The Indian men's and women's teams won a bronze medal in their respective events.

146. Which country will host the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in 2025?

कौन सा देश 2025 में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय निशानेबाजी खेल महासंघ (आईएसएसएफ) जूनियर विश्व कप की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) India
- (b) Japan
- (c) Spain
- (d) USA
- (e) South Korea

Ans. a

Sol. India to host Junior World Cup of shooting in 2025

The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) President Luciano Rossi confirmed that India will host the ISSF Junior World Cup in 2025.

India continues to be a significant force in the world of shooting not only with its talented athletes but also through its commitment to expanding the sport's infrastructure and reach.

Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) was present during the occasion.

Upcoming Sport Events

- Asian Track Cycling Championships 2024 - India
- FIFA Club World Cup 2025 - USA
- Kho Kho World Cup in 2025 - India
- AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 - Australia
- FIFA Women's World Cup 2027 - Brazil
- World Aquatics Championships 2029 - Beijing
- AFC Women's Asian Cup 2029 - Uzbekistan

147. Harmanpreet Singh emerges as the most expensive player in the Hockey India League auction. Which team acquired Harmanpreet Singh?

हॉकी इंडिया लीग नीलामी में हरमनप्रीत सिंह सबसे महंगे खिलाड़ी बनकर उभरे हैं।
हरमनप्रीत सिंह को किस टीम ने खरीदा?

- (a) Tamil Nadu Dragons
- (b) Team Gonasika
- (c) UP Rudras
- (d) Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers
- (e) Soorma Hockey Club

Ans. e

Sol. Harmanpreet Singh emerges as most expensive player in Hockey auction
India captain Harmanpreet Singh became the most expensive player on day one of the Hockey India League auction, with Soorma Hockey Club snapping the star drag-flicker for 78 lakh rupees.

Abhishek became the second-most expensive buy, acquired by Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers for 72 lakh rupees, while Hardik Singh went to UP Rudras for 70 lakh rupees. The league will get underway on 28th December this year.

148. Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda inaugurated which edition of International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA). The event which is being hosted for the first time in India by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO)?

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा ने औषधि विनियामक प्राधिकरणों (ICDRA) के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन के किस संस्करण का उद्घाटन किया। यह आयोजन भारत में पहली बार केंद्रीय औषधि मानक नियंत्रण संगठन (CDSCO), स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय द्वारा विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) के सहयोग से आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

- (a) 18th
- (b) 19th
- (c) 20th
- (d) 21st
- (e) 15th

Ans. b

Sol. JP Nadda inaugurates 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda inaugurated the 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA).

The event which is being hosted for the first time in India, from 14th – 18th October by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in collaboration with, the World Health Organization (WHO) brought together regulatory authorities, policymakers, and health officials from over 194 WHO member states.

The 5-day conference will feature a series of insightful sessions where regulatory authorities and industry leaders will deliberate on key issues affecting global drug and medical device regulation.

149. The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), in partnership with Meta, has established five Centers of Excellence (CoEs) in Virtual Reality (VR) and Mixed Reality (MR) at various National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs). Identify the located City of Centers of Excellence (CoEs) that is NOT included in this.

कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमिता मंत्रालय (MSDE) ने मेटा के साथ साझेदारी में विभिन्न राष्ट्रीय कौशल प्रशिक्षण संस्थानों (NSTI) में वर्चुअल रियलिटी (VR) और मिक्स्ड रियलिटी (MR) में पाँच उत्कृष्टता केंद्र (CoE) स्थापित किए हैं। उत्कृष्टता केंद्रों (CoE) के उस शहर की पहचान करें जो इसमें शामिल नहीं है।

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) Jodhpur
- (d) Mumbai
- (e) Kanpur

Ans. d

Sol. MSDE partners with Meta for AI Assistant in Skill India Mission and 5 Centers of Excellence in NSTIs

The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has partnered with Meta for the launch of two key initiatives.

1. An AI Assistant for the Skill India Mission and
2. the establishment 5 Centers of Excellence (CoEs) in Virtual Reality (VR) and Mixed Reality (MR) at National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs) located at Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Jodhpur, Chennai, and Kanpur.

Under this partnership, an innovative AI chatbot powered by Meta's open-source Llama model will be developed, which will enhance the learner experience on the Skill India Digital (SID) Portal.

The chatbot, which will be integrated into the SID Portal, offers 24/7 assistance to users, enabling quick discovery of course information, interactive Q&A, for course content, and access to lecture summaries and relevant videos for revision.

The chatbot will also provide valuable analytics to the MSDE to further optimize the platform. Sarvam AI, the technical partner for the AI assistant project, will be responsible for the development and deployment of the chatbot, which will be piloted over six months.

The Skill India Digital Portal has become a cornerstone of the nation's skilling ecosystem, with millions of students accessing courses aimed at improving their employability. With the launch of the AI chatbot, MSDE and Meta are taking a significant step forward in revolutionizing how students interact with course content and prepare for the future.

Further, Skillveri, the technical partner for establishing the CoEs, will provide cutting-edge VR and MR resources, curriculum, and trained professionals to equip learners and instructors with the latest technology, enabling immersive and interactive learning experiences.

150. Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, James Robinson win Economics Nobel Prize 2024 for which achievement?

डेरॉन ऐसमोग्लू, साइमन जॉनसन, जेम्स रॉबिन्सन ने किस उपलब्धि के लिए 2024 का अर्थशास्त्र नोबेल पुरस्कार जीता?

- (a) For having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes
- (b) For research on banks and financial crises
- (c) For their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships
- (d) For studies of how institutions are formed and affect prosperity
- (e) For his empirical contributions to labour economics

Ans. d

Sol. Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, James Robinson win Economics Nobel Prize 2024

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced that the 2024 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel has been awarded to economists Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A Robinson.

The trio has been recognised “for studies of how institutions are formed and affect prosperity.”

The laureates’ research examines how different political and economic systems, particularly those established during colonialism, have had long-lasting effects on the prosperity of nations. Their work has developed theoretical frameworks to explain why certain institutions endure over time and how they can evolve, shedding light on the persistent income gaps, between countries, the academy said in awarding the prize.

Daron Acemoglu, a Turkish American economist of Armenian heritage, has been a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) since 1993. His research spans multiple fields, including political economy, macroeconomics, and development economics.

Acemoglu is widely known for his influential work, co-authoring books such as The Narrow Corridor and Why Nations Fail with James Robinson.

Simon Johnson, a British American economist, is currently the Ronald A Kurtz Professor of Entrepreneurship at the MIT Sloan School of Management and a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

He has held notable positions, including chief economist at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) from 2007 to 2008. Johnson’s research has focused on entrepreneurship, economic growth, and the role of institutions in development.

James Robinson, a British economist and political scientist, is a professor of global conflict studies at the Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago. He also directs The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts. He has authored several books, including Why Nations Fail, with Acemoglu.

The Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was established in 1968 in memory of Alfred Nobel. It is awarded alongside the traditional Nobel Prizes in fields such as Physics, Chemistry, and Peace.

151. Who has been appointed as the MD and CEO of the Public Sector Undertaking Indian Railways Financial Corporation (IRFC)?

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रम भारतीय रेलवे वित्तीय निगम (आईआरएफसी) के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Noel Tata
- (b) L Satya Srinivasan
- (c) Prasanth Kumar
- (d) Sharad Kumar
- (e) Manoj Kumar Pandey

Ans. e

Sol. Manoj Kumar Dubey appointed as CEO and MD of IRFC

Public Sector Undertaking Indian Railways Financial Corporation has appointed Manoj Kumar Dubey as the CEO, Chairman, and Managing Director of the company for five years.

Dubey joined the Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) in the 1993 batch after clearing the Civil Services examination in the first attempt.

During his decorated career with Indian Railways, he implemented key initiatives such as the near-universal payment of salaries through banks, the introduction of e-tendering and e-auction systems etc.

He won the National Award for Outstanding Service at the Minister of Railways level in 2011 for his leadership and innovative approaches.

He was in the Board of Directors of a Joint Venture Company of General Electricals of USA and IR, Alstom of France and IR, and a Joint Venture Company of NMDC, SAIL, and Indian Railways. He took over as Director (Finance) & CFO, CONCOR.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of Tata Trusts** - Noel Tata (replace Ratan Tata)
- **CEO of Government e Marketplace (GeM) Portal** - L Satya Srinivas (additional charge)
- **MD of Nestlé India Limited** - Manish Tiwary (replace Suresh Narayanan); *effect from 1 August 2025*
- **President of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) for 2024-25** - Prasanth Kumar
- **Head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit** - Sharad Kumar (replace KK Mishra)

152. **International Day for Rural Women is observed every year on which day?**

ग्रामीण महिलाओं के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 13 October
- (b) 14 October
- (c) 15 October
- (d) 16 October

(e) 17 October

Ans. c

Sol. 15 October - International Day for Rural Women

International Day for Rural Women is observed every year on 15 October.

The day recognizes the significant contributions of rural women to food systems, agricultural production, and the environment, and calls for equal opportunities for all. Theme 2024 - Rural Women Sustaining Nature for Our Collective Future: Building climate resilience, conserving biodiversity, and caring for land towards gender equality and empowerment

The International Day for Rural Women, first established by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/136 of 18 December 2007, recognizes, "the critical role and contribution of rural women, including Indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty."

153. The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed every year on 13 October 2024. What is the theme of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2024?

आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल 13 अक्टूबर 2024 को मनाया जाता है। आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future
- (b) Fighting inequality for a resilient future
- (c) Only together...can we save the planet
- (d) It's all about governance
- (e) Early warning and early action for all

Ans. a

Sol. 13 October - International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed every year on 13 October 2024.

The day aims to raise awareness and promote a culture of disaster reduction and risk awareness around the world. The theme for this year is Empowering the next generation for a resilient future.

Theme 2024 - Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future

The primary focus of this year is to empower children through education and equip them to protect themselves and become agents of change in their families and communities.

154. World Egg Day is observed annually on the second _____ of October.

विश्व अंडा दिवस प्रतिवर्ष अक्टूबर माह की दूसरी _____ तारीख को मनाया जाता है।

(a) Friday

- (b) Saturday
- (c) Sunday
- (d) Monday
- (e) Thursday

Ans. a

Sol. 11 October 2024 - World Egg Day

World Egg Day is observed annually on the second Friday of October. This year it observed on 11 October.

This day acknowledges the role of eggs in providing essential nutrients and affordable protein to people around the world.

Theme 2024 - United by Eggs

155. Indranand Singh Jha passed away recently at the age of 78 years. Who was he?

इंद्रानंद सिंह झा का हाल ही में 78 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Former Doordarshan Anchor
- (b) Former Chief of Akashvani
- (c) Former Chief Editor of PIB
- (d) Former Radio Presenter
- (e) Former President of ANI

Ans. d

Sol. Akashvani Darbhanga former radio presenter Indranand Singh Jha passes away Indranand Singh Jha, the famous former radio presenter and compere of Akashvani Darbhanga passed away at the age of 77.

Well-known for his rural radio talk programme Gamghar from Akashvani Darbhanga station with the pen name of Khur Khur Bhai (खुर खुर भाई), he was very popular among radio listeners during his service.

156. Payments major PhonePe has tied up with which Insurance company to offer affordable insurance coverage against firecracker-related accidents during Diwali for a limited period?

भुगतान क्षेत्र की प्रमुख कंपनी फोनपे ने दिवाली के दौरान पटाखों से संबंधित दुर्घटनाओं के खिलाफ सीमित अवधि के लिए किफायती बीमा कवरेज प्रदान करने के लिए किस बीमा कंपनी के साथ समझौता किया है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- (e) Universal Sampo General Insurance

Ans. a

Sol. PhonePe launches new plan Firecracker Insurance for Diwali

Payments major PhonePe has tied up with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance to offer affordable insurance coverage against firecracker-related accidents during Diwali for a limited period.

The insurance cover entails a sum insured of Rs 25,000 for a premium of Rs 9, inclusive of goods and services tax (GST).

The coverage is for 10 days starting from October 25, 2024, to November 3, 2024.

The plan includes hospitalisation cover, day care treatment, and accidental death, limited only to the policyholder. The sale of these policies will end on November 3, 2024.

The plan can be purchased on the PhonePe app and provides coverage to families by insuring up to four family members, including the user, their spouse, and up to two children.

CEO of PhonePe Insurance Broking Services - Vishal Gupta

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- SBI Card launches **KrisFlyer SBI Card** in partnership with Singapore Airlines
- Reliance Nippon Life Insurance unveils '**Nishchit Pension**' to help Indians secure guaranteed long-term retirement income
- Arka Fincap launches '**Uday**' to boost MSME Growth with Small Ticket Loans
- Magma HDI General Insurance unveiled a **OneProtect**, a contemporary personal accident insurance product
- ICICI Bank and MakeMyTrip unveils **co-branded credit card for travel enthusiasts**
- Axis Bank's new economy group launches **Corporate Credit Card Suite** for startups

157. Which bank has introduced a 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme' for the festive season, offering 7.30 per cent interest to general citizens?

किस बैंक ने त्यौहारी सीजन के लिए 400-दिवसीय 'उत्सव जमा योजना' शुरू की है, जिसमें आम नागरिकों को 7.30 प्रतिशत ब्याज की पेशकश की जा रही है?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) ICICI Bank
- (e) UCO Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Bank of Baroda introduces 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme' at 7.3%

Bank of Baroda (BoB) has introduced a 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme' for the festive season, offering 7.30 per cent interest to general citizens, even as it has increased interest rates on term deposits (TDs) in the above 3 years to 5 years bucket from 6.50 per cent to 6.80 per cent.

The Utsav Deposit Scheme is applicable on fixed deposits below ₹3 crore, offers senior citizens 7.80 per cent interest, super senior citizens (aged 80 years & above) 7.90 per cent, and up to 7.95 per cent on Non-Callable Deposits.

The 30 basis points (bps) increase in interest rates on TDs in the above 3 years to 5 years bucket will also benefit the bank's SDP (Systematic Deposit Plan) customers, who can lock-in higher interest rates on each monthly contribution made for a three-to five-year period.

SDP is a recurring deposit scheme that provides assured returns through regular savings every month.

158. In October 2024, A digital lending SaaS platform and a subsidiary of Biz2Credit, Biz2X surpassed a significant milestone in loan disbursements and the company's AI-integrated platform, DigiKred, has been a key contributor to its growth. What is the total loan disbursement amount Biz2X has surpassed?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, डिजिटल लेंडिंग SaaS प्लेटफॉर्म और Biz2Credit की सहायक कंपनी Biz2X ने ऋण वितरण में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पथर पार कर लिया और कंपनी के AI-एकीकृत प्लेटफॉर्म DigiKred ने इसके विकास में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है। Biz2X ने कुल कितनी ऋण वितरण राशि पार की है?

- (a) 5,000 cr
- (b) 60,000 cr
- (c) 17,000 cr
- (d) 18,000 cr
- (e) 9,000 cr

Ans. e

Sol. Biz2X surpasses Rs 9,000 crore mark in loan disbursements

Biz2X, a digital lending SaaS platform and subsidiary of Biz2Credit, has surpassed Rs 9,000 crore mark in loan disbursements.

One of the company's key growth drivers is its AI-integrated digital lending platform, DigiKred, which plays a pivotal role in optimizing lending functions for Indian lenders. The platform is expected to facilitate an additional Rs 5,000 crore in loan disbursements by the end of FY2025, further scaling the platform's reach and impact across the financial ecosystem.

Co-founder and CEO of Biz2Credit and Biz2X - Rohit Arora

159. In October 2024, who took over as the 26th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, भारतीय तटरक्षक बल (ICG) के 26वें महानिदेशक के रूप में किसने पदभार संभाला?

- (a) SP Dharkar
- (b) Arti Sarin
- (c) Amar Preet Singh
- (d) Parmesh Sivamani
- (e) Amrit Mohan Prasad

Ans. e

Sol. DG Parmesh Sivamani takes over as 26th Director General of Indian Coast Guard

Paramesh Sivamani took over as the 26th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).

He was elevated to the rank of Additional Director General in September 2022, and was subsequently posted at the Coast Guard Headquarters in the national capital.

He was given the additional charge of DG ICG in August 2024 after the untimely death of then Director General Rakesh Pal due to heart attack when in Chennai.

The Flag Officer was conferred with the Tatrakshak Medal in 2014 and the President Tatrakshak Medal in 2019 for his illustrious service.

He was also awarded the DG Coast Guard Commendation in 2012 and Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (East) Commendation in 2009.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **Vice Chief of Air Staff** - Air Marshal SP Dharkar (replace AP Singh)
- **First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services** - Arti Sarin
- **Chief of Indian Air Force** - Amar Preet Singh (replace V.R. Chaudhari)
- **DG of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)** - Amrit Mohan Prasad
- **DG of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** - Rajwinder Singh Bhatti

160. Who has won the women's singles title of the WTA Wuhan Open 1000 tennis tournament?

WTA वुहान ओपन 1000 टेनिस टूर्नामेंट का महिला एकल खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Irina Khromacheva
- (b) Zheng Qinwen
- (c) Anna Danilina
- (d) Asia Muhammad
- (e) Aryna Sabalenka

Ans. e

Sol. Aryna Sabalenka wins the WTA Wuhan 1000 singles title

World No.2 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus defeated World No.7 Zheng Qinwen of China to win her third consecutive women's WTA Wuhan 1000 singles title.

The WTA Wuhan 1000 Tennis tournament was held in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

Wuhan Open is played at the Hard Court.

Aryna Sabalenka defeated the local favourite Zheng Qinwen 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 in the final played at Wuhan. This was Aryna Sabalenka's third title at Wuhan, having won it in 2018 and 2019.

This is the 17th WTA Tour title for Aryna Sabalenka and her fifth on Chinese soil.

The pair of Anna Danilina of Kazakhstan and Irina Khromacheva of Russia defeated the American pair of Asia Muhammad and Jessica Pegula 6-3, 7-6(6) in the final of the Wuhan Open. This was the first WTA 1000 title for the pair of Anna Danilina and Irina Khromacheva.

161. Who has won the 2024 ATP Shanghai Masters Tennis tournament singles title?

2024 एटीपी शंघाई मास्टर्स टेनिस टूर्नामेंट का एकल खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Novak Djokovic
- (b) Rafael Nadal
- (c) Roger Federer
- (d) Jannik Sinner
- (e) Daniil Medvedev

Ans. d

Sol. Jannik Sinner wins the ATP Shanghai Masters 1000 singles title

World Number One male tennis player Jannik Sinner of Italy defeated 24 Grand Slam winner Novak Djokovic of Serbia in the final to win the ATP Shanghai Masters 1000 singles title.

The ATP Shanghai Master 1000 was held in the Chinese city of Shanghai from 2 to 13 October 2024. The Shanghai Master is played on a hard court.

Jannik Sinner defeated Novak Djokovic 7-6 (7/4), 6-3. The defeat also ended Djokovic's quest to win his 100 ATP titles.

162. Tanya Hemanth, who was in the news recently, belongs to which sports?

हाल ही में चर्चा में रही तान्या हेमंत किस खेल से संबंधित है?

- (a) Badminton
- (b) Basketball
- (c) Tennis
- (d) Archery
- (e) Shotput

Ans. a

Sol. Tanya Hemanth wins 2024 Bendigo International Badminton Tournament

21-year-old Tanya Hemanth of India won the 2024 Bendigo International badminton tournament women's singles final.

She defeated Tung Ciou-tong of Chinese Taipei in the final at Bendigo, Australia, in straight sets 21-17, 21-17.

This was Tanya's third international title after the 2022 India International and the 2023 Iran Fajr International.

The Bendigo International badminton tournament was held in Bendigo, Australia. It is a Grade 3 International Challenge tournament.

163. Telecom gear maker Ericsson secured a multi-billion-dollar contract from India's Bharti Airtel to supply 5G equipment, following its earlier involvement in a \$3.6 billion contract with Vodafone Idea, this new deal underscores the company's significant role in meeting the rapidly growing demand for 5G services in India in October 2024. Ericsson is the company of which country?

दूरसंचार गियर निर्माता एरिक्सन ने 5G उपकरणों की आपूर्ति के लिए भारत की भारती एयरटेल से बहु-अरब डॉलर का अनुबंध हासिल किया, इससे पहले वोडाफोन आइडिया के साथ 3.6 बिलियन डॉलर के अनुबंध में इसकी भागीदारी थी, यह नया सौदा अक्टूबर 2024 में भारत में 5G सेवाओं की तेजी से बढ़ती मांग को पूरा करने में कंपनी की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को रेखांकित करता है। एरिक्सन किस देश की कंपनी है?

- (a) Japan
- (b) South Korea
- (c) Sweden
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) Denmark

Ans. c

Sol. Ericsson wins multi-billion-dollar 5G equipment contract from Bharti Airtel

Swedish telecom gear maker Ericsson has received a new multi-billion-dollar contract for selling 5G equipment from India's Bharti Airtel.

This comes after Ericsson got part of a \$3.6 billion contract last month for selling 5G equipment to India's Vodafone Idea. It shared the contract with Nokia and Samsung.

The new contracts are expected to boost Ericsson's revenue next year after seeing a big fall in contracts from India in the first half of the year.

Demand from the Indian 5G market started to skyrocket in 2023, when sales from the region grew as much as five times, as Airtel and Jio, the telecoms unit of Indian conglomerate Reliance Industries, started to scale up 5G services.

164. Tata Capital received the Reserve Bank of India's approval for its merger with Tata Motors Finance, creating India's 12th largest non-banking finance company, following the merger, Tata Motors will hold a 4.7% stake in the merged entity. As of March 31, 2024, what percentage of Tata Capital's equity shares does Tata Sons, the holding company of Tata Group, directly own?

टाटा कैपिटल को टाटा मोटर्स फाइनेंस के साथ विलय के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की मंजूरी मिल गई है, जिससे भारत की 12वीं सबसे बड़ी गैर-बैंकिंग वित्त कंपनी बन जाएगी। विलय के बाद, टाटा मोटर्स विलय की गई इकाई में 4.7% हिस्सेदारी रखेगा। 31 मार्च, 2024 तक, टाटा समूह की होल्डिंग कंपनी टाटा संस के पास टाटा कैपिटल के कितने प्रतिशत इक्विटी शेयर सीधे तौर पर हैं?

- (a) 72.83 %
- (b) 82.83 %
- (c) 92.83 %
- (d) 62.83 %
- (e) 52.83 %

Ans. c

Sol. Tata Capital, Tata Motors Finance merger receives RBI's approval

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the merger of Tata Capital, an unlisted entity, with Tata Motors Finance (TMFL), paving the way for the formation of India's 12th largest non-banking finance company.

The RBI sent its "no-objection" to both companies earlier this month, according to the companies' regulatory filings.

As consideration for the merger, Tata Capital will issue equity shares to the shareholders of TMFL, resulting in Tata Motors holding a 4.7 per cent stake in the merged entity.

As of March 31, 2024, Tata Sons, the holding company of Tata Group, directly owns 92.83 % of Tata Capital's equity shares, with the majority of the remaining stake held by other Tata Group companies and trust.

165. India's largest payment and API banking firm, Cashfree Payments has received certification from the National Payments Corporation of India for its UPI Switch service. Cashfree can offer settlement of around _____ transactions per second with this certification.

भारत की सबसे बड़ी पेमेंट और API बैंकिंग फर्म, कैशफ्री पेमेंट्स को अपनी UPI स्विच सेवा के लिए भारतीय राष्ट्रीय भुगतान निगम से प्रमाणन प्राप्त हुआ है। इस प्रमाणन के साथ कैशफ्री प्रति सेकंड लगभग _____ लेनदेन का निपटान कर सकता है।

- (a) 10,000
- (b) 22,000
- (c) 12,000

(d) 24,000

(e) 15,000

Ans. c

Sol. Cashfree Payments unveils UPI Switch to enhance success rates for online businesses

India's largest payment and API banking firm, Cashfree Payments has received certification from the National Payments Corporation of India for its UPI Switch service.

This will allow Cashfree to directly integrate with any bank's core banking software and offer a higher transaction success rate for its merchants.

Cashfree can offer settlement of around 12,000 transactions per second with this certification. Cashfree has built this switch in partnership with NSDL Payments Bank as the sponsor bank.

This will help Cashfree achieve a 5% jump in its transaction success rates and help in faster merchant onboarding, instant access to new features on UPI, and better control over the entire payments journey.

CEO & Co-founder of Cashfree Payments - Akash Sinha

166. India has signed a deal with the US for the procurement of how many Predator MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance UAV manufactured by General Atomics?

भारत ने जनरल एटॉमिक्स द्वारा निर्मित कितने प्रीडेटर MQ-9B हाई एल्टीट्यूड लॉन्ग एंड्योरेंस UAV की खरीद के लिए अमेरिका के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) 10

(b) 16

(c) 21

(d) 31

(e) 45

Ans. d

Sol. India, US sign Rs 32,000-crore deal for 31 Predator drones

India has signed a deal with the US for the procurement of 31 Predator MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance UAV manufactured by General Atomics.

The development comes less than a month after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden held talks about the acquisition of the drones on the sidelines of the Quad Leaders' Summit held in Delaware.

This deal, aimed at enhancing the country's operational readiness and military strength, includes tri-service procurement of the MQ-9B Sky Guardian and Sea Guardian drones.

The MQ-9B Predator is a next-generation remotely piloted aircraft capable of conducting a range of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions.

The drone can fly as close to 250 metres from the ground without the target even having an inkling it is there unless spotted.

With a maximum speed of 442 km/h, the drone can soar at an altitude of around 50,000 feet, higher than that of a commercial airplane.

167. The 75th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) opened at the MiCo Convention Center in Milan, Italy. What is the theme of this 75th IAC?

75वीं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अंतरिक्ष यात्री कांग्रेस (IAC) इटली के मिलान में MiCo कन्वेंशन सेंटर में शुरू हुई। इस 75वीं IAC का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Global Challenges and Opportunities: Give Space a Chance
- (b) Space for @ll
- (c) Inspire, Innovate & Discover for the Benefit of Mankind
- (d) IAF Connecting @ll Space People
- (e) Responsible Space for Sustainability

Ans. e

Sol. 75th International Astronautical Congress begins in Milan with focus on responsible space for sustainability

The 75th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) opened at the MiCo Convention Center in Milan, Italy.

The event has drawn more than 10,000 space experts, scholars, entrepreneurs, and professionals from around the world. Italian President Sergio Mattarella attended the opening ceremony.

This year's congress, themed "Responsible Space for Sustainability," focuses on promoting the sustainable development of space technologies globally, ensuring that future space exploration and utilization strike a balance between scientific advancement and environmental protection.

Throughout the week, over 200 technical sessions will be held, covering a wide range of topics, including the sustainable exploration of the Moon and Mars, space-based Earth observation for climate change, the role of private companies in space development, and applications of artificial intelligence.

168. Indian shooter Sonam Uttam Maskar won the silver medal in the Women's _____ Air Rifle event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 final in Delhi.

भारतीय निशानेबाज सोनम उत्तम मास्कर ने दिल्ली में आईएसएसएफ विश्व कप 2024 के फाइनल में महिलाओं की _____ एयर राइफल स्पर्धा में रजत पदक जीता।

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

- (c) 40m
- (d) 50m
- (e) 100m

Ans. a

Sol. Sonam Uttam Maskar wins Silver Medal in Women's 10m Air Rifle event
Indian shooter Sonam Uttam Maskar won the silver medal in the Women's 10m Air Rifle event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 final in Delhi.

The 22-year-old Maskar excelled with a score of 252.9 to secure a podium finish. China's Yuting Huang won the gold medal in this event, while French shooter Oceanne Muller took home the bronze.

The Indian squad features nine athletes from the 2024 Paris Olympics, including Arjun Babuta (men's 10m air rifle), Anish Bhanwala (men's 25m rapid fire pistol). Olympic champion Huang Yuting of China won the gold while Oceanne Muller of France took bronze.

169. In October 2024, NASA launched a groundbreaking mission to investigate Jupiter and which of its moons, one of the prime locations in the search for life beyond Earth?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, नासा ने बृहस्पति और उसके किस चंद्रमा की जांच के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण मिशन लॉन्च किया, जो पृथ्वी से परे जीवन की खोज में प्रमुख स्थानों में से एक है?

- (a) Ganymede
- (b) Callisto
- (c) Himalia
- (d) Lysithea
- (e) Europa

Ans. e

Sol. NASA launches Europa Clipper to examine Jupiter's moon

NASA has launched a groundbreaking mission to investigate Jupiter and its moon, Europa, one of the prime locations in the search for life beyond Earth.

The spacecraft, named Europa Clipper, is designed to study the moon's icy surface and the subsurface ocean believed to exist beneath.

It was launched aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket from Nasa's Kennedy Space Center, with the mission costing \$5.2 billion.

Europa Clipper will not directly search for life, but will assess whether Europa's environment could support it. The spacecraft will examine the moon's ice-covered ocean, located relatively close to the surface. Although it won't hunt for microorganisms, its findings may pave the way for future missions aimed at detecting life.

Why is Jupiter's moon Europa a key target?

- Europa, one of Jupiter's 95 known moons, is slightly smaller than Earth's moon and is covered by an ice sheet estimated to be 10 to 15 miles (15 to 24 km) thick.
- Beneath this frozen surface, scientists believe a vast ocean exists, potentially up to 80 miles (120 km) deep.
- This ocean could be a rich environment for life due to the presence of water, organic compounds, and energy sources such as thermal vents on the ocean floor.
- Although Europa was discovered by Galileo in 1610, interest in its potential to support life has grown in recent decades, especially with evidence from the Hubble Space Telescope suggesting geysers erupting from its surface.

170. Where was the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) - World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 held?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दूरसंचार संघ (ITU) - विश्व दूरसंचार मानकीकरण सभा (WTSA) 2024 कहाँ आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Noida
- (c) Jaipur
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Hyderabad

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates WTSA 2024 and 8th India Mobile Congress 2024

PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) - World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024 at New Delhi.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated the 8th edition of the India Mobile Congress 2024, which is being held along with the WTSA 2024 in New Delhi.

About the ITU- WTSA 2024

- ITU plays a major role in providing inputs and formulation of policies related to the Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) in the world.
- The work of the ITU in this regard has been divided into three sectors, the Radiocommunication Sector, the Telecommunication Standardization Sector, and the Telecommunication Development Sector.
- The Telecommunication Standardization Sector studies the technical, operating, and tariff questions related to the telecommunications sector and adopts recommendations to standardize telecommunications.
- The ITU-WTSA is held after every four years.

- For the first time the ITU-WTSA is being held in India and the Asia -Pacific region.

About the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

- Founded -1865
- Members- 194 countries
- Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland
- Secretary General- Doreen Bogdan-Martin

171. World Students' Day is observed every year on 15 October to honour the contributions of the former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam in the field of education. What is the theme of World Students' Day 2024?

पूर्व राष्ट्रपति डॉ. एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम के शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में योगदान को सम्मानित करने के लिए हर साल 15 अक्टूबर को विश्व छात्र दिवस मनाया जाता है। विश्व छात्र दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) FAIL: First Attempt in Learning
- (b) Learning for people, planet, prosperity, and peace
- (c) Assembly activity
- (d) Empowering Students to be Agents of Change
- (e) None of above

Ans. d

Sol. 15 October - World Students' Day

World Students' Day is observed every year on 15 October to honour the contributions of the former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam in the field of education. Known as the Missile Man of India, India's 11th president from (2002 -2007) was a distinguished administrator and scientist who spent more than forty years with the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO). Theme 2024 - Empowering Students to be Agents of Change To commemorate Kalam's numerous achievements, particularly in the areas of academia and research, October 15 was chosen as World Students' Day in 2010.

172. In October 2024, India and which country signed the Audio-Visual Co-Production Agreement to boost film co-production and cultural ties?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, भारत और किस देश ने फिल्म सह-निर्माण और सांस्कृतिक संबंधों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए ऑडियो-विजुअल सह-उत्पादन समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Oman
- (b) Malaysia
- (c) Australia
- (d) Columbia
- (e) Turkey

Ans. d

Sol. India and Colombia sign Audio-Visual Co-Production Agreement to boost film co-production and cultural ties

India and Columbia have signed the Audio-Visual Co-Production Agreement which will enable Indian and Colombian film producers to utilize a platform for collaboration on various facets of film making.

The agreement is expected to deepen the engagement between the critical sectors of the film industries of both countries thereby, unfolding a new chapter of collaboration.

Colombia - 17th Country to sign Audio Visual co-production Agreement with India.

Earlier, the GoI had signed similar agreements with the Government of Italian Republic and Government of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 2005, Federal Republic of Germany in 2007, Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil in 2007.

India has also signed this agreements with Republic of France in 2010, Republic of New Zealand in 2011, Republic of Poland and Republic of Spain in 2012. More recent agreements were signed with Canada and China in 2014, Republic of Korea in 2015, Bangladesh in 2016, Portugal in 2017, Israel in 2018, Russia in 2019 and Australia in 2023.

173. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of _____ shareholding in Future Generali India Insurance and _____ shareholding in Future Generali India Life Insurance by Central Bank of India.

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) ने सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया द्वारा फ्यूचर जनरली इंडिया इंश्योरेंस में _____ शेयरधारिता और फ्यूचर जनरली इंडिया लाइफ इंश्योरेंस में _____ शेयरधारिता के प्रस्तावित अधिग्रहण को मंजूरी दे दी है।

- (a) 24.91%; 25.18%
- (b) 25.18%; 24.91%
- (c) 27.91%; 25.88%
- (d) 14.91%; 15.18%
- (e) 24.91%; 45.18%

Ans. a

Sol. CCI approves the proposed acquisition of 24.91% shareholding in Future Generali India Insurance by Central Bank of India

Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of 24.91% shareholding in Future Generali India Insurance and 25.18% shareholding in Future Generali India Life Insurance by Central Bank of India.

Proposed combination envisages acquisition by Central Bank of India of 24.91%equity stake in Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited (FGIICL) and 25.18%equity stake in Future Generali India Life Insurance Company Limited (FGILICL) through bid/resolution plan submitted by Central bank of India under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution 2016.

3. Who was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Acko Life, the recently launched life insurance division of Bengaluru-based insurtech firm Acko?

बेंगलुरु स्थित इंश्योरटेक फर्म एको के हाल ही में लॉन्च किए गए जीवन बीमा प्रभाग, एको लाइफ के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया?

- (a) Anushka Sharma
- (b) Rajesh Shah
- (c) Navin Jindal
- (d) Ritika Jha
- (e) Sandip Goenka

Ans. e

Sol. Acko appoints Sandip Goenka as CEO of Acko Life

Bengaluru-based insurtech firm Acko has appointed Sandip Goenka the chief executive officer of its recently launched life insurance business.

As a founding member of Acko Life, Goenka has played a key role in establishing the D2C life insurance business.

Founded in 2016, ACKO has expanded its offerings beyond life insurance to include vehicle, health, and travel insurance, serving over 78 million unique customers and issuing more than 1 billion policies.

174. Aditya Birla Housing Finance (ABHFL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Ltd, has entered into a strategic partnership with which fintech company to facilitate access to home loans and loans against property for the latter's merchant partners?

आदित्य बिड़ला कैपिटल लिमिटेड की पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी आदित्य बिड़ला हाउसिंग फाइनेंस (ABHFL) ने किस फिनटेक कंपनी के साथ रणनीतिक साझेदारी की है, ताकि बाद के व्यापारी भागीदारों के लिए गृह ऋण और संपत्ति के खिलाफ ऋण तक पहुंच की सुविधा मिल सके?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Aditya Birla Housing Finance partners BharatPe to revolutionise secured lending

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Ltd, Aditya Birla Housing Finance (ABHFL) has entered into a strategic partnership with BharatPe, a fintech company, to facilitate access to home loans and loan against property for latter's merchant partners. ABHFL is the first housing finance company to partner with BharatPe, offering streamlined access to secured lending through advanced digital solutions, significantly enhancing the user experience.

This collaboration enables ABHFL to offer Home Loans (HL) and Loans Against Property (LAP) to over 1.3 crore merchants of BharatPe across 450+ cities.

CEO of Bharat Pe - Nalin Negi

MD & CEO of ABHFL - Pankaj Gadgil

175. State-owned BEML has been awarded a contract of how much rupees for designing, manufacturing, and commissioning two high-speed train sets, marking the first time that such work will be done indigenously?

राज्य के स्वामित्व वाली बीईएमएल को दो हाई-स्पीड ट्रेन सेटों की डिजाइनिंग, निर्माण और कमीशनिंग के लिए कितने रुपये का अनुबंध दिया गया है, जो पहली बार है कि ऐसा काम स्वदेशी रूप से किया जाएगा?

- (a) Rs 867.27 cr
- (b) Rs 857.87 cr
- (c) Rs 827.87 cr
- (d) Rs 817.87 cr
- (e) Rs 866.87 cr

Ans. e

Sol. BEML wins Rs 866.87 crore contract to build 'Made in India' bullet trains

State-owned BEML has been awarded a contract of Rs 867 crore for designing, manufacturing, and commissioning two high-speed train sets, marking the first time that such work will be done indigenously.

The contract was awarded by Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai.

The price of each car is Rs 27.86 crore and the total contract value is Rs 866.87 core which includes design cost, one-time development cost, non-recurring charges, one time cost towards jigs, fixtures, tooling and testing facilities, which will be utilised for all future high-speed projects in India.

This project marks a significant milestone in India's high-speed rail journey and will see the first indigenously designed and manufactured train sets with a test speed of 280 kmph

The sets will be built at BEML's Bengaluru rail coach complex and are scheduled for delivery by the end of 2026.

176. Which Indian actress has been appointed the National Ambassador for Promoting Cyber Safety by the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs?

गृह मंत्रालय के तहत भारतीय साइबर अपराध समन्वय केंद्र (I4C) द्वारा किस भारतीय अभिनेत्री को साइबर सुरक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए राष्ट्रीय राजदूत नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Sunny Leone
- (b) Karina Kapoor
- (c) Anushka Sharma
- (d) Katrina Kaif
- (e) Rashmika Mandanna

Ans. e

Sol. Rashmika Mandanna appointed national ambassador for cyber safety

Actor Rashmika Mandanna has been appointed the National Ambassador for Promoting Cyber Safety by the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Animal actor will spearhead a nationwide campaign aimed at raising awareness about cyber threats and promoting online safety.

As the ambassador, Rashmika will spearhead nationwide cyber awareness campaigns designed to inform the public about cyber crimes including deepfake technology, malicious AI-created content, cyberbullying, financial frauds, and other online scams.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Rahul Dravid - Shriram Finance Ltd,
- 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

177. Which of the following cities was named the world's richest in terms of sovereign wealth funds, managing an estimated \$1.7 trillion in assets through investment authorities AIDA, Mubadala, and others, in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में निवेश प्राधिकरण AIDA, मुबाडाला और अन्य के माध्यम से अनुमानित \$1.7 ट्रिलियन की संपत्ति का प्रबंधन करने वाले सौवरेन वेल्थ फंड के मामले में निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर को दुनिया का सबसे अमीर शहर नामित किया गया था?

- (a) Riyadh
- (b) Paris
- (c) Mumbai
- (d) Abu Dhabi
- (e) Vienna

Ans. d

Sol. Abu Dhabi World's Richest In Terms Of Sovereign Wealth Funds

As of October 2024, Global SWF has crowned Abu Dhabi with the title of the world's richest country, in terms of its sovereign wealth funds.

The country is estimated to boast a staggering \$1.7 trillion in capital, followed closely by Oslo (home of the world's largest SWF, NBIM), Beijing, Singapore, Riyadh and Hong Kong.

Collectively, these six cities account for two-thirds of the capital managed by sovereign wealth funds worldwide, totalling \$12.5 trillion as of October 1, 2024.

About Sovereign Wealth Funds

- Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWFs) are state-owned investment funds or entities that manage a country's reserves for various purposes, including stabilization of the economy, saving for future generations, and funding social programs.
- SWFs are typically funded by government surpluses, foreign currency reserves, natural resource revenues (like oil and gas), or proceeds from privatizations.
- The primary goals of SWFs include achieving long-term capital appreciation, diversification of national revenue sources, and stabilization of the national economy against market fluctuations.

Types of SWF-

- Stabilization Funds- Used to counteract economic volatility.
- Savings Funds: Aimed at preserving wealth for future generations.
- Development Funds: Focused on funding national development projects.

178. In October 2024, which company has partnered with the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) to secure a USD 40 million loan aimed at boosting financial inclusion in India's MSME sector, with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, किस कंपनी ने यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स एजेंसी फॉर इंटरनेशनल डेवलपमेंट (USAID) के समर्थन से भारत के MSME क्षेत्र में वित्तीय समावेशन को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से 40 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर का ऋण सुरक्षित करने के लिए यूएस इंटरनेशनल डेवलपमेंट फाइनेंस कॉर्पोरेशन (DFC) के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) URG Capital
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. d

Sol. URG Capital secures financing facility of USD 40 million from DFC

United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has committed USD 40 million (approx Rs 330 crore) loan with URG Capital to bridge the credit gap in the MSME sector.

This investment marks a critical step in URG Capital's journey to empower small businesses at the grassroots level and deepen financial inclusion across the country. This financing facility from DFC will mark the third impact deal for URG within a year. DFC's support will enable URG Capital to bolster its lending efforts to small and mediumsized businesses across India, with a focus on empowering women-owned enterprises.

179. Which insurance company introduced 'Double Suraksha,' a comprehensive insurance product designed to cater to individuals across different income levels, providing a fixed daily cash benefit to help manage both medical and non-medical expenses during hospitalisation?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने 'डबल सुरक्षा' नामक एक व्यापक बीमा उत्पाद पेश किया है, जो विभिन्न आय स्तरों वाले व्यक्तियों की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए बनाया गया है, जो अस्पताल में भर्ती होने के दौरान चिकित्सा और गैर-चिकित्सा दोनों खर्चों का प्रबंधन करने में मदद करने के लिए एक निश्चित दैनिक नकद लाभ प्रदान करता है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Magma HDI General Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) URG Capital
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. b

Sol. Magma HDI launches 'Double Suraksha': Affordable Insurance for Every Income Group

Magma HDI General Insurance provides 'Double Suraksha,' a comprehensive insurance solution tailored to the demands of people with diverse financial backgrounds.

Whether for individuals who cannot afford complete health policies due to high costs, or for the wealthy wanting additional coverage for unexplained expenses while hospitalised, 'Double Suraksha' gives a fixed daily cash reward.

This gives policyholders the financial freedom to use the payout for medical or non-medical expenses associated to hospitalisation, depending on their specific needs.

180. Who inaugurated the International 6G Symposium at the sidelines of ITU-WTSA24 and IMC 24 in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में ITU-WTSA24 और IMC 24 के अवसर पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय 6G संगोष्ठी का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Ashwani Vaishnaw
- (c) Jyotiraditya Sindhiya
- (d) Amit Shah
- (e) Bhupendra Patel

Ans. c

Sol. Jyotiraditya Scindia Inaugurates International 6G Symposium

Minister of Communications and Development of the North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia has inaugurated the International 6G Symposium at the sidelines of ITU-WTSA24 and IMC 24.

The Bharat 6G Alliance is a collaborative initiative of Indian industry, academia, national research institutions, and standards organizations.

The event, organized by the Bharat 6G Alliance, marks a crucial milestone in India's journey towards global leadership in 6G technology.

It brings together various stakeholders to foster innovation, standardization, and research in the field of 6G telecommunications and to contribute to global 6G standards through bodies like the ITU and 3GPP (Third Generation Partnership Project).

The Bharat 6G Alliance(B6GA) signed various MoUs with global collaborators, NGMN Alliance (Next Generation Mobile Network Alliance), 5G ACIA (5G Alliance for Connected Industries and Automation), Germany, UKI-FIN (UK- India Future Networks Initiative) & UK TIN (UK Telecom Innovations Networks), 6G Forum (South Korea), 6G Brasil (Brazil).

B6GA has already forged alliance with NextG Alliance of ATIS USA, 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association (6G IA), European Council, and 6G Flagship- Oulu University.

About WTSA 2024

- WTSA 2024, organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), serves as a platform for the development and implementation of global telecommunications standards etc.

181. World Food Day is celebrated every year on 16 October across the world. What is the theme of World Food Day 2024?

विश्व खाद्य दिवस हर साल 16 अक्टूबर को दुनिया भर में मनाया जाता है। विश्व खाद्य दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Water is life, water is food. Leave no one behind.'4 hours ago
- (b) Leave No One Behind
- (c) Our Actions Are Our Future
- (d) Right to Food for a Better Life and a Better Future
- (e) Grow, nourish, sustain. Together. Our actions are our future

Ans. d

Sol. 16 October - World Food Day

World Food Day is celebrated every year on 16 October across the world.

The objective of World Food Day is to eradicate hunger, ensure food security, boost agricultural productivity and support a sustainable food system.

Theme 2024 - Right to Food for a Better Life and a Better Future.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) came into existence in 1945 and World Food Day came into existence in 1979 when the 20th FAO Conference declared October 16 as World Food Day.

Over 150 countries join the movement, observing this day to raise awareness about hunger, malnutrition, and food-promoting sustainable solutions for a zero-hunger world.

182. World Standards Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व मानक दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 October
- (b) 13 October
- (c) 15 October
- (d) 16 October
- (e) 17 October

Ans. a

Sol. 14 October - World Standards Day

World Standards Day is observed every year on 14 October.

This aims to emphasize the role that standardization plays in enhancing international trade and safety, as well as quality of life.

Theme 2024 - Shared Vision for a Better World: Standards for the Changing Climate

The date it commemorates is the first meeting held in 1946, at which delegates from 25 countries met in London to establish an international organization that would concentrate its efforts on standardization.

Although the International Organization for Standardization was constituted the following year, the first World Standards Day was only celebrated in 1970.

183. International Day of Rural Women is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण महिला दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 October
- (b) 15 October
- (c) 16 October
- (d) 17 October
- (e) 18 October

Ans. b

Sol. 15 October - International Day of Rural Women

The International Day of Rural Women and the Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas (National Women Farmer's Day) are observed on October 15.

The International Day of Rural Women, which highlights the critical role that rural women play in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security, and eradicating rural poverty, was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007.

Theme 2024 - Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All

The Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas, celebrated to signify the significant and crucial role played by women in agricultural development and allied fields, was declared by the Ministry of Agriculture in 2016.

Both the days recognise the challenges women face and advocates for their rights and contributions to sustainable development.

184. World White Cane Day is observed annually on which day?

विश्व सफेद बेंत दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 October
- (b) 13 October
- (c) 15 October
- (d) 16 October
- (e) 17 October

Ans. c

Sol. 15 October - World White Cane Day

World White Cane Day is observed annually on October 15 to recognise the importance of the white cane as a tool for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Beyond its practical use, this day aims to raise public awareness about pedestrian safety and the rights of people with visual disabilities.

Thme 2024 - Promoting Inclusion: Celebrating Abilities and Advocating Access for People

The day was first celebrated in 1964, with President Lyndon B. Johnson marking the occasion. Since then, the white cane has been recognized not only as an essential tool for mobility but also as a strong symbol of independence for blind individuals.

185. Global Handwashing Day is celebrated annually on October 15. What is the theme of Global Handwashing Day 2024?

ग्लोबल हैंडवाशिंग डे प्रतिवर्ष 15 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। ग्लोबल हैंडवाशिंग डे 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene
- (b) Hand Hygiene for All
- (c) Our Future is at Hand – Let's Move Forward Together
- (d) Clean hands are within reach
- (e) Why are clean hands still important

Ans. e

Sol. 15 October - Global Handwashing Day

Global Handwashing Day is celebrated annually on October 15.

Objective - To encourage people worldwide to wash their hands with soap when needed.

Theme 2024 - Why are clean hands still important

Global Handwashing Day was initiated in 2008 by the Global Handwashing Partnership, a coalition of international organisations dedicated to promoting hand hygiene.

186. The Union Cabinet approved an additional installment of Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) for Central Government employees and pensioners. By how much percent was the DA/DR increased over the existing rate of 50% of the Basic Pay/Pension in October 2024?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने केंद्र सरकार के कर्मचारियों और पेंशनभोगियों के लिए महंगाई भत्ते (डीए) और महंगाई राहत (डीआर) की एक अतिरिक्त किस्त को मंजूरी दे दी है। अक्टूबर 2024 में मूल वेतन/पेंशन के मौजूदा 50% की दर से डीए/डीआर में कितने प्रतिशत की वृद्धि की गई?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves additional instalment of three percent of Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved a 3% increase in Dearness Allowance (DA) for central government employees.

The hike, which takes effect from July 1, 2024, also extends to pensioners, with Dearness Relief (DR) being increased by the same percentage. The Dearness Relief for pensioners has also been revised by 3%.

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved an additional installment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to pensioners w.e.f. 01.07.2024 representing an increase of three percent (3%) over the existing rate of 50% of the Basic Pay/Pension, to compensate against price rise.

The total financial burden on the exchequer due to the DA and DR revisions will be ₹9,448.35 crore annually. This increase will benefit around 49.18 lakh central government employees and 64.89 lakh pensioners.

The DA/DR adjustments, made twice a year on January 1 and July 1, are calculated based on the All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (AICPI-IW), published by the Labour Bureau.

With the hike effective from July, employees will receive arrears for July, August, and September along with their revised payments. The revisions aim to protect against the erosion of real pay due to inflation.

187. Where was the 2024 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण पर 2024 एशिया-प्रशांत मंत्रिस्तरीय सम्मेलन कहाँ आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) Manila
- (b) Tokyo
- (c) Kathmandu
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Dhaka

Ans. a

Sol. Nityanand Rai attends the APMCDRR meeting in Manila, Philippines

The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai, represented India at the 2024 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) in Manila, Philippines.

The conference is being attended by over 7000 ministers and delegates from across the Asia Pacific region to address the critical need for enhanced action on disaster risk reduction.

The 2024 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction is being organised by the Philippines government in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Theme 2024 - Surge to 2030: Enhancing ambition in Asia-Pacific to accelerate disaster risk reduction

About APMCDRR

- The Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction is the main platform for Asia-Pacific region to monitor and enhance cooperation in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.
- The conference brings together governments, intergovernmental, international, national, and civil society organisations, the private sector, science, academia, and stakeholder groups to accelerate progress in reducing disaster risk.

188. Omar Abdullah of the National Conference party was sworn in as the first chief minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. While, _____ was sworn in as deputy chief minister.

नेशनल कॉन्फ्रेंस पार्टी के उमर अब्दुल्ला ने केंद्र शासित प्रदेश जम्मू-कश्मीर के पहले मुख्यमंत्री के रूप में शपथ ली। जबकि, _____ ने उपमुख्यमंत्री के रूप में शपथ ली।

- (a) Omar Addullah
- (b) Farooq Abdullah
- (c) Mehbooba Mufti
- (d) Surinder Kumar Choudhary
- (e) Nidhi Razdan

Ans. d

Sol. Omar Abdullah sworn in as CM of Jammu & Kashmir

Omar Abdullah of the National Conference party was sworn in as the first chief minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Along with Omar Abdullah, five ministers, four from the National Conference Party and one independent, were also sworn in.

Surinder Kumar Choudhary, the National Conference MLA from the Jammu region, was sworn in as deputy chief minister.

Jammu and Kashmir have been under the president's rule since the fall of the PDP-BJP coalition government in 2018. The President's rule was revoked after 6 years by the President on 13 October 2024.

Omar Abdullah has been sworn in as the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir for the second time. He became the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir for the first time in January 2009 and remained till 8th January 2014.

189. Where was the 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities meeting held in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में औषधि नियामक प्राधिकरणों की 19वीं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कॉन्फ्रेंस कहाँ आयोजित की गई?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Noida
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Chennai

Ans. a

Sol. India hosts the 19th ICDRA meeting for the first time in New Delhi

India hosts the 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA) meeting in New Delhi.

India was to host the event in 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was postponed and was held in 2024.

India hosts the ICDRA meeting for the first time.

The 18th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities meeting was held in Dublin, Ireland in 2018.

The meeting will bring together drug authorities from World Health Organisation (WHO) member countries to strengthen collaboration and develop international consensus on regulatory priorities.

The 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities is hosted by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). The CDSO comes under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfares.

Theme 2024 - Smart Regulation: Delivering Quality Assured Medical Products for All
The 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities meeting was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Parkash Nadda.

190. Which crop has seen the maximum increase in minimum support price for the 2025-26 rabi season?

2025-26 रबी सीजन के लिए किस फसल के न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य में अधिकतम वृद्धि देखी गई है?

- (a) Wheat
- (b) Barley
- (c) Gram
- (d) Lentil
- (e) Mustard

Ans. e

Sol. Cabinet approves MSP for Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved increasing the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2025-26.

The absolute highest increase in MSP has been announced for Rapeseed & Mustard at Rs.300 per quintal followed by Lentil (Masur) at Rs.275 per quintal. For gram, wheat, safflower and barley, there is an increase of Rs.210 per quintal, Rs.150 per quintal, Rs.140 per quintal and Rs.130 per quintal respectively.

In the Union Budget of 2018-19, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced that a crop's MSP should be at least 1.5 times the All-India weighted average Cost of Production.

The expected margin over All-India weighted average cost of production is 105 percent for wheat, followed by 98 percent for rapeseed & mustard; 89 per cent for lentil; 60 per cent for gram; 60 percent for barley; and 50 percent for safflower.

S No.	Crops	MSP 2025-26 (Rs per Quintal)	MSP 2024-25 (Rs per Quintal)	Increase in MSP (Rs per Quintal)	Cost of production (Rs per Quintal)	Margin over cost (in per cent)
1	Wheat	2425	2275	150	1182	105
2	Barley	1980	1850	130	1239	60
3	Gram	5650	5440	210	3527	60

4	Lentil(Masur)	6700	6425	275	3537	89
5	Rapeseed and Mustard	5950	5650	300	3011	98
6	Safflower	5940	5800	140	3960	50

What is the Minimum Support Price (MSP)?

- The government of India introduced Minimum Support Crop (MSP) for selected crops in 1966-67. The government announces it before the Kharif and Rabi season.
- MSP assures farmers that the government will buy their crops at an assured price; however, the government is not obligated to buy all crops from all farmers at the MSP rates.

191. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) became the first coal company in India to operate four AMRIT pharmacies, aimed at providing affordable healthcare and subsidized medicines to underserved communities. What is the meaning of 'R' in 'AMRIT'?

साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड (SECL) चार AMRIT फार्मसियों का संचालन करने वाली भारत की पहली कोयला कंपनी बन गई है, जिसका उद्देश्य वंचित समुदायों को सस्ती स्वास्थ्य सेवा और रियायती दवाइयाँ उपलब्ध कराना है। 'AMRIT' में 'R' का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Rapid
- (b) Reliable
- (c) Respiratory
- (d) Renovascular
- (e) Rheumatic

Ans. b

Sol. SECL Becomes First Coal Company to Open Four AMRIT Pharmacies

South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), a Chhattisgarh-based subsidiary of Coal India, has inaugurated the country's 216th AMRIT (Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment) Pharmacy.

Located at the Health Centre in SECL's Indira Vihar Colony, Bilaspur, this new facility makes SECL the first coal company to operate four AMRIT pharmacies.

The AMRIT pharmacies, part of a flagship initiative launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2015, provide a wide range of generic and life-saving branded drugs, implants, and surgical consumables at highly subsidized rates. SECL's initiative will benefit both inpatients and outpatients, including SECL employees, general public, and especially people from tribal and rural areas within the coal belt.

The expansion of these pharmacies will ensure easier access to affordable medicines for communities in some of the most underserved areas.

This pharmacy, along three others located in Central Hospitals in the operational areas of Gevra in Korba district (CG), Sohagpur in Shahdol district (MP), and Chirimiri in Manendragarh-Chirimiri-Bharatpur district (CG), ensures that a wide array of

medications for common and critical conditions such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases are available under one roof.

192. PFC Infra Finance IFSC Limited (PIFIL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC), has received approval from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to commence business as a Finance Company in IFSC GIFT City Gujarat. PIFIL will be the first finance company in IFSC dedicated to _____.

पावर फाइनेंस कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (PFC) की पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी PFC इंफ्रा फाइनेंस IFSC लिमिटेड (PIFIL) को IFSC GIFT सिटी गुजरात में एक फाइनेंस कंपनी के रूप में कारोबार शुरू करने के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय सेवा केंद्र प्राधिकरण (IFSCA) से मंजूरी मिल गई है। PIFIL IFSC में _____ को समर्पित पहली फाइनेंस कंपनी होगी।

- (a) Trading Sector Lending
- (b) Retail Banking
- (c) Agriculture and infrastructure sector lending
- (d) Insurance Services
- (e) Power and infrastructure sector lending

Ans. e

Sol. PFC Infra Finance IFSC Ltd gets approval to operate from GIFT City PFC Infra Finance IFSC Limited (PIFIL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC), has received approval from International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to commence business as a Finance Company in IFSC GIFT City Gujarat.

PFC Infra Finance IFSC Ltd (PIFIL) will be the first finance company in IFSC dedicated to power and infrastructure sector lending.

PIFIL aims to provide lending in India and other countries in foreign currency, catering to government as well as private players.

The establishment of PIFIL will position PFC as a global brand and contribute to strengthening India's position as a global financial hub.

193. Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh unveiled Pavana Chitra, India's first Airport based self-powered indoor air quality monitoring facility at which airport in October 2024?

केंद्रीय विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने अक्टूबर 2024 में किस हवाई अड्डे पर भारत की पहली हवाई अड्डा आधारित स्व-संचालित इनडोर वायु गुणवत्ता निगरानी सुविधा पवन चित्रा का अनावरण किया?

- (a) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi
- (b) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
- (c) Thiruvananthapuram International Airport
- (d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad
- (e) Mangaluru International Airport, Mangaluru

Ans. c

Sol. Dr Jitendra Singh dedicates India's first Airport based self-powered indoor air quality monitoring facility

Pavana Chitra embodies a powerful fusion of technology, tradition, and art, presenting an off-grid, self-powered indoor air quality monitor powered by indigenous indoor solar cells developed by CSIR-NIIST. It is crafted from locally available materials and designed to mimic the natural process of photosynthesis.

Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh unveiled Pavana Chitra, India's first Airport based self-powered indoor air quality monitoring facility at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport.

The off-grid air quality monitor is powered by Indigenous indoor solar cells developed by CSIR-NIIST, crafted from locally available materials.

194. Who administered the oath of office to Nayab Singh Saini as the chief minister of Haryana?

नायब सिंह सैनी को हरियाणा के मुख्यमंत्री के रूप में किसने शपथ दिलाई?

- (a) Ramen Deka
- (b) Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde
- (c) Jishnu Dev Varma
- (d) Gulab Chand Kataria
- (e) Bandaru Dattatreya

Ans. e

Sol. Nayab Singh Saini sworn in as CM of Haryana for 2nd time

Nayab Singh Saini of the Bharatiya Janata Party was sworn in as the chief minister of Haryana for the second consecutive time.

Nayab Singh Saini is the 11th chief minister of Haryana. The state governor, Bandaru Dattatreya, administered the oath of Office to Nayab Singh Saini and his 13 ministers at a ceremony in Panchkula, Haryana.

Nayab Singh Saini became the chief minister of Haryana for the first time on 12 March 2024 after Manohar Lal Khattar's resignation. Manohar Lal Khattar was the first-ever chief minister of Haryana from the Bharatiya Janata Party.

The BJP successfully retained its decade-long power in Haryana with a third straight win in the 2024 Assembly election by winning 48 seats in the 90-member Haryana State Assembly.

About Haryana

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Nayab Singh Saini(11th)
- **Governor** – Bandaru Dattatreya
- **Legislative Assembly Seats**- 90

195. Who has been named by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud as his successor?

भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश (सीजेआई) धनंजय वाई चंद्रचूड़ ने अपने उत्तराधिकारी के रूप में किसे नामित किया है?

- (a) Justice Sanjiv Khanna
- (b) Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai

- (c) Justice Surya Kant
 (d) Justice Hrishikesh Roy
 (e) Justice B.V. Nagarathna

Ans. a

Sol. CJI Chandrachud nominates Justice Khanna as successor

Justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud has officially initiated the process to appoint his successor by recommending Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the Supreme Court's senior-most judge, to the Union government.

Justice Khanna is set to take over as Chief Justice of India (CJI) on November 11, following Justice Chandrachud's retirement on November 10.

Justice Khanna, who will serve as the 51st CJI, is expected to remain in office until his retirement on May 13, 2025, giving him a tenure of around six months.

Under the current memorandum of procedure (MoP), the most senior judge of the Supreme Court, deemed fit, is appointed as the CJI. Justice Khanna's name has been recommended based on this convention.

About Justice Khanna

- Justice Khanna has a distinguished legal career, marked by a wealth of experience and significant contributions to India's judicial landscape.
- He began his legal journey by enrolling with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1983, practising initially at the Tis Hazari district courts before moving on to the Delhi high court.
- Justice Khanna was elevated as an additional judge of the Delhi high court in 2005, and by 2006, he became a permanent judge.
- During his tenure, he also contributed to the Delhi Judicial Academy, Delhi International Arbitration Centre and District Court Mediation Centres.
- Justice Khanna also joined a five-judge bench that earlier this year declared the electoral bond Scheme unconstitutional, siding with the view that anonymous donations through electoral bonds violate the public's right to information, a core element of informed voting.
- As a part of the five-judge bench, Justice Khanna upheld the abrogation of Article 370, determining that this article, though a unique aspect of India's federal structure, did not imply sovereignty for Jammu and Kashmir.

196. India's Supreme Court (SC) has unveiled a redesigned version of the 'Lady Justice' statue. Traditionally depicted with a blindfold and a sword, the new statue now features 'Lady Justice' with open eyes and the _____ in place of the sword, reflecting the judiciary's commitment to constitutional values and justice that "sees everyone equally".

भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय (SC) ने 'लेडी जस्टिस' प्रतिमा के नए स्वरूप का अनावरण किया है। जिसमें पारंपरिक रूप से आंखों पर पट्टी और तलवार के साथ चित्रित की जाने वाली नई प्रतिमा में अब खुली आंखों वाली 'लेडी जस्टिस' और तलवार की जगह _____ अंकित है, जो

संवैधानिक मूल्यों और न्याय के प्रति न्यायपालिका की प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है जो "सभी को समान रूप से देखता है"।

- (a) Constitution of India
- (b) Pen
- (c) Ramayana
- (d) Ashok Chakra
- (e) Dharma Chakra

Ans. a

Sol. Justice will no longer be 'blind': Supreme Court embraces new symbolism

The Supreme Court (SC) of India has unveiled a redesigned version of the 'Lady Justice' statue, marking a significant departure from its colonial past.

Traditionally depicted with a blindfold and a sword, the new statue now features 'Lady Justice' with open eyes and the Constitution of India in place of the sword, reflecting the judiciary's commitment to constitutional values and justice that "sees everyone equally".

Lady Justice's eyes open, blindfold removed

- The removal of the blindfold from 'Lady Justice' is more than a visual change—it symbolises a shift in how the judiciary views justice in modern India.
- The blindfold, long associated with impartiality and equality before the law, has been replaced with open eyes. This change, according to sources in the Supreme Court, reflects an evolving legal identity—one that distances itself from colonial symbols and embraces a uniquely Indian interpretation of justice.
- The updated statue now stands proudly in the judges' library, embodying a justice system that is aware, vigilant, and inclusive.

Replacing the sword with the Constitution

- Another striking feature of the new 'Lady Justice' is the replacement of the sword with the Constitution. While the sword previously represented authority and punishment, its replacement with the Constitution signifies a shift towards a more principled and balanced approach to justice.
- The Constitution, as the foundation of the judiciary's role, represents the upholding of rights, equality, and fairness over mere retribution.
- The sword is a symbol of violence, but courts deliver justice according to constitutional laws. The new statue aims to reflect this principle.

197. NITI Aayog has organized a two-day international methanol seminar and expo in 2024 in New Delhi. Which institute was the event held in collaboration with?

नीति आयोग ने 2024 में नई दिल्ली में दो दिवसीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मेथनॉल सेमिनार और एक्सपो का आयोजन किया है। यह आयोजन किस संस्थान के सहयोग से आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) India Methanol Economy Coalition
- (b) Methanol Institute of the UK
- (c) IIT Delhi
- (d) Methanol Institute of Russia
- (e) Methanol Institute of the United States

Ans. e

Sol. NITI Aayog organized a two-day International Methanol Seminar and Expo 2024. NITI Aayog has organized a two-day international methanol seminar and expo in 2024 in New Delhi. The event was held in collaboration with the Methanol Institute of the United States.

This event highlights the progress of projects, products, and Research and Development initiatives related to Methanol production, application, and allied technological developments in the world.

The key focus of the seminar highlights the role of Methanol in the world energy transition and the rise of Methanol as a low-carbon fuel in green shipping.

198. Global Handwashing Day is celebrated every year on 15 October. What is the theme of Global Handwashing Day 2024?

ग्लोबल हैंडवाशिंग डे हर साल 15 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। ग्लोबल हैंडवाशिंग डे 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Clean hands are within reach
- (b) Unite for safety: clean your hands
- (c) Our Future is at Hand – Let's Move Forward Together
- (d) Hand Hygiene for All
- (e) Why are clean hands still important

Ans. e

Sol. 15 October - Global Handwashing Day

Global Handwashing Day is celebrated every year on 15 October.

The day was established to raise awareness about the benefits of washing hands with soap, particularly in preventing illnesses like diarrhea and respiratory infections, which claim millions of lives annually.

Theme 2024 - Why are clean hands still important

In 2008, over 120 million children across 70 countries washed their hands with soap on the first Global Handwashing Day. Since then, leaders in communities and nations have used this day to promote handwashing, build facilities, and stress the importance of clean hands. It has become a global event, supported by governments, schools, organizations, and individuals.

199. World Anaesthesia Day is observed annually on October 16th to commemorate the first successful use of ether anaesthesia in surgery, which took place in 1846. What is the theme of World Anaesthesia Day 2024?

विश्व एनेस्थीसिया दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 16 अक्टूबर को सर्जरी में ईथर एनेस्थीसिया के पहले सफल प्रयोग की याद में मनाया जाता है, जो 1846 में हुआ था। विश्व एनेस्थीसिया दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Anaesthesia & Cancer Care
- (b) Medication Safety
- (c) Teamwork: Stronger teams for better patient care
- (d) Occupational Wellbeing of Anaesthesiologists

(e) Workforce Well-Being

Ans. e

Sol. 16 October - World Anesthesia Day

World Anaesthesia Day is observed annually on October 16th to commemorate the first successful use of ether anaesthesia in surgery, which took place in 1846.

It also aims to raise awareness about the importance of anaesthesia in various medical procedures and highlight the ongoing progress and innovations in this field that continue to enhance patient care globally.

Theme 2024 - Workforce Well-Being

On this day in 1846, American dentist Dr. William T.G. Morton administered ether to a patient at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, allowing a painless surgery to take place.

200. **The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is celebrated every year on which day throughout the world?**

अंतरराष्ट्रीय गरीबी उन्मूलन दिवस हर साल दुनिया भर में किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 October
- (b) 17 October
- (c) 18 October
- (d) 19 October
- (e) 20 October

Ans. b

Sol. 17 October - International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is celebrated every year on October 17 throughout the world.

The day tries to promote dialogue and understanding about poverty within governments and policymakers.

Theme 2024 - Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges: Together Towards Equality and Inclusion

In 1992, the United Nations General Assembly, by resolution 47/196, designated October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

201. **Nikita Porwal was crowned Femina Miss India 2024 in Mumbai. She is from which state?**

निकिता पोरवाल को मुंबई में फेमिना मिस इंडिया 2024 का ताज पहनाया गया। वह किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh
- (e) Himachal Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. 18-year-old Nikita Porwal crowned Femina Miss India 2024

Nikita Porwal from Madhya Pradesh was crowned Femina Miss India 2024 in Mumbai.

The dazzling event held at Famous Studios, marked the 60th edition of the beauty pageant.

She was followed at the second position by Rekha Panday who represented Union Territories and the second runner-up was Gujarat's Ayushi Dholakia.

The 18-year-old actor started her career as a TV anchor, and she was crowned by last year's winner Nandini Gupta.

Neha Dhupia put the Miss India sash on her. Despite being part of a movie, there are many people who still don't know much about Nikita Porwal.

Nikita succeeds the earlier titleholder, Nandini Gupta from Rajasthan, who held the title since 2023.

202. Who led the Indian delegation at the 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union?

अंतर-संसदीय संघ की 149वीं सभा में भारतीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व किसने किया?

- (a) Om Birla
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) S Jaisankar
- (d) Amit Shah
- (e) Both a and c

Ans. a

Sol. Om Birla addresses the 149th Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla addressed the 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and emphasised the need for multilateralism in the world.

The 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union was held at the IPU's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The IPU is the global organisation of the National Parliaments.

The Indian delegation led by Om Birla included Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Singh, the Secretary General of both Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and various other Members of Parliament.

The theme of the 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union was Harnessing Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for a more peaceful and sustainable future.

203. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar represented India at the 23rd Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisations (SCO) Council of Heads of Government, held in Islamabad, Pakistan in October 2024. How many countries are the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization(SCO)?

विदेश मंत्री डॉ. एस जयशंकर ने अक्टूबर 2024 में इस्लामाबाद, पाकिस्तान में आयोजित शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) के शासनाध्यक्षों की परिषद की 23वीं बैठक में भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व किया। शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) के सदस्य कितने देश हैं?

- (a) 7
- (b) 8
- (c) 9
- (d) 10
- (e) 12

Ans. d

Sol. S.Jaishnakar attends 23rd SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting
 External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishanakar represented India at the 23rd Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisations (SCO) Council of Heads of Government, held in Islamabad, Pakistan.

The two-day meeting was hosted by the Pakistani Prime Minister, Shahbaz Sharif. This was the first visit of an Indian minister to Pakistan after the 2015 visit of the then External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

Sushma Swaraj visited Islamabad, Pakistan, in December 2015 to attend the Heart of Asia Conference.

About Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

- **Founded** – 15 June 2001
- **Headquarters** - Beijing, China
- **Member Countries** - 10 (Iran, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Belarus)
- The founding members (5) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) were China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. India and Pakistan officially joined this organization in 2017. Iran joined in 2023.
- Observer members – 2 (Afghanistan and Mongolia).
- Belarus, which was earlier the Observer country at the SCO, was upgraded and made the 10th full member of the SCO in 2024.
- The annual Presidency of the SCO rotates amongst the member states.

204. In October 2024, President Droupadi Murmu was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Political Science by Sidi Abdellah Science and Technology Pole University. This institute is located in which country?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू को सिदी अब्देल्लाह विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी पोल विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा राजनीति विज्ञान में मानद डॉक्टरेट की उपाधि से सम्मानित किया गया। यह संस्थान किस देश में स्थित है?

- (a) Albania
- (b) Algeria
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Angola
- (e) Australia

Ans. b

Sol. President Murmu conferred Honorary Doctorate in Algeria

President Droupadi Murmu was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Political Science by Sidi Abdellah Science and Technology Pole University in Algiers.

The Doctorate was presented to Murmu by Kamal Baddari, Algeria's Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

About Algeria

- Capital- Algiers

- Currency-Algerian Dinar
- Continent - Africa
- President - Abdelmadjid Tebboune

205. Who has inaugurated the second edition of the art exhibition "Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre" in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में कला प्रदर्शनी "साइलेंट कन्वर्सेशन: फ्रॉम मार्जिन्स टू द सेंटर" के दूसरे संस्करण का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) S Jaishankar
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Nitin Gadkari
- (e) JP Nadda

Ans. a

Sol. Union Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar inaugurates second edition of Art Exhibition 'Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre'

Union Minister for External Affairs, Dr. S. Jaishankar inaugurated the second edition of the art exhibition "Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre" in New Delhi.

The four-day exhibition has been organized by the National Tiger Conservation Authority in collaboration with the Sankala Foundation,

the National Human Rights Commission and the International Big Cat Alliance.

On the occasion, a book titled "Hidden Treasures: India's Heritage in Tiger Reserves" and a magazine called "Big Cats" were also released.

A cultural program was also organized in the evening, that was attended by Dr. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister for Culture and Tourism.

206. The Ministry of Rural Development under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY NRLM) has signed an MoU with several banks to promote individual financing for women entrepreneurs. These banks have created loan products to support the scaling of women-led enterprises. Which of the following banks is not included in the MoU?

दीनदयाल अंत्योदय योजना-राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण आजीविका मिशन (डीएवाई एनआरएलएम) के तहत ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय ने महिला उद्यमियों के लिए व्यक्तिगत वित्तपोषण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कई बैंकों के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इन बैंकों ने महिलाओं के नेतृत्व वाले उद्यमों के विस्तार में सहायता के लिए ऋण उत्पाद बनाए हैं। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा बैंक समझौता ज्ञापन में शामिल नहीं है?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) State Bank of India
- (c) Indian Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) Canara Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Ministry of Rural Development signs MoU with ten banks to promote individual financing for higher order enterprises

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY NRLM) under the Ministry of Rural Development signed a MoU with nine Public Sector Banks and one Private Bank.

These Banks are Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Punjab National Bank, UCO Bank and, IDBI Bank Limited.

These Banks have designed specific products for financing individual women entrepreneurs under the fold of DAY-NRLM.

The loan products so designed will help women avail bigger ticket size loans for scaling up their enterprises. This move is in lines with the realisation of goal of making Lakhpati Didi, as announced by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

DAY NRLM has witnessed SHG Bank linkage grow leaps and bounds as the programme evolved. More than Rs. 9.5 crore loans have been extended by Banks to the self-help groups since the start of the Mission.

207. The festival to strengthen the cordial bond between the indigenous communities living in the hills and the valley people of Manipur, the Mera Hou Chongba Festival 2024, was observed in which city?

मणिपुर की पहाड़ियों और घाटी के लोगों में रहने वाले स्वदेशी समुदायों के बीच सौहार्दपूर्ण बंधन को मजबूत करने के लिए त्योहार, मेरा होउ चोंगबा महोत्सव 2024, किस शहर में मनाया गया?

- (a) Ukhrul
- (b) Thoubal
- (c) Tamenglong
- (d) Jiribam
- (e) Imphal

Ans. e

Sol. Manipur: Mera Hou Chongba festival observed to foster unity between hill & valley indigenous communities

The festival to strengthen the cordial bond between the indigenous communities living in the hills and the valley people of Manipur, the Mera Hou Chongba Festival 2024, was observed in Imphal.

The main event was held at the holy site, Kangla, in Imphal, where leaders of Indigenous communities from various hill districts joined the valley people in observing the festival, which symbolizes harmony and cultural exchange.

The Mera Hou Chongba is the only festival where both hill and valley indigenous communities are observed together in the state.

About Manipur

- **Capital** – Imphal
- **Chief Minister** – N. Biren Singh
- **Governor** - Anusuiya Uikey

208. The Government of India has joined hands with which company for the "Scams Se Bachao" campaign to tackle the growing threat of online scams?

भारत सरकार ने ऑनलाइन घोटालों के बढ़ते खतरे से निपटने के लिए "घोटालों से बचाओ" अभियान के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ हाथ मिलाया है?

- (a) Google
- (b) Meta
- (c) Microsoft
- (d) IBM
- (e) Infosys

Ans. b

Sol. Government and Meta join forces for "Scam se Bachho" Campaign to tackle rising online scams

Government and Meta have joined forces for the "Scam se Bachho" campaign to tackle the rising threat of online scams.

During the launch of the campaign in New Delhi, Information and Broadcasting Secretary Sanjay Jaju delivered the keynote address, describing the initiative as a timely and essential step toward safeguarding citizens from the increasing danger of online fraud.

This initiative by Meta is launched in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, and the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre. It aims to combat the growing menace of scams and cyber fraud.

Recent MoU

- BHP signed MoU with SAIL to accelerate potential pathways to steel decarbonisation
- Bharat Forge teams up with US defence giants for next-gen artillery systems
- IIT Delhi, IAF join hands for AI-powered research on aviation textile
- BPCL and Mumbai Port Authority to launch India's first green fuel ecosystem
- Amazon partners with Ministry of Labour and Employment to expand job opportunities through NCS portal
- The Rubber Research Institute of India signed an MoU with Indian Oil to enhance research on the use of Rubber Process Oils marketed by IOCL in various tyre and non-tyre rubber products

209. The Indian Railway Board has reduced the deadline for advance booking of trains from 120 days to _____, with the new deadline coming into effect from November 1.

भारतीय रेलवे बोर्ड ने 1 नवंबर से प्रभावी होने वाली नई समय सीमा के साथ ट्रेनों की अग्रिम बुकिंग की समय सीमा 120 दिन से घटाकर _____ कर दी है।

- (a) 90 days
- (b) 60 days
- (c) 30 days
- (d) 75 days
- (e) 50 days

Ans. b

Sol. Railways to cut advance booking period from 120 days to 60

The Railway Board has reduced the time limit for advance booking of trains from 120 days to 60 days with the new time limit set to take effect from November 1.

The Railways clarified that bookings made under the current 120-day ARP before October 31 will remain valid.

It also stated that any cancellations for bookings made beyond the new 60-day ARP will still be allowed.

The revised changes do not apply to certain daytime express trains, such as the Taj Express and Gomti Express, which have different advance reservation limits.

Additionally, the 365-day advance booking option for foreign tourists will remain unchanged.

The advanced train ticket booking system is a feature that allows passengers to plan their journeys conveniently. Previously, the Railways allowed this facility up to 120 days, or four months, in advance of the journey date.

210. Which Indian cricketer has been appointed as the Director of Cricket at Jindal South West (JSW) Sports, where he will oversee the operations of both the Delhi Capitals men's and women's teams in the Indian Premier League (IPL) and Women's Premier League (WPL)?

किस भारतीय क्रिकेटर को जिंदल साउथ वेस्ट (जेएसडब्ल्यू) स्पोर्ट्स में क्रिकेट निदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है, जहां वह इंडियन प्रीमियर लीग (आईपीएल) और महिला प्रीमियर लीग (डब्ल्यूपीएल) में दिल्ली कैपिटल्स पुरुष और महिला दोनों टीमों के संचालन की देखरेख करेंगे?

- (a) MS Dhoni
- (b) Rahul Dravid
- (c) Sourav Ganguly
- (d) Sachin Tendulkar
- (e) Virendra Sehwag

Ans. c

Sol. Sourav Ganguly named as Director of Cricket at JSW Sports

Former Indian captain and BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) chief Saurav Ganguly has been named as director of cricket of Jindal South West (JSW) Sports.

In this role, Ganguly will oversee all cricketing operations for the organization, including its key franchises like Delhi Capitals' men's and women's IPL and WPL teams, and Pretoria Capitals, which competes in the SA20 League.

For the next two years, the GMR Group will oversee the Delhi Capitals' operations in the IPL, while JSW Sports will manage the team's participation in the WPL. In 2027, the roles will reverse, with JSW Sports taking over the management of the men's team.

Recent Appointment

- CM of Haryana - Nayab Singh Saini (2nd time)
- CM of UTs of Jammu and Kashmir - Omar Abdullah
- Deputy of UTs of Jammu and Kashmir - Surinder Kumar Choudhary

- MD and CEO of Indian Railways Financial Corporation (IRFC) - Manoj Kumar Dubey
- Chairman of Tata Trusts - Noel Tata (replace Ratan Tata)
- CEO of Government e Marketplace (GeM) Portal - L Satya Srinivas (additional charge)

211. Where was the second edition of the 'Sagar Kavach 2024 exercise held?

सागर कवच 2024 अभ्यास का दूसरा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Goa
- (d) Kerala
- (e) Odisha

Ans. a

Sol. 2nd edition of 'Sagar Kavach' exercise 2024 held by Indian Coast Guard

The Indian Coast Guard successfully conducted its 2nd edition of the coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' across Gujarat and the Union Territory of Daman & Diu coasts. The Indian Coast Guard held its first 'Sagar Kavach' exercise of 2024 on 11 and 12 July 2024 along the coast of Andhra Pradesh.

The 2nd edition of the 'Sagar Kavach' coastal security exercise was coordinated by the Indian Coast Guard's North West Regional Headquarters in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

All the agencies responsible for the coastal security of India- State Police, Indian Navy, Marine Police, Border Security Force (BSF), National Security Guard (NSG), Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB), Intelligence Bureau (IB), and the Port authorities, participated in the exercise.

DG of Indian Coast Guard - Paramesh Sivamani

212. How many MoUs were signed between India and Mauritania during President Droupadi Murmu's visit to Mauritania in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू की मॉरिटानिया यात्रा के दौरान भारत और मॉरिटानिया के बीच कितने समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए?

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

Ans. b

Sol. India and Mauritania sign four MoUs during President Murmu's visit

India and Mauritania signed four MoUs to strengthen and deepen their bilateral ties.

The MoUs were signed during President Droupadi Murmu's visit to Mauritania.

It is the first visit to Mauritania by an Indian leader at the highest level since the African nation won independence in 1960.

Four MoUs were signed on the occasion between the two countries;

- (i) Training of diplomats

- (ii) Cultural exchange
- (iii) Visa exemption
- (iv) Foreign Office consultations.

These agreements mark a significant boost to India-Mauritania ties, which have been growing stronger since the establishment of India's embassy in Nouakchott in June 2021.

About Mauritania

- Capital- Nouakchott
- Currency-Ouguiya
- President- Mohamed Ould Cheikh Ghazouani

213. Which bank of India will provide a Rs 487.60 Crore loan to Mauritius under the government of India's Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS). This is the first-ever ₹ denominated Line of Credit to have been extended by India for project financing to any country under IDEAS?

भारत सरकार की भारतीय विकास और आर्थिक सहायता योजना (IDEAS) के तहत भारत का कौन सा बैंक मॉरीशस को 487.60 करोड़ रुपये का ऋण देगा। यह IDEAS के तहत किसी भी देश को परियोजना वित्तपोषण के लिए भारत द्वारा दी गई पहली ₹ मूल्यवर्गित ऋण रेखा है?

- (a) Exim Bank
- (b) Federal Bank
- (c) State Bank of India
- (d) Reserve Bank of India
- (e) Punjab National Bank

Ans. c

Sol. Mauritius, first recipient of Rupee loan under IDEAS of GoI

India has extended a new Line of Credit for INR 487.60 Crores to the Government of Mauritius for financing of a water pipeline replacement project.

This is the first-ever ₹ denominated Line of Credit to have been extended by India for project financing to any country under the Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS).

The Rs 487.60 crore line of credit to the government of Mauritius for financing a water project in Mauritius will be provided through the State Bank of India (SBI).

The loan amount will be used to replace around 100 km of obsolete water pipeline in Mauritius.

What is IDEAS?

- The Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS) was launched as India Development Initiative by the government of India.
- It was announced in the 2003-2004 budget speech by the then Finance Minister Jaswant Singh with an allocation of Rs 200 crore.
- It was later renamed the Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS).

About Mauritius

- Capital - Port Louis
- Currency - Rupee
- Prime Minister - Pravind Jugnauth

214. Who has inaugurated the international conference Advancements of Research and Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda (AROHA-2024) in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में समग्र आयुर्वेद के लिए अनुसंधान और वैश्विक अवसरों की उन्नति (AROHA-2024) पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Chief Justice DY Chandrachud
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Droupadi Murmu
- (d) Narendra Modi
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankar

Ans. a

Sol. Chief Justice DY Chandrachud inaugurates AROHA-2024 Conference

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has inaugurated the international conference Advancements of Research and Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda (AROHA-2024) in New Delhi.

The three-day event primarily aims to position Ayurveda as a key pillar of global health and wellness.

AROHA 2024 has been organised by the All-India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi, an autonomous institute under the Union Ministry of Ayush.

The theme of the AROHA 2024 is Advancements in Research and Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda.

Amongst the foreign countries, delegates from Japan, Colombia, Australia, Germany, Sri Lanka, and Argentina are participated.

215. National Solidarity Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय एकता दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 18 October
- (b) 19 October
- (c) 20 October
- (d) 21 October
- (e) 22 October

Ans. c

Sol. 20 October - National Solidarity Day

India commemorates National Solidarity Day every year on October 20 to honour the soldiers who fought during the Sino-Indian War of 1962.

This significant day marks the national integrity displayed by India in its conflict with China.

The Sino-Indian War, also known as the China-India War, occurred from October to November 1962. The conflict emerged from a series of border skirmishes and territorial disputes.

On October 20, 1962, China launched a devastating attack, resulting in India's defeat and territorial losses, notably Aksai Chin.

In 1966, a committee elected by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi established October 20 as National Solidarity Day to honour soldiers and their families who sacrificed in conflicts.

216. In October 2024, who among the following cricketers have been inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित क्रिकेटरों में से किसे ICC हॉल ऑफ फ़ेम में शामिल किया गया है?

- (i) Neetu David
- (ii) MS Dhoni
- (iii) James Anderson
- (iv) AB de Villiers
- (v) Alastair Cook

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

Ans. d

Sol. Neetu David, AB de Villiers, Alastair Cook inducted into ICC Hall of Fame

Former spinner Neetu David became only the second Indian woman to be inducted into the ICC's Hall of Fame.

For the 47-year-old, it was an emotional moment when ICC named her alongside men's greats A B de Villiers and Alastair Cook as the latest entrants to the select club.

David is currently the chief selector of the Indian women's cricket team.

Former India spinner Neetu David, who still holds the record for the best figures (8/53) by a woman in an individual Test innings against England in 1995.

About International Cricket Council (ICC)

- **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

217. In October 2024, who has assumed charge as Director General Medical Services (Navy)?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, महानिदेशक चिकित्सा सेवा (नौसेना) के रूप में किसने पदभार ग्रहण किया है?

- (a) Kavita Sahai
- (b) Amrit Mohan Prasad
- (c) SP Dharkar

- (d) Arti Sarin
(e) Paramesh Sivamani

Ans. a

Sol. Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai appointed as DG of Medical Services (Navy)
Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai, SM, VSM, assumed charge as Director General Medical Services (Navy).

Commissioned into the Army Medical Corps on December 30, 1986, Vice Admiral Sahai has had an illustrious career in military medicine, underscored by exceptional achievements and leadership roles.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- Director General of Indian Coast Guard - Paramesh Sivamani (26th)
- Vice Chief of Air Staff - Air Marshal SP Dharkar (replace AP Singh)
- First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services - Arti Sarin
- Chief of Indian Air Force - Amar Preet Singh (replace V.R. Chaudhari)
- DG of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) - Amrit Mohan Prasad

218. Who has been honored with a special recognition for his global humanitarian leadership at the 9th Conscious Companies Awards held in Johannesburg, South Africa?
दक्षिण अफ्रीका के जोहान्सबर्ग में आयोजित 9वें कॉन्शियस कंपनी अवार्ड्स में वैश्विक मानवीय नेतृत्व के लिए किसे विशेष सम्मान से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Bal Krishnan
(b) Shilpa Shetty
(c) Mohanji
(d) Baba Ramdev
(e) Ravishankar

Ans. c

Sol. Mohanji honored with Humanitarian Award at 2024 Conscious Companies Awards
Mohanji, renowned humanitarian and spiritual leader, was honored with a special recognition for his global humanitarian leadership at the 9th Conscious Companies Awards held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The prestigious annual event celebrates ethical and visionary leaders who demonstrate conscious leadership within their organizations, aligning people, profit, and purpose in the service of all stakeholders to create a better world.

The Conscious Companies Awards are dedicated to recognizing individuals and organizations that promote ethical behavior and sustainable practices, fostering leadership that not only prioritizes profits but also enhances the well-being of people and the planet.

Recent Award

- Femina Miss India 2024 - Nikita Porwal (from Madhya Pradesh)
- 54th Dadasaheb Phalke Award (for 2022)- Mithun Chakraborty
- 32nd Ekalabya Puraskar by Odisha govt - Pratyasa Ray (Swimming)

- **FIDE 100 Awards** - Men's - Magnus Carlsen (Norway); Women's - Judit Polgar (Hungary)
- **Miss Universe India 2024 title** - Rhea Singha (Gujarat); Pranjal Priya (1st Runner-up); Chhavi Verg (2nd runner-up)

219. In October 2024, who has been awarded the India Lifetime Achievement Award with the Patrick J. McGovern Award?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, पैट्रिक जे. मैकगवर्न पुरस्कार के साथ भारत लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार किसे दिया गया है?

- (a) Abhinav Asthana
- (b) Shantanu Narayen
- (c) Shiv Nadar
- (d) Narayana Murthy
- (e) Mukesh Ambani

Ans. d

Sol. Chiratae Ventures honours Narayana Murthy with the Patrick J. McGovern Award
Chiratae Ventures, a prominent Indian venture capital fund, has recognized three influential leaders with the 2024 Patrick J. McGovern Awards.

Narayana Murthy, the Founder of Infosys, received the India Lifetime Achievement Award for his groundbreaking contributions to the tech industry.

While, Shantanu Narayen, Chair and CEO of Adobe, was awarded the Global Lifetime Achievement Award, while Abhinav Asthana, CEO and Founder of Postman, received the Exceptional Entrepreneurial Achievement Award.

The awards honor the legacy of Patrick J. McGovern, a pioneer in technology media and an early supporter of Indian entrepreneurship

About Chiratae Ventures

Chiratae Ventures is one of India's largest homegrown VC funds.

Established in 2016, the awards commemorate Patrick J. McGovern, anchor investor of Chiratae's first fund and the founder of International Data Group (IDG).

220. Who has been appointed as the president of the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC)?

भारतीय चैंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स (ICC) का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Noel Tata
- (b) Manoj Kumar Dubey
- (c) Abhyuday Jindal
- (d) Surinder Kumar Choudhary
- (e) Saurav Ganguly

Ans. c

Sol. Abhyuday Jindal assumes charge as President of Indian Chamber of Commerce
Abhyuday Jindal, the Managing Director of Jindal Stainless, has been appointed as president of industry body Indian Chamber of Commerce.

Jindal succeeds Ameya Prabhu, the Managing Director of NAFA Capital, whose tenure as ICC President ended October 18.

ICC, which was founded in 1925, plays a key role in working with the government to solve challenges faced by different industries

Recent Appointment

- Director of Cricket at JSW Sports - Saurav Ganguly
- CM of Haryana - Nayab Singh Saini (2nd time)
- CM of UTs of Jammu and Kashmir - Omar Abdullah
- Deputy of UTs of Jammu and Kashmir - Surinder Kumar Choudhary
- MD and CEO of Indian Railways Financial Corporation (IRFC) - Manoj Kumar Dubey
- Chairman of Tata Trusts - Noel Tata (replace Ratan Tata)

221. Which state has launched “Shiksha Copilot,” a digital tool powered by artificial intelligence (AI)?

किस राज्य ने कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (एआई) द्वारा संचालित डिजिटल टूल "शिक्षा कोपायलट" लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Kerala
- (e) Odisha

Ans. c

Sol. Karnataka Launches AI Tool Shiksha Copilot for Teacher

Karnataka's School Education and Literacy Minister, Madhu Bangarappa, launched “Shiksha Copilot,” a digital tool powered by artificial intelligence (AI).

This tool aims to improve the education system in government schools, helping both teachers and students perform better academically. It was developed in partnership with the Sikshana Foundation and Microsoft Research India.

The main goal of Shiksha Copilot is to make teaching easier by helping teachers with lesson planning and providing resources like activities and videos.

This allows teachers to focus more on the individual needs of their students, making their teaching more personalized and effective. By improving classroom management, the tool aims to enhance students' board exam results in Karnataka.

Shiksha Copilot is designed to quickly create lesson plans that include engaging activities, videos, and quizzes that match the school curriculum. It uses Microsoft's Azure OpenAI Service, which means it can process textbook content and other materials to create rich learning resources.

The tool can handle different types of media, including text, images, and videos, making learning more interactive.

About Karnataka

- Capital – Bengaluru
- Chief Minister – Siddaramaiah
- Deputy Chief Minister - DK Shivakumar

- Governor – Thawar Chand Gehlot

222. Who has inaugurated the International Workshop on Modern Technologies in Survey-Resurvey for Urban Land Records in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में शहरी भूमि अभिलेखों के लिए सर्वेक्षण-पुनर्सर्वेक्षण में आधुनिक प्रौद्योगिकियों पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- (d) J P Nadda
- (e) Both b and c

Ans. c

Sol. Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated International Workshop on Modern Technologies in Survey-Resurvey for Urban Land Records

Union Rural Development Minister, Shivraj Singh Chouhan has inaugurated the International Workshop on Modern Technologies in Survey-Resurvey for Urban Land Records in New Delhi.

The primary objective of the workshop is to showcase global best practices in urban land record modernization, present applicable technological solutions, and facilitate pilot project planning for selected urban areas.

The workshop also addressed challenges such as lack of standardization, data security, and capacity building for stakeholders.

223. President Draupadi Murmu presented the 5th National Water Awards 2023 in New Delhi. Which state has been given the first prize in the category of Best State?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने नई दिल्ली में 5वें राष्ट्रीय जल पुरस्कार 2023 प्रदान किए। सर्वश्रेष्ठ राज्य की श्रेणी में प्रथम पुरस्कार किस राज्य को दिया गया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Punjab
- (e) Uttarakhand

Ans. c

Sol. President Droupadi Murmu conferred 5th National Water Awards 2023

President Droupadi Murmu has conferred the 5th National Water Awards 2023 in New Delhi.

Union Jal Shakti Ministry has announced 38 winners in nine categories including Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Urban Local Body, Best Water User Association and Best Civil Society.

In the category of Best State, the first prize has been conferred upon Odisha, with Uttar Pradesh securing the second position, and Gujarat and Puducherry jointly securing the third position.

Each, award winner will be conferred with a citation and a trophy as well as cash prizes in certain categories.

Government has been undertaking a comprehensive campaign to spread awareness about water management and water conservation on a national level.

224. In October 2024, in which country was the first meeting of the Defence Ministers of the Group of Seven (G-7) held?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, किस देश में ग्रुप ऑफ सेवन (G-7) के रक्षा मंत्रियों की पहली बैठक आयोजित की गई थी?

- (a) Italy
- (b) France
- (c) Germany
- (d) USA
- (e) Canada

Ans. a

Sol. First G-7 Defence Ministers meeting hosted by Italy in Naples

For the first time in Group of Seven (G-7) history, the defence ministers of the G7 countries met in Naples, Italy. Italian defence minister Guido Crosetto hosted the meeting.

Italy holds the rotating presidency of the G-7 for 2024.

The meeting was also attended by the representatives of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), the European Union, and Ukrainian Defence Minister Rustem Umerov.

The G-7 is a group of advanced industrialised western countries: Italy, Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Japan, Canada, and the United States.

225. Consider the following points about the National Commission for Women (NCW).

- (i) Vijaya Rahatkar was appointed as the 9th chairperson of the National Commission for Women in October 2024.
- (ii) The maximum age of the chairperson of the National Commission for Women shall be 65 years and a term of five years, whichever is earlier.
- (iii) The National Commission for Women is a statutory body, set up by the GoI in January 1992 under the provision of the National Commission for Women Act 1990.
- (iv) The body is under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- (v) V Mohini Giri was the first chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW).

How many of the given point(s) is/are CORRECT?

- (a) only one
- (b) only two
- (c) only three
- (d) only four
- (e) all are correct

Ans. c

Sol. Vijaya Rahatkar appointed as Chairperson of National Commission for Women

The Government of India has appointed Vijaya Rahatkar as the 9th chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW).

The post was vacant after the term of Rekha Sharma ended on 6 August 2024.

Vijaya Rahatkar has previously served as the chairperson of the Maharashtra State Commission for Women from 2016 to 2021.

The central government has also appointed Dr Archana Majumdar as a member of the National Commission for Women.

Currently, Ms Delina Khongdup and Mrs Mamta Kumari are the other members of the Commission.

Vijaya Rahatkar and Dr Archana Majumdar have been appointed for a three-year term.

About the National Commission for Women

- The National Commission for Women is a statutory body, setup by the GoI in January 1992 under the provision of the National Commission for Women Act 1990.
- The body is under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- Its head office is in New Delhi.
- Jayanti Patnaik was the first chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW).

226. **Prabowo Subianto recently elected as the president of which country?**

प्रबोवो सुबियान्तो हाल ही में किस देश के राष्ट्रपति चुने गए?

- (a) Vietnam
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Bhutan
- (d) Nepal
- (e) Oman

Ans. b

Sol. Prabowo Subianto takes oath as Indonesia President

Indonesia's newly minted leader, President Prabowo Subianto, officially swore in his cabinet.

Prabowo took office as the eighth Indonesian president, taking the mantle from Joko "Jokowi" Widodo.

Prabowo's cabinet has 48 ministries with over 100 ministers and deputies, including re-appointments of Sri Mulyani Indrawati as finance minister and Bahlil Lahadalia as energy minister.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Tunisia - Kais Saied (2nd time)
- President of Mexico - Claudia Sheinbaum (first woman president of nation)
- PM of Japan - Shigeru Ishiba (replace Fumio Kishida)
- President of Sri Lanka - Anura Kumara Dissanayake; 9th (replace Ranil Wickremesinghe)
- PM of Jordan - Jafar Hassan
- President of Algeria - Abdelmadjid Tebboune

227. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'Karmayogi Saptah'—National Learning Week at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi. In which year, Mission Karmayogi was launched?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने नई दिल्ली के डॉ. अंबेडकर इंटरनेशनल सेंटर में 'कर्मयोगी सप्ताह'-राष्ट्रीय शिक्षण सप्ताह का शुभारंभ किया। मिशन कर्मयोगी किस वर्ष शुरू किया गया था?

- (a) 2016
- (b) 2020
- (c) 2019
- (d) 2022
- (e) 2018

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi launches 'Karmayogi Saptah' in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'Karmayogi Saptah'—National Learning Week at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

Through Mission Karmayogi, the goal is to create human resources that would become the driving force of our country's development.

The new learnings and experiences during the National Learning Week will provide strength and help in improving working systems, which will help us achieve our goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Mission Karmayogi was launched in September 2020, envisioning a future-ready civil service rooted in Indian ethos with a global perspective.

National Learning Week will provide fresh impetus towards individual and organisational capacity development for civil servants, creating a One Government message, aligning everyone with national goals, and promoting lifelong learning.

228. Which bank has launched the 'Mahila Shaksham' scheme designed to finance individual Women Self-Help Group members under the Centre's Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission initiative?

किस बैंक ने केंद्र की दीनदयाल अंत्योदय योजना - राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण आजीविका मिशन पहल के तहत व्यक्तिगत महिला स्वयं सहायता समूह के सदस्यों को वित्तपोषित करने के लिए 'महिला सक्षम' योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Indian Overseas Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) Union Bank of India
- (e) Indian Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Overseas Bank launched Mahila Saksham scheme to empower women entrepreneurs

Public sector lender Indian Overseas Bank has launched the 'Mahila Shaksham' scheme designed to finance individual Women Self-Help Group members under the Centre's Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission initiative.

Aimed at benefitting women entrepreneurs by ensuring financial self-reliance, the scheme is in line with the Ministry of Rural Development's 'Lakshpati Didi Yojana' scheme which is designed to improve the financial standing of women self-help group members.

Some of the key features of the IOB-Mahila Shaksham Scheme include -- financing for individual women self-help group members to foster entrepreneurship, credit support of up to ₹10 lakh to individual members of 'Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission scheme' among others.

It also promotes the financial independence of women and aims to deepen credit outreach to self-help group members.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Magma HDI General Insurance launches 'Double Suraksha': Affordable Insurance for Every Income Group
- Bank of Baroda introduces 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme' at 7.3%
- PhonePe launches new plan **Firecracker Insurance** for Diwali with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- SBI Card launches **KrisFlyer SBI Card** in partnership with Singapore Airlines
- Reliance Nippon Life Insurance unveils 'Nishchit Pension' to help Indians secure guaranteed long-term retirement income
- Arka Fincap launches 'Uday' to boost MSME Growth with Small Ticket Loans

229. **National Police Commemoration Day is observed on every year on which day?**

राष्ट्रीय पुलिस स्मृति दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 19 October
- (b) 20 October
- (c) 21 October
- (d) 22 October
- (e) 23 October

Ans. c

Sol. 21 October - National Police Commemoration Day

National Police Commemoration Day is observed on October 21 to pay tribute to police officers who die while on duty.

This solemn day provides an opportunity to express gratitude to the officers currently serving and their families who stand by them every day.

The roots of Police Commemoration Day are traced back to the tumultuous events of 1958 and 1959 when the relationship between India and China was strained due to political and geographical issues.

230. **World Osteoporosis Day is observed every year on which day?**

विश्व ऑस्टियोपोरोसिस दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 19 October
- (b) 20 October
- (c) 21 October

(d) 22 October

(e) 23 October

Ans. b

Sol. 20 October - World Osteoporosis Day

World Osteoporosis Day is observed every year on October 20.

Objective - To raise awareness around the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.

Osteoporosis is a metabolic bone disease wherein your new bone formation doesn't keep up with the loss of old bone.

It results from loss of bone mass and mineralisation leading to fragile bones and sometimes fractures even with minor falls, therefore termed as fragility fractures.

231. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated three airports, developed under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik), from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. These airports are located in which cities?

प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने उत्तर प्रदेश के वाराणसी से क्षेत्रीय संपर्क योजना (आरसीएस) - उड़ान (उड़े देश का आम नागरिक) के तहत विकसित तीन हवाई अड्डों का उद्घाटन किया। ये हवाई अड्डे किन शहरों में स्थित हैं?

(a) Rewa, Saharanpur and Ghaziabad

(b) Rewa, Meerut and Ambikapur

(c) Rewa, Surat and Ambikapur

(d) Moradabad, Saharanpur and Ambikapur

(e) Rewa, Saharanpur and Ambikapur

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates Saharanpur, Rewa and Ambikapur airports under RCS-UDAN Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated three airports, developed under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik), from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

These airports are Rewa in Madhya Pradesh, Ambikapur in Chhattisgarh, and Saharanpur in UP.

The RCS- UDAN, a government-backed initiative to improve infrastructure and connectivity in India, especially in remote and underserved regions, completes seven years. It is a vital component of India's National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) 2016, launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) on October 21, 2016, with a 10-year vision.

The first RCS-UDAN flight was inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on April 27, 2017, connecting Shimla to Delhi. The scheme focuses on improving unserved air routes in underserved regions of the country and fulfilling the aspirations of the common citizens.

So far, the RCS-UDAN has facilitated travel of more than 144 lakh passengers, demonstrating its success in enhancing air travel accessibility.

Over 7 years, various versions of UDAN Scheme were launched, as follows-

- UDAN 1.0- Five airlines companies were awarded 128 flight routes to 70 airports 2(including 36 newly made operational airports)
- UDAN 2.0- 73 underserved and unserved airports were announced and for the first time, helipads were also connected.
- UDAN 3.0- In coordination with the Ministry of Tourism, Tourism Routes were included. In addition to Seaplanes for connecting Water Aerodromes, several routes in the North-East Region came under the ambit of the scheme.
- UDAN 4.0- Gave impetus to North-Eastern Regions, Hilly States, and Islands.
- The operation of helicopters and seaplanes incorporated
- UDAN Version 5 – 5.0, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 & 5.4
- Following the four successful rounds of bidding, the Ministry of Civil Aviation launched the 5th version of RCS-UDAN with numerous improvements based on stakeholder feedback.

232. Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers JP Nadda inaugurated which edition of Medicine Update BJMFCON 2024 organised by Bihar & Jharkhand Medical Forum (BJMF) in October 2024?

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण और रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्री जेपी नड्डा ने अक्टूबर 2024 में बिहार और झारखंड मेडिकल फोरम (BJMF) द्वारा आयोजित मेडिसिन अपडेट BJMFCON 2024 के किस संस्करण का उद्घाटन किया?

- (a) first
- (b) second
- (c) third
- (d) fourth
- (e) fifth

Ans. b

Sol. JP Nadda inaugurates the "Medicine Update BJMFCON

Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, JP Nadda inaugurated the "2nd Medicine Update BJMFCON 2024", organized by the Bihar & Jharkhand Medical Forum (BJMF).

As the chief guest at the event, Shri Nadda also released the 'Souvenir and BJMF Directory'.

Bihar & Jharkhand Medical Forum (BJMF) is a socio-scientific organization of doctors from the states of Bihar & Jharkhand practicing in the Delhi NCR Region for long and serving the people of the region.

The first Medicine Update was held in 2023.

233. Consider the following points about the eShram-One Stop Solution' that was recently launched by the union Labour minister-

- (i) Union Labour Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has launched the 'eShram-One Stop Solution' for unorganised workers.
- (ii) eShram-One Stop Solution aims to integrate information of beneficiaries of all social security and welfare schemes effectively meant for unorganised workers through a single platform.

(iii) 10 schemes of different central ministries/departments have already been integrated/mapped with the eShram.

(iv) e-Shram launched in August 2022.

Which of the following points are INCORRECT regarding this?

- (a) i & ii
- (b) ii & iii
- (c) iii & iv
- (d) all are correct
- (e) all are incorrect

Ans. c

Sol. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to Launch 'eShram-One Stop Solution' for Unorganized Workers

Union Labour Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has launched 'eShram-One Stop Solution' for unorganised workers.

eShram-One Stop Solution aims to integrate information of beneficiaries of all social security and welfare schemes meant for unorganised workers in an effective manner through a single platform.

This initiative will help unorganised workers become aware of the schemes designed for them.

Consequently, 12 schemes of different central ministries/departments have already been integrated/mapped with the eShram.

Since the launch of the e-Shram on August 26, 2021, over 30 crore unorganised workers have been enrolled and it has demonstrated widespread appeal among the unorganised labour.

234. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), in collaboration with the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF), has released critical data from the ICMR-India Diabetes (ICMR-INDIAB) national study, which includes data for Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The overall prevalence of diabetes in Jammu is _____ per cent, with an alarming 26.5 per cent in urban areas and 14.5 per cent in rural areas?

भारतीय चिकित्सा अनुसंधान परिषद (ICMR) ने मद्रास डायबिटीज रिसर्च फाउंडेशन (MDRF) के साथ मिलकर ICMR-इंडिया डायबिटीज (ICMR-INDIAB) राष्ट्रीय अध्ययन से महत्वपूर्ण डेटा जारी किया है, जिसमें केंद्र शासित प्रदेश जम्मू और कश्मीर का डेटा शामिल है। जम्मू में मधुमेह का कुल प्रसार _____ प्रतिशत है, जिसमें शहरी क्षेत्रों में 26.5 प्रतिशत और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में 14.5 प्रतिशत है।

- (a) 8.9%
- (b) 18.9%
- (c) 28.9%
- (d) 38.9%
- (e) 48.9%

Ans. b

Sol. 18.9 per cent overall prevalence of diabetes in Jammu: Study

The overall prevalence of diabetes in Jammu is 18.9 per cent, with an alarming 26.5 per cent in urban areas and 14.5 per cent in rural areas, a study had revealed.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), in collaboration with the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF), has released critical data from the ICMR-India Diabetes (ICMR-INDIAB) national study, which includes data for Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

This first-of-its-kind study in the region also revealed that 10.8 per cent of the population in Jammu is affected by prediabetes, with 13.4 per cent and 9.3 per cent in the urban and rural areas respectively.

The Jammu phase surveyed 1,520 participants across urban and rural areas, providing critical insights into the region's health landscape. As per the survey, the overall prevalence of hypertension, generalised obesity, and abdominal obesity in Jammu is 27.1 %, 41.7 %, and 62.7 % respectively.

235. In October 2024, Vikram Dev Dutt assumed the charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of _____.

अक्टूबर 2024 में, विक्रम देव दत्त ने _____ मंत्रालय के सचिव के रूप में पदभार ग्रहण किया।

- (a) Education
- (b) Coal
- (c) Textile
- (d) Transport
- (e) Home Affairs

Ans. b

Sol. Vikram Dev Dutt assumes Charge as Coal Secretary

Vikram Dev Dutt assumed the charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Coal.

A 1993-batch IAS officer of the Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre, Shri Dutt previously served as the Director General of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

He succeeds Shri VL Kantha Rao, who currently serves as the Secretary of the Ministry of Mines and holds additional charge of the Ministry of Coal.

Prior to Shri Rao, Shri Amrit Lal Meena served as the Secretary of the Ministry of Coal.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairperson of National Commission for Women** - Vijaya Rahatkar (9th; replace Rekha Shrama)
- **Member of the National Commission for Women** - Dr Archana Majumdar
- **President of Indian Chamber of Commerce** - Abhyuday Jindal (replace Ameya Prabhu)
- **Director of Cricket at JSW Sports** - Saurav Ganguly
- **CM of Haryana** - Nayab Singh Saini (2nd time)
- **CM of UTs of Jammu and Kashmir** - Omar Abdullah

236. Which state government has recently installed pink alarms at the government-run district hospital and medical college for safety of women?

हाल ही में किस राज्य सरकार ने महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के लिए सरकारी जिला अस्पताल और मेडिकल कॉलेज में पिंक अलार्म लगाए हैं?

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

Ans. b

Sol. MP's Datia district hospital and medical college installed 'pink alarms' for women's safety

Madhya Pradesh's Datia district hospital and medical college installed 'pink alarms' for women's safety.

The initiative was introduced after the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata. The pink alarm system, created by district collector Sandeep Makin, alerts security within five minutes of activation. Alarms are installed in staff duty rooms across the Maternity Ward, Trauma Center, and New OPD Block. It is the first government hospital in the state to provide this facility for women's security.

The pink alarm system is the brainchild of district collector Sandeep Makin. The pressing of an alarm will set off a siren and within five minutes the security personnel will reach the person in trouble.

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

237. In which city the first coal gallery was inaugurated at the National Science Centre in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में किस शहर में राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान केंद्र में पहली कोयला गैलरी का उद्घाटन किया गया?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Chandigarh
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Noida

Ans. b

Sol. First-ever coal gallery inaugurated at National Science Centre in New Delhi
Union Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Minister of State for Coal and Mines Satish Chandra Dubey unveiled the first-ever coal gallery at the National Science Centre in New Delhi.

The exhibition – 'Black Diamond – Unveiling the Depths' – is based on the lifespan of coal and aims to provide information about the discovery of coal, the Coal extraction process, techniques used to extract coal.

238. Bala Devi etched her name in the history books by becoming the first Indian woman to score her 50th international goal during the 2024 SAFF Women's Championship in Nepal, in a match against Pakistan. She often referred to as the "_____ " of Indian women's football.

बाला देवी ने नेपाल में 2024 SAFF महिला चैंपियनशिप के दौरान पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ मैच में अपना 50वां अंतरराष्ट्रीय गोल करने वाली पहली भारतीय महिला बनकर इतिहास के पन्नों में अपना नाम दर्ज करा लिया। उन्हें अक्सर भारतीय महिला फुटबॉल की "_____ " कहा जाता है।

- (a) Goal Queen
- (b) Goal Girl
- (c) Goal Machine
- (d) Goal Master
- (e) Goli Goal

Ans. c

Sol. Bala Devi becomes first Indian woman to score 50 international goals

Bala Devi, often referred to as the "goal machine" of Indian women's football, etched her name in the history books by becoming the first Indian woman to score her 50th international goal during the 2024 SAFF Women's Championship in Nepal, in a match against Pakistan.

Bala Devi started her career in Manipur, where she showcased her talent from a young age, earning accolades at various youth tournaments.

Her professional journey began with New Radiant WSC in the Maldives in 2014, and she later made headlines by signing with Rangers in Scotland, where she became the first Indian woman to score in a European professional league.

After a stint in Spain with Málaga, she returned to India to join Odisha WFC.

239. New Zealand defeated which country to win the Women's T20 Cricket World Cup 2024?

न्यूजीलैंड ने किस देश को हराकर महिला टी20 क्रिकेट विश्व कप 2024 जीता है?

- (a) India
- (b) South Africa
- (c) Australia
- (d) Pakistan
- (e) England

Ans. b

Sol. New Zealand clinched Women's T20 Cricket World Cup defeating South Africa

In the Women's T20 Cricket World Cup, New Zealand scripted history as the Sophie Devine-led side clinched their maiden Women's T20 World Cup title after beating South Africa by 32 runs at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in Dubai.

Chasing a target of 159 runs set by New Zealand, South Africa made 126 runs for the loss of nine wickets in the stipulated twenty overs.

Amelia Kerr was declared Player of the Series and Player of the Match.

This was the Kiwis' third-ever final of the showpiece event and after two successful attempts, they finally have their hand on the coveted trophy.

240. The Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command is conducting 'Exercise named _____ at Babina Field Firing Ranges near Jhansi, to enhance combat capabilities through the integration of niche and emerging technologies.

सेना की दक्षिणी कमान की सुदर्शन चक्र कोर झांसी के पास बबीना फील्ड फायरिंग रेंज में '_____ नामक अभ्यास' कर रही है, जिसका उद्देश्य विशिष्ट और उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों के एकीकरण के माध्यम से युद्ध क्षमताओं को बढ़ाना है।

- (a) Dhanush Shakti
- (b) Sambhav Shakti
- (c) Veer Shakti
- (d) Fire Shakti
- (e) Swavlamban Shakti

Ans. e

Sol. Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps conducts 'Swavlamban Shakti' exercise

To enhance combat capabilities through the integration of niche and emerging technologies, the Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command is conducting 'Exercise SWAVLAMBAN SHAKTI' at Babina Field Firing Ranges near Jhansi.

The XXI Corps or Sudarshan Chakra Corps, a strike corps of the army, is headquartered in Bhopal.

The exercise that aims to integrate New Technology Equipment (NTEs) into the Army's offensive strategies, ensuring readiness for future warfare scenarios, started in the presence of Lt Gen Prit Pal Singh, General Officer Commanding of Sudarshan Chakra Corps.

Approximately 1,800 personnel, 210 armoured vehicles, 50 specialist vehicles, and a range of aviation assets are participating in the exercise.

Recent Exercise

- **Exercise Malabar 2024** between India, Australia, Japan, and USA - Visakhapatnam
- 8th edition of **Exercise KAZIND 2024** between India -Kazakhstan military in Auli, Uttarakhand.
- **7th edition of Exercise Eastern Bridge** between Indian Air Force and Royal Oman Air Force - Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.
- **5th edition of Exercise Al NAJAH** between Indian Army and Royal Army of Oman - Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.
- **Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield** between South Korea and USA

241. India's Deepika Kumari, who was in the news recently, belongs to which sport?

हाल ही में चर्चा में रहीं भारत की दीपिका कुमारी किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Archery

- (b) Swimming
- (c) Squash
- (d) Shooting
- (e) Badminton

Ans. a

Sol. Deepika clinches silver in Archery World Cup

In the Archery World Cup Final, India's Deepika Kumari clinched the silver medal in the women's recurve category in Tlaxcala, Mexico.

She faced a defeat to Li Jiaman of China, nil-6 in the Final. Deepika entered the final by defeating Alejandra Valencia of the host country, Mexico, 6-4, in the Semi-final.

This is the fifth time that Deepika Kumari finished as a runner-up at the Archery World Cup.

242. **International Stuttering Awareness Day is celebrated every year on which day?**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हकलाहट जागरूकता दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 21 October
- (b) 22 October
- (c) 23 October
- (d) 24 October
- (e) 25 October

Ans. b

Sol. 22 October - International Stuttering Awareness Day

International Stuttering Awareness Day is celebrated on October 22 annually to spread public awareness about the issues which have been faced by a large number of people.

Theme 2024 - The Power of Listening - People Who Stutter Have The Unique Opportunity To Teach The World To Listen

What is stuttering?

- It is a disorder in speech patterns in a person's speech involving loss of control of speech. Stuttering creates a hindrance to the capacity to speak fluently in a person with others.

243. **Debraj Roy passed away at the age of 69. Who was he?**

देबराज रॉय का 69 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Historian
- (b) Author
- (c) Actor
- (d) Journalist
- (e) Scientists

Ans. c

Sol. Veteran Actor Debraj Roy passes away

Veteran actor Debraj Roy passed away at the age of 69 in Kolkata.

He made significant contributions to Bengali cinema and Doordarshan and was also associated with Akashvani.

Debraj Roy made his cinematic debut in Satyajit Ray's Pratidwandi in 1970, and the following year, he became a household name with his outstanding performance in Mrinal Sen's Calcutta 71.

He collaborated with renowned directors such as Tarun Majumdar, Bibhuti Laha, and Tapan Sinha.

244. World Iodine Deficiency Day, also known as Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day, is observed annually on which day?

विश्व आयोडीन अल्पता दिवस, जिसे वैश्विक आयोडीन अल्पता विकार निवारण दिवस के रूप में भी जाना जाता है, प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) October 20
- (b) October 21
- (c) October 22
- (d) October 23
- (e) October 24

Ans. b

Sol. 21 October - World Iodine Deficiency Day

World Iodine Deficiency Day, also known as Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day, is observed annually on 21st October.

The day aims to raise awareness about the essential role of iodine in maintaining good health and to emphasize the consequences of iodine deficiency.

Theme 2024 - Strengthening Public Health through Awareness and Action

Iodine is an essential component of the thyroid hormones, thyroxine (T4) and triiodothyronine (T3), which regulate metabolism and are crucial for fetal and infant development.

Found in foods and iodized salt, iodine exists in several forms, including sodium and potassium salts, inorganic iodine (I₂), iodate, and iodide.

Iodide, the most common form, is quickly absorbed in the stomach and used by the thyroid for hormone production. Most excess iodide is excreted through urine.

245. Which state government has launched the Sustainable Wetland and Integrated Fisheries Transformation (SWIFT) project to revitalise 129 Beels and boost Indigenous fish production?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 129 बील्स को पुनर्जीवित करने और स्वदेशी मछली उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सतत वेटलैंड और एकीकृत मत्स्य परिवर्तन (SWIFT) परियोजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Chhattisgarh
- (d) Uttar Pradesh
- (e) Punjab

Ans. a

Sol. Assam government launches SWIFT project with ADB support

Assam government has launched the Sustainable Wetland and Integrated Fisheries Transformation (SWIFT) project to revitalise 129 Beels and boost Indigenous fish production.

The state government's SWIFT project is funded and supported by the Asian Development Bank(ADB).

The total outlay for the project is Rs 800 crore. It aims to revitalise 129 Beels of the state.

The project aims to restore nearly 4,000 hectares of beel areas.

It will help with flood control, groundwater replenishment, and river flow regulation in the state.

The SWIFT project is expected to increase fish production by 1,200 kg per hectare annually in the state.

What is a Beel?

- Beel are floodplain wetlands and cover around one lakh hectares of land in Assam.
- Floodplain wetlands are low-lying areas bordering large rivers that are inundated during the monsoon season due to overflow from the main river channel. They are part of the Ganga and Brahmaputra River systems in the country.
- Assam has the maximum number of water areas under floodplain wetlands in the country. The floodplain wetlands are mainly associated with the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers in the state.

246. Who has been appointed by pension regulator PFRDA as the chairman of the board of National Pension System (NPS) Trust?

पेंशन नियामक पीएफआरडीए ने किसे राष्ट्रीय पेंशन प्रणाली (एनपीएस) ट्रस्ट के बोर्ड का अध्यक्ष नियुक्त किया है।

- (a) Vikram Dev Dutt
- (b) Vijaya Rahatkar
- (c) Abhyuday Jindal
- (d) Dr Archana Majumdar
- (e) Chitra Jayasimha

Ans. e

Sol. PFRDA appoints Chitra Jayasimha as NPS Trust Board's Chairperson

Pension regulator PFRDA has appointed Chitra Jayasimha as the Chairperson of the Board of National Pension System (NPS) Trust .

She has been serving the NPS Trust Board as a Trustee since December 2020.

Jayasimha has been appointed as Chairperson of NPS Trust in the place of erstwhile Chairman Venkata Rao Yadagani. Yadagani was designated to the position of NPS Trust Chairman on December 12,2023.

About NPS Trust

- The NPS Trust is administered by a Board of Trustees. They are entrusted with the task to ensure that the NPS Trust works in the best interest of National Pension System (NPS) subscribers.
- NPS is a market-linked, voluntary, portable and flexible scheme that helps people save for retirement.

Recent Appointment

- **Secretary of the Ministry of Coal** - Vikram Dev Dutt
- **Chairperson of National Commission for Women** - Vijaya Rahatkar
- (9th; replace Rekha Shrama)
- **Member of the National Commission for Women** - Dr Archana Majumdar
- **President of Indian Chamber of Commerce** - Abhyuday Jindal (replace Ameya Prabhu)
- **Director of Cricket at JSW Sports** - Saurav Ganguly

247. Which of the following has donated ₹ 100 crore to the Telangana government for the establishment of a university that will help young people develop industry-specific skills?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने तेलंगाना सरकार को एक विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना के लिए ₹ 100 करोड़ का दान दिया है जो युवाओं को उद्योग-विशिष्ट कौशल विकसित करने में मदद करेगा?

- (a) Tata Group
- (b) Adani Group
- (c) Reliance Group
- (d) Mahindra Group
- (e) Patanjali Group

Ans. b

Sol. Adani Group Donates ₹ 100 Crore For Skills University In Telangana

The Adani Foundation, which is the corporate social responsibility arm of the Adani Group, has donated ₹ 100 crore to the Telangana government for the establishment of a university that will help young people develop industry-specific skills.

The Young India Skills University (YISU) has been established in Hyderabad under the Young India Skills University, Telangana (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2024, to bridge the gap between industry requirements and academic offerings.

248. Which country was officially declared 'malaria-free' by the World Health Organization (WHO) in October 2024?

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) ने अक्टूबर 2024 में किस देश को आधिकारिक तौर पर 'मलेरिया मुक्त' घोषित किया?

- (a) Egypt
- (b) India
- (c) Uganda
- (d) Afghanistan
- (e) Iraq

Ans. a

Sol. WHO certifies Egypt as malaria-free

Egypt was officially declared 'malaria-free' by the World Health Organization (WHO). The country became the second country in the world, following Cabo Verde, to be officially declared malaria-free this year. It is also the fifth African nation to receive malaria-free certification from the WHO.

Egypt is the third country within the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region to receive malaria-free certification, achieving this milestone in the region after 14 years. Morocco was declared malaria-free in 2010, following the United Arab Emirates, which received the certification in 2007.

With this announcement, a total of 44 countries and one territory have been certified as malaria-free by the WHO.

About Egypt

- Capital- Cairo
- Currency- Egyptian pound
- Continent - Africa, Asia
- President - Abdel Fattah El-Sisi

249. Where was the first Namo Bharat Diwas held?

पहला नमो भारत दिवस कहाँ आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) Ghaziabad
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Noida
- (d) Jaipur
- (e) Panipat

Ans. b

Sol. NCRTC organises 1st Namo Bharat Diwas in New Delhi

The Namo Bharat Diwas was observed in New Delhi on 21 October 2024 to mark the anniversary of the operation of the Namo Bharat Trains.

On 20 October 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 17-kilometer section between Sahibabad and Duhai Depot section of the country's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS).

The first Regional Rapid Transit System of the country is the 82 km long Delhi-Ghaziabad -Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System, being implemented and operated by the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC).

The high-speed self-propelled trains running on the Regional Rapid Transit System are referred to as the Namo Bharat trains.

250. Which state government has launched the Citizen Sentinel, an app using which members of the public can upload photographs and videos of traffic rule violations in the NextGen Parivahan app?

किस राज्य सरकार ने सिटीजन सेंटिनल ऐप लॉन्च किया है, जिसका उपयोग करके जनता नेक्स्टजेन परिवहन ऐप में यातायात नियमों के उल्लंघन की तस्वीरें और वीडियो अपलोड कर सकती है?

- (a) Odisha

- (b) Kerala
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Punjab
- (e) Haryana

Ans. b

Sol. Kerala launched Citizen Sentinel app to keep tabs on traffic rule violations. Kerala's Minister for Transport K.B. Ganesh Kumar has launched Citizen Sentinel, an app using which members of the public can upload photographs and videos of traffic rule violations in the NextGen Parivahan app.

Photos and videos of up to 8 MB of any rule violation can be uploaded in the app, following which Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) officials will verify them.

Subsequently, e-challans would be sent to the vehicle owner.

The app was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and is part of the 100-day action plan of the Government of Kerala. The app is ready for use, while challans to violators will be sent shortly.

About Kerala

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

251. Neowise, India's fastest-growing debt recovery solutions provider, has launched the country's first generative AI-powered debt collection tools. These tools were developed in collaboration with Bangalore-based generative AI startup, _____.

भारत के सबसे तेजी से बढ़ते ऋण वसूली समाधान प्रदाता नियोवाइज ने देश का पहला जनरेटिव एआई-संचालित ऋण वसूली उपकरण लॉन्च किया है। इन उपकरणों को बैंगलोर स्थित जनरेटिव एआई स्टार्टअप, _____ के सहयोग से विकसित किया गया है।

- (a) Haptik
- (b) Arya.ai
- (c) Blend AI
- (d) Sarvam AI
- (e) Yellow.ai

Ans. d

Sol. Neowise Unveils India's First AI-Driven Debt Collection SaaS Tools

Neowise, India's fastest-growing debt recovery solutions provider, has launched the country's first generative AI-powered debt collection tools.

With the debut of NeoBot, a voice-based debt collection assistant, and NeoSight, an AI call analytics tool, Neowise aims to revolutionise the debt recovery landscape.

These tools were developed in collaboration with Bangalore-based generative AI startup, Sarvam AI.

These AI-driven solutions tend to improve debt recovery efficiency by 15% and reduce operational costs by 33%.

Early trials with three lenders have shown promising results, and Neowise plans to scale these tools to more than 150 lenders across India.

252. The central government will run a month-long campaign to promote submission of Digital Life Certificate (DLC) by pensioners. The campaign will be run from _____ to _____ in 800 cities/districts across India.

पेंशनभोगियों द्वारा डिजिटल जीवन प्रमाण पत्र (डीएलसी) जमा करने को बढ़ावा देने के लिए केंद्र सरकार एक महीने तक चलने वाला अभियान चलाएगी। यह अभियान _____ से _____ तक पूरे भारत के 800 शहरों/जिलों में चलाया जाएगा।

- (a) 1 November to 30 November
- (b) 15 November to 15 December
- (c) 10 November to 20 December
- (d) 1 December to 31 December
- (e) 5 November to 5 December

Ans. a

Sol. DoPPW to conduct Nationwide Digital Life Certificate Campaign 3.0 from 1st to 30th November, 2024

The Centre will conduct a month-long campaign from November 1 to promote submission of digital life certificates (DLCs) by pensioners.

Pensioners have to submit a life certificate every year in the month of November for continuation of pension.

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) will be conducting the third nation-wide digital life certificate campaign which will be held in 800 cities/districts across India from November 1-30.

This year the focus will be on promoting face authentication technology. The Campaign will be held in collaboration with Pension Disbursing Banks, India Post Payments Bank, Pensioners' Welfare Associations, CGDA, DoT, Railways, UIDAI & MeitY to touch all the pensioners in the remotest corners of the country.

MeitY and UIDAI will provide full technical support during this Campaign. Face Auth has been made more seamless and convenient for the elderly Pensioners.

DD, AIR, and PIB teams are fully geared up to provide full support to this campaign for Audio, Visual, and Print publicity.

This will be the largest ever digital empowerment campaign and seeks to achieve maximum outreach to all the categories of the Pensioners.

253. Which INS participated in the Indo-Oman bilateral naval exercise Naseem-Al-Bahr with the Royal Navy of Oman Vessel Al Seeb off Goa in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में गोवा के पास ओमान की रॉयल नेवी के पोत अल सीब के साथ भारत-ओमान द्विपक्षीय नौसैनिक अभ्यास नसीम-अल-बह्र में किस INS ने भाग लिया?

- (a) INS Satpura
- (b) INS Sahyadri
- (c) INS Trikand
- (d) INS Talwar
- (e) INS Tabar

Ans. c

Sol. India and Oman Conduct Joint Naval Drill 'Naseem Al Bahr' coast off Goa

INS Trikand and Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft participated in the Indo-Oman bilateral naval exercise Naseem-Al-Bahr with the Royal Navy of Oman Vessel Al Seeb off Goa.

The exercise was conducted in two phases: with harbour phase followed by the sea phase.

As part of harbour activities, personnel from both Navies engaged in professional interactions, including Subject Matter Expert Exchanges and planning conferences.

The exercise helped strengthen interoperability and enhanced understanding of each other's best practices.

Recent Exercise

- Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command is conducting 'Exercise SWAVLAMBAN SHAKTI' at Babina Field Firing Ranges near Jhansi.
- **Exercise Malabar 2024** between India, Australia, Japan, and USA - Visakhapatnam
- 8th edition of **Exercise KAZIND 2024** between India -Kazakhstan military in Auli, Uttarakhand.
- **7th edition of Exercise Eastern Bridge** between Indian Air Force and Royal Oman Air Force - Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.
- **5th edition of Exercise Al NAJAH** between Indian Army and Royal Army of Oman - Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.
- **Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield** between South Korea and USA
- **Exercise Udara Shakti 2024** between Indian Air Force and Malaysia Air Force - Kuantan, Malaysia

254. Who is the chairman of the Rajasthan Economic Revival Task Force, set up by the government of Rajasthan?

राजस्थान सरकार द्वारा स्थापित राजस्थान आर्थिक पुनरुद्धार टास्क फोर्स के अध्यक्ष कौन हैं?

- (a) Haribhau Bagade
- (b) Vasudev Devnani
- (c) Premchand Bairwa
- (d) Diya Kumari
- (e) Bhajan Lal Sharma

Ans. e

Sol. Rajasthan government set up Rajasthan Economic Revival Task Force

Rajasthan government has constituted a high-powered Rajasthan Economic Revival Task Force for the holistic economic development of the state.

The task force has been set up by the state government in pursuance to the announcement made by the State Finance Minister Diya Kumari in her 2024-25 budget speech.

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma will be the Chairman of the Task Force and the Deputy Chief Minister and the Minister of Finance and Tourism, Diya Kumari will be the Deputy Chairman of the Task Force.

The Task force will identify key economic sectors, including policy formulation and implementation, skill development and education, infrastructure development, promotion of innovation and technology, promotion of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and startups, tourism and cultural heritage, promotion of green growth.

The task force will be in existence till 31st March 2028.

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

255. Mole Day is celebrated every year on which day?

मोल दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) October 21
- (b) October 22
- (c) October 23
- (d) October 24
- (e) October 25

Ans. c

Sol. 23 October - Mole Day

Mole Day is celebrated on October 23 each year, from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m. This date and time are significant because 6.02×10^{23} is Avogadro's number, a fundamental constant in chemistry.

Theme 2024 - EncantMole

Mole Day was first celebrated on October 23, 1980, by a group of chemistry teachers in an effort to inspire students and foster a love for chemistry.

256. India's fourth nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), named _____, was launched into water at the Ship Building Centre in Visakhapatnam. This submarine is bigger and more capable than the first, INS Arihant (S2).

भारत की चौथी परमाणु ऊर्जा चालित बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल पनडुब्बी (SSBN), जिसका नाम _____ है, को विशाखापत्तनम के शिप बिल्डिंग सेंटर में पानी में उतारा गया। यह पनडुब्बी पहली पनडुब्बी, INS अरिहंत (S2) से बड़ी और अधिक सक्षम है।

- (a) Azad 4
- (b) Agni 4
- (c) S4*
- (d) SLBM 4
- (e) C4*

Ans. c

Sol. India's fourth nuclear submarine launched into water

India's fourth nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), referred to as S4*, was launched into water at the Ship Building Centre in Visakhapatnam.

This submarine is bigger and more capable than the first, INS Arihant (S2), which is essentially a technology demonstrator developed under the Advanced Technology Vessel programme.

India currently has two SSBNs operational. 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.

The second SSBN, INS Arighaat (S3), which retains the same reactor and dimensions with several technological upgrades, was commissioned end-August.

The 3rd SSBN Aridhman (S4) is currently undergoing sea trials and is expected to be commissioned, into service next year.

INS Arihant is presently armed with a 750km range K-15 SLBM. The S4* carries the advanced 3,500 km range SLBM K-4 that was tested for the first time in 2020.

The K-4 will be the mainstay of India's undersea nuclear deterrence as it provides standoff capability to launch nuclear weapons while submerged in Indian waters until a 5,000 km range SLBM is developed and fielded.

257. Who has launched the "International Incoming Spoofed Calls Prevention System" to detect and block spam international calls that display Indian numbers as the caller ID?

किसने भारतीय नंबर को कॉलर आईडी के रूप में प्रदर्शित करने वाले स्पैम अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कॉल का पता लगाने और ब्लॉक करने के लिए "अंतर्राष्ट्रीय इनकमिंग स्पूफ़ड कॉल्स प्रिवेंशन सिस्टम" लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Jitendra Singh
- (c) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
- (d) S Jaishankar
- (e) Both b and c

Ans. c

Sol. Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia launches 'International Incoming Spoofed Calls Prevention System'

Union minister for communications Jyotiraditya Scindia has launched the department of telecommunications' "International Incoming Spoofed Calls Prevention System" that can detect and block spam international calls that display Indian numbers as the caller ID. Multiple scammers masquerade as police, courier company employees, or others to call victims from international numbers that appear as Indian numbers on the victims' phones.

In July, the finance ministry announced a ₹38.76 crore allocation to the DoT (department of telecommunications) to set up the Centralised International Out Roamer (CIOR), as this system was then called.

The allocation for the Digital Intelligence Unit (DIU), a project whose aim is to investigate the fraudulent use of telecom resources, such as scam and spam calls and messages, was also increased from ₹50 crore (revised estimate for FY24) to ₹85 crore (budget estimate for FY25).

This system was implemented in two phases, three DoT officials told HT on the condition of anonymity. It was first implemented at telco level earlier this month and led to about 3 to 3.2 million such calls being blocked daily.

258. The Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution & New and Renewable Energy has launched the retail sale of Bharat Chana Dal Phase—II in Delhi-NCR by flagging off mobile vans of NCCF, NAFED, and Kendriya Bhandar. Who is the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution?

केंद्रीय उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण तथा नवीन एवं नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्री ने एनसीसीएफ, नैफेड और केंद्रीय भंडार की मोबाइल वैन को हरी झंडी दिखाकर दिल्ली-एनसीआर में भारत चना दाल चरण-II की खुदरा बिक्री का शुभारंभ किया। उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री कौन हैं?

- (a) Kailash Vijayvargiya
- (b) Fagga Singh Kulaste
- (c) Jalam Singh Patel
- (d) Jitendra Singh
- (e) Pralhad Joshi

Ans. e

Sol. Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi launches retail of Bharat Chana Dal Phase – II in Delhi-NCR

Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution & New and Renewable Energy, Pralhad Joshi has launched the retail of Bharat Chana Dal Phase – II in Delhi-NCR by flagging off mobile vans of NCCF, NAFED and Kendriya Bhandar.

In Phase - II of Bharat Chana Dal, 3 lakh tons of Chana stock from the price stabilisation buffer is being converted to Chana Dal and Chana Whole for retail sale to consumers at MRP of Rs.70 per kg and Rs.58 per kg, respectively. Apart from Chana, the government had also expanded the Bharat brand to Moong and Masur Dals.

The Bharat Moong Dal is retailed at Rs.107 per kg, Bharat Moong Sabut at Rs.93 per kg and Bharat Masur Dal at Rs.89 per kg.

The resumption of Bharat Chana Dal at this time will enhance the supplies to consumers of Delhi-NCR in this festive season.

259. In October 2024, National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) launched the which Phase of the 'Amazon Future Engineer Program' in 50 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) spread across Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana and Tripura?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, नेशनल एजुकेशन सोसाइटी फॉर ट्राइबल स्टूडेंट्स (NESTS) ने आंध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात, कर्नाटक, मध्य प्रदेश, ओडिशा, तेलंगाना और त्रिपुरा में फैले 50 एकलव्य मॉडल आवासीय विद्यालयों (EMRS) में 'अमेज़न फ्यूचर इंजीनियर प्रोग्राम' के कौन से चरण का शुभारंभ किया?

- (a) 1st
- (b) 2nd
- (c) 3rd

(d) 4th

(e) 5th

Ans. c

Sol. NESTS launches 'Amazon Future Engineer Program' for Eklavya Model Residential Schools

National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) launched the Third Phase of the 'Amazon Future Engineer Program' in 50 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) spread across Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana and Tripura.

The third phase would include an orientation on blockchain, artificial intelligence, coding, block programming and AI sessions.

The third phase of the Amazon Future Engineer Program will be rolled out across 410 proposed EMRSs in India.

The Amazon Future Engineer Program has been running for two years, has already introduced over 7,000 students in grades 6 to 8 to the fundamentals of computer science and block programming, with over 50 teachers trained in the previous phases. Additionally, project-based virtual sessions will be provided for class 10 students, further aligning with the CBSE AI Skills Curriculum. NESTS remains committed to fostering technological literacy and modernizing education for tribal students across the nation.

260. Which of the following has approved Aquilo House Pte. Ltd (AHPL) 's proposed acquisition of Aavas Financiers Limited (AFL) in October 2024?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने अक्टूबर 2024 में आवास फाइनेंसर्स लिमिटेड (एएफएल) के प्रस्तावित अधिग्रहण के लिए एक्विलो हाउस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (एचपीएल) को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Competition Commission of India
- (c) Ministry of Finance
- (d) Securities Exchange Board of India
- (e) NABARD

Ans. b

Sol. CCI approves Aquilo House's acquisition of Aavas Financiers

The Competition Commission of India has approved Aquilo House Pte. Ltd (AHPL) 's proposed acquisition of Aavas Financiers Limited (AFL).

Aavas Financiers Limited (Acquirer) is a newly incorporated entity, wholly and indirectly held by the Relevant CVC Funds which are certain investment funds or vehicles managed and/or advised by members of the CVC Network.

The "CVC Network" or "CVC Group" is a global alternative investment manager focused on private equity, credit, secondaries and infrastructure, consisting of CVC Capital Partners plc. (CVC PLC) and each of its subsidiaries from time to time.

CVC PLC is a public limited company whose shares are listed and admitted to trading on the Euronext Amsterdam Stock Exchange.

261. Which company has recently launched its new logo and introduced seven digital services focusing on secure, affordable, and reliable connectivity across India?

किस कंपनी ने हाल ही में अपना नया लोगो लॉन्च किया है और पूरे भारत में सुरक्षित, सस्ती और विश्वसनीय कनेक्टिविटी पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए सात डिजिटल सेवाएं शुरू की हैं?

- (a) Airtel
- (b) Reliance Jio
- (c) BSNL
- (d) Vi
- (e) MTNL

Ans. c

Sol. BSNL unveils new brand identity, launches seven digital services for pan-India connectivity

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) revealed its new logo and introduced seven digital services focusing on secure, affordable, and reliable connectivity across India. The launch event was led by Union Minister of Communications Jyotiraditya M Scindia in New Delhi.

The company also introduced automated SIM kiosks offering 24/7 services with UPI payment options and an intranet TV service providing 500+ channels through its FTTH network at no additional cost.

BSNL's security-focused services feature an automatic spam-blocking system and a dedicated network for disaster relief operations.

The company launched a national Wi-Fi roaming service for FTTH customers and pioneered private 5G connectivity for mining operations in collaboration with C-DAC.

The new logo incorporates green and white arrows surrounding India against an orange backdrop, emphasizing nationwide coverage and inclusivity.

The company's tagline, "Connecting Bharat," underscores its mission to bridge the digital divide between urban and rural areas.

These developments represent BSNL's strategic push to modernize its services and strengthen its position in India's competitive telecommunications market.

262. Which country was Luong Cuong appointed as president of in October 2024?

अक्टूबर 2024 में लुओंग कुओंग को किस देश का राष्ट्रपति नियुक्त किया गया?

- (a) South Korea
- (b) China
- (c) Vietnam
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) Taiwan

Ans. c

Sol. Vietnam appoints Army General Cuong as new President after long turmoil

Vietnam elected Luong Cuong, a military general, as its new president, the fourth official to fill the role in 18 months.

Cuong, 67, was elected by the National Assembly to replace To Lam, who remained president even after he was formally appointed as the general secretary of the ruling Communist Party in August.

The role of the general secretary is the most powerful position in Vietnam while the presidency is largely ceremonial.

Cuong, who has served in the Vietnamese army for over four decades, has been a Politburo member since 2021.

Vietnam's leaders are next due to convene a Communist Party Congress in early 2026.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Indonesia - Prabowo Subianto
- President of Tunisia - Kais Saied (2nd time)
- President of Mexico - Claudia Sheinbaum (first woman president of nation)
- PM of Japan - Shigeru Ishiba (replace Fumio Kishida)
- President of Sri Lanka - Anura Kumara Dissanayake; 9th (replace Ranil Wickremesinghe)
- PM of Jordan - Jafar Hassan

263. Which company has been awarded the SHRM - HR Excellence Awards for 'Excellence in Inclusion, Equity & Diversity' and 'Excellence in Managing the Distributed Workforce' categories at the prestigious SHRM India Annual Conference 2024?

प्रतिष्ठित SHRM इंडिया वार्षिक सम्मेलन 2024 में किस कंपनी को 'समावेश, इक्विटी और विविधता में उत्कृष्टता' और 'वितरित कार्यबल के प्रबंधन में उत्कृष्टता' श्रेणियों के लिए SHRM - HR उत्कृष्टता पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (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. d

Sol. SAIL Wins SHRM HR Excellence Awards for Inclusion and Workforce Management
Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been honored with prestigious awards at the SHRM India Annual Conference 2024, held in New Delhi.

SAIL received recognition in two key categories: 'Excellence in Inclusion, Equity & Diversity' and 'Excellence in Managing the Distributed Workforce.'

These accolades underscore SAIL's commitment to innovative and forward-thinking human resource practices, which are being implemented across its various plants and units nationwide.

The awards highlight SAIL's dedication to fostering an inclusive environment where equity and diversity thrive, ensuring the holistic growth of its workforce.

The company is recognized for continuously motivating and engaging its employees, understanding their central role in driving organizational success.

264. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) kept its growth forecasts for India unchanged at _____ per cent and _____ per cent for FY25 and FY26, respectively.
 अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (आईएमएफ) ने वित्त वर्ष 2025 और वित्त वर्ष 2026 के लिए भारत के लिए अपने विकास पूर्वानुमान को क्रमशः _____ प्रतिशत और _____ प्रतिशत पर अपरिवर्तित रखा।

- (a) 7%; 6.5%
- (b) 6.5%; 7%
- (c) 7%; 7.5%
- (d) 7.5%; 6.5%
- (e) 7.3%; 6.3%

Ans. a

Sol. IMF retains India's GDP growth forecast at 7% for FY25, 6.5% for FY26

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) kept its growth forecasts for India unchanged at 7 per cent and 6.5 per cent for FY25 and FY26, respectively.

This is because pent-up demand accumulated during the pandemic has been exhausted, as the economy reconnects with its potential.

Earlier this month, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in its latest monetary policy committee (MPC) review, also kept its growth projection for the current financial year unchanged at 7.2 per cent. It cited robust consumption and investment momentum.

Updated GDP List

- IMF – 7% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- World Bank – 7% (FY25)
- 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)
- Goldman Sachs – 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)
- SBI – 7%

265. In October 2024, who has been appointed as the chief executive officer of the J P Morgan Chase Bank?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, जे पी मॉर्गन चेस बैंक के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Chitra Jayasimha
- (b) Aviral Jain
- (c) Sandip Goenka
- (d) Ravindra Kumar Kunda
- (e) M. Rajeshwar Rao

Ans. e

Sol. RBI approves Pranav Chawda's appointment as JP Morgan Chase Bank India CEO

India's central bank approved the appointment of Pranav Chawda as chief executive officer of JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s local banking unit for a period of three years.

Chawda, who heads commercial banking, will expand his current responsibility to become head of the corporate banking entity.

The position fell vacant after former CEO Prabdev Singh stepped down before the end of his term.

Chawda joined J P Morgan in 2019 and has been heading the commercial banking vertical.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Chairperson of the Board of National Pension System (NPS) Trust** - Chitra Jayasimha (replace Venkata Rao Yadagani)
- **CEO of Acko Life Insurance** - Sandip Goenka
- **MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank** - Partha Pratim Sengupta (for 3 year)
- **MD of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company** - Ravindra Kumar Kunda
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - M. Rajeshwar Rao (reappointment for 1 year)
- **Executive Director of RBI** - Aviral Jain

266. Pam Kaur was appointed the first female Chief Financial Officer of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC). What is the tagline of the HSBC bank?

पाम कौर को हांगकांग और शंघाई बैंकिंग कॉर्पोरेशन (HSBC) की पहली महिला मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी नियुक्त किया गया। HSBC बैंक की टैगलाइन क्या है?

- (a) Win the Future
- (b) Live Richly
- (c) Your Perfect Banking Partner
- (d) The world's local bank
- (e) Live more, Bank less

Ans. d

Sol. Pam Kaur appointed as first female CFO of HSBC

The British multinational bank Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) made history by appointing Pam Kaur as its first female Chief Financial Officer (CFO). She succeeds Georges Elhedery, who has been appointed HSBC's chief executive officer (CEO).

The 60-year-old Indian-born British citizen Pam Kaur joins a growing list of women who occupy top posts in the global banking system.

She joins the ranks of Morgan Stanley's CFO Sharon Yeshaya, JP Morgan's Mary Erdoes, Marianne Lake, and Jennifer Piepszak, as well as Citi's chief executive officer (CEO) Jane Fraser.

About Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Limited

- HSBC is a British multinational bank established in Hong Kong in 1865.
- It started its India operation in 1959 by buying a local bank - Mercantile Bank of India.
- HSBC India is a registered foreign bank regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
- Headquarters- London, UK
- CEO of HSBC India Operation- Hitendra Dave
- Global CEO - Georges Elhedery

- Tagline- The world's local bank

267. The governments of India and Pakistan have agreed to extend the validity of the agreement on the Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor for five years to 24 October 2029. The Pakistani town of Kartarpur is located on the banks of which river?

भारत और पाकिस्तान की सरकारें श्री करतारपुर साहिब कॉरिडोर पर समझौते की वैधता को पांच साल के लिए बढ़ाकर 24 अक्टूबर 2029 तक करने पर सहमत हो गई हैं। पाकिस्तानी शहर करतारपुर किस नदी के किनारे स्थित है?

- (a) Indus River
- (b) Ravi River
- (c) Beas River
- (d) Jhelum River
- (e) Sutlej River

Ans. b

Sol. India & Pakistan extends Kartarpur Corridor agreement till 2029

The governments of India and Pakistan have agreed to extend the validity of the Agreement on Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor for five years until 24 October 2029. The initial agreement was to lapse on 24 October 2024.

The agreement between the two countries comes in the background of the Minister for External Affairs, Dr S Jaishnagar's visit to Pakistan for the 23rd Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisations (SCO) Council of Heads of Government, held in Islamabad on 15 & 16 October 2024.

It was the first direct talk between the foreign ministers of both countries since the 2015 visit of the-External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj to Pakistan to attend the Heart of Asia Conference in Islamabad.

What is the Kartarpur Corridor?

- The Kartarpur Corridor is a 4.1 km long road that starts in Dera Baba Nanak town in Gurdaspur district, Punjab and ends at the Gurdwara Sri Kartarpur Sahib in the Narowal district of Pakistani Punjab province.
- Kartarpur is located in Pakistani Punjab along the west bank of the Ravi River. It is a holy pilgrimage place for the Sikhs, where the founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak Dev Ji, spent the last 18 years of his life.

268. Who has been appointed as the new Director General of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)?

अर्द्ध शुष्क उष्णकटिबंधीय क्षेत्रों के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फसल अनुसंधान संस्थान (ICRISAT) के नए महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Chitra Jayasimha
- (b) Aviral Jain
- (c) Sandip Goenka
- (d) Dr. Himanshu Pathak
- (e) M. Rajeshwar Rao

Ans. d

Sol. Himanshu Pathak appointed as DG of ICRISAT

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), has been appointed as the new Director General of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

Dr. Pathak is the first Indian to hold this prestigious position and only the second individual of Indian origin, following Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, to lead a research institute within the global CGIAR system.

Dr. Swaminathan was the Director General of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the CGIAR rice research laboratory in the Philippines, from 1982 to 1988.

Currently, Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes is the Director General of ICRISAT.

About International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

- ICRISAT is a pioneering International Organization committed to developing and improving dryland farming and agri-food systems.
- Founded- 1972
- Headquarters- Hyderabad, Telangana
- Founders- M. S. Swaminathan, C. Fred Bentley, Ralph Cummings

269. **BOBCARD Limited, a subsidiary of Bank of Baroda, has appointed cricketer _____ as its brand ambassador.**

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा की सहायक कंपनी बॉबकार्ड लिमिटेड ने क्रिकेटर _____ को अपना ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है।

- (a) Harleen Deol
- (b) Mithali Raj
- (c) Smriti Mandhana
- (d) Harmanpreet Kaur
- (e) Shreyanka Patil

Ans. e

Sol. BOBCARD appoints cricketer Shreyanka Patil as brand ambassador

BOBCARD Limited, a subsidiary of Bank of Baroda, has appointed cricketer Shreyanka Patil as its brand ambassador.

Shreyanka will represent the company in upcoming campaigns and initiatives, as BOBCARD LIMITED works to promote its vision of 'Reimagine Credit for Everyone in India.'

BOBCARD LIMITED aims to redefine the credit card experience by offering solutions that address the evolving needs of consumers.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Rashmika Mandanna - National Ambassador for Promoting Cyber Safety
- Rahul Dravid - Shriram Finance Ltd
- 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

270. Who has won the Formula 1 United States Grand Prix Title?

फॉर्मूला 1 यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स ग्रैंड प्रिक्स खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Sebastian Vettel
- (b) Lewis Hamilton
- (c) Max Verstappen
- (d) Charles Leclerc
- (e) Sergio Pérez

Ans. d

Sol. Ferrari's Leclerc wins US Grand Prix

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc clinched his third Formula One race of the season as he finished ahead of teammate Carlos Sainz to win the United States Grand Prix.

Monaco native Leclerc helped Ferrari finish the race one-two as Spaniard Sainz was placed second, 8.562 seconds behind Leclerc's winning time of 1:35:09.639 in a memorable race at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas.

Leclerc had also won the Monaco Grand Prix and Italian Grand Prix this year.

271. The Ministry of Ayush will celebrate which edition of Ayurveda Day at the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in New Delhi on 29th October?

आयुष मंत्रालय 29 अक्टूबर को नई दिल्ली स्थित अखिल भारतीय आयुर्वेद संस्थान (AIIA) में आयुर्वेद दिवस का कौन सा संस्करण मनाएगा?

- (a) 5th
- (b) 6th
- (c) 9th
- (d) 10th
- (e) 8th

Ans. c

Sol. Ayush Ministry to celebrate 9th Ayurveda Day on 29 October

The Ministry of Ayush will celebrate 9th Ayurveda Day at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in New Delhi on 29th October.

This year the day is being celebrated around the theme Ayurveda Innovations for Global Health.

Over 150 countries across the globe are to join this year's Ayurveda Day celebrations.

The government's aim is to promote Ayurveda globally as a robust system of medicine for the welfare of the public.

272. Which general insurance company has partnered with Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking to enhance insurance awareness in rural and urban regions?

किस सामान्य बीमा कंपनी ने ग्रामीण और शहरी क्षेत्रों में बीमा जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए मारुति सुजुकी इंश्योरेंस ब्रोकिंग के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Liberty General Insurance
- (e) Universal Sampo General Insurance

Ans. d

Sol. Liberty General Insurance and Maruti Suzuki Join Hands to Boost Insurance Awareness in Punjab and Delhi

Liberty General Insurance, one of India's prominent non-life insurers, has joined hands with Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking to enhance insurance awareness across rural and urban regions.

The collaboration is part of the 'Bima Prachar Aur Prasaar' initiative, focusing on raising insurance awareness in Punjab's Gram Panchayats and increasing penetration in Delhi.

This effort aligns with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) goal of achieving 'Insurance for All by 2047'.

Liberty General Insurance, as the lead non-life insurer in Delhi, has been at the forefront of similar awareness campaigns in the capital, while also extending its rural outreach in Punjab.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Liberty General Insurance joined hands with Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking to enhance insurance awareness across rural and urban regions.
- Indian Navy Collaborates with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance to Provide Insurance for Naval Civilians
- IFC partners with Axis Bank to provide \$500 million climate loan in India
- NCRTC and Airtel Payments Bank Launch Co-Branded National Common Mobility Cards to Enhance Commuter Convenience
- Federal Bank join hands with Bhashini to boost Chatbot Feddy with Vernacular Language Support
- Bandhan Life partners with Bandhan Bank to Strengthen Insurance Business
- SBI General Insurance joins hand with BLS E-Services to Streamline Access to Insurance Across India

273. Which bank raised ₹5,000 crore through Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 (AT-1) bond issuance at a coupon rate of 7.98 per cent in October 2024?

किस बैंक ने अक्टूबर 2024 में 7.98 प्रतिशत की कूपन दर पर बेसल III अनुरूप अतिरिक्त टियर 1 (AT-1) बांड जारी करके ₹5,000 करोड़ जुटाए?

- (a) State Bank of India

- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) Canara Bank
- (e) Indian Bank

Ans. a

Sol. SBI raises ₹5,000 cr via AT-I bonds at 7.98%

State Bank of India (SBI) raised ₹5,000 crore through Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 (AT-1) bond issuance on at a coupon rate of 7.98 percent.

This is the bank's first AT-1 bond issuance in the current financial year. The tenor of these bonds is perpetual with a call option after 10 years, and each anniversary date thereafter.

The bonds are rated AA+ with a stable outlook from CRISIL Ratings and CARE Ratings.

The issue attracted bids from investors in excess of 3.5 times the base issue size of ₹2,000 crore, the bank said, adding that the total number of bids received from qualified institutional bidders was 108.

The participants were from provident funds, pension funds, insurance companies, mutual funds, NBFCs, banks, etc.

Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, Chairman, said the wider participation and heterogeneity of bids demonstrated the trust investors place in the country's largest bank.

274. Urmila Chaudhary has won the Global Anti-Racism Championship Award 2024. She is from which country?

उर्मिला चौधरी ने ग्लोबल एंटी-रेसिज्म चैंपियनशिप अवार्ड 2024 जीता है। वह किस देश से हैं?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Nepal's Urmila Chaudhary wins Global Anti-Racism Championship Award 2024
Urmila Chaudhary of Nepal won the Global Anti-Racism Championship Award 2024 which was presented by Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken.

This award honours six civil society leaders for their exceptional courage, leadership, and commitment to advancing racial equity, justice, and human rights.

Urmila Chaudhary is an abolitionist and labour activist who was rescued from child servitude at age 17. She co-founded the Freed Kamlari Development Forum and

established 42 cooperatives to empower former bonded labourers. She is currently studying law to further her fight against injustice.

Urmila Chaudhary is honoured for her dedication to advancing the rights of marginalized castes and ethnic communities in Nepal and for combating systemic racism and intersectional abuses.

Recent Award

- **Conscious Companies Awards** - Mohanji
- **Femina Miss India 2024** - Nikita Porwal (from Madhya Pradesh)
- 54th Dadasaheb Phalke Award (for 2022)- Mithun Chakraborty
- **32nd Ekalabya Puraskar by Odisha govt** - Pratyasa Ray (Swimming)
- **FIDE 100 Awards** - Men's - Magnus Carlsen (Norway); Women's - Judit Polgar (Hungary)

275. Which country has been nominated as the "Country of Focus" by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at the 55th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) to be held in Goa from 20 November to 28 November 2024?

20 नवंबर से 28 नवंबर 2024 तक गोवा में आयोजित होने वाले भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव (IFFI) के 55वें संस्करण में सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय द्वारा किस देश को "फोकस देश" के रूप में नामित किया गया है?

- (a) France
- (b) Japan
- (c) Australia
- (d) USA
- (e) Singapore

Ans. c

Sol. IFFI 2024 celebrates Australia's Rich Film Traditions and Vibrant Cinema Culture
The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has announced that Australia has been nominated as the "Country of Focus" at the 55th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), to be held in Goa from 20th November to 28th November 2024.

This special recognition aims to celebrate the dynamic contributions of Australian cinema to the global film industry, highlighting its rich storytelling traditions, vibrant film culture and innovative cinematic techniques.

India & Australia are already parties to an Audio Visual Co-production Treaty. Founded in 1952, the International Film Festival of India is one of Asia's most significant film festivals, serving as a platform for filmmakers worldwide to present their works.

Held annually in Goa, IFFI attracts directors, producers, actors, and film enthusiasts to celebrate the finest in world cinema.

Country of Focus at IFFI

- The "Country of Focus" segment is a key feature of IFFI, offering a dedicated showcase of a nation's best contemporary films.
- Australia's diverse cultural background and globally acclaimed filmmakers have had a lasting impact on cinema, making it a fitting selection for this year. This inclusion reflects the strengthening collaboration between the Indian and Australian film industries.

276. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) recently approved Two Railway projects of the Ministry of Railways, Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhanga & Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur and Errupalem and Namburu via Amaravati, with total estimated cost of _____.

आर्थिक मामलों की कैबिनेट समिति (सीसीईए) ने हाल ही में रेल मंत्रालय की दो रेलवे परियोजनाओं, नरकटियागंज-रक्सौल-सीतामढ़ी-दरभंगा और सीतामढ़ी-मुजफ्फरपुर और अमरावती के रास्ते एरुपलेम और नंबुरु को मंजूरी दे दी, जिनकी कुल अनुमानित लागत _____ है।

- (a) 6,178 crore
- (b) 6,478 crore
- (c) 6,798 crore
- (d) 7,998 crore
- (e) 5,978 crore

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves two Railway projects with estimated cost of Rs 6,798 crore and will be completed in 5 years

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved Two Railway projects of the Ministry of Railways with total estimated cost of Rs.6,798 crore (approx.).

Two approved projects are – (a) the doubling of Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhanga & Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Section covering 256 kms and, (b) construction of new line between Errupalem and Namburu via Amaravati covering 57 kms.

The doubling of Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhanga & Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Section will strengthen the connectivity to Nepal, North-east India and Border areas and facilitate movement of passenger trains along with goods train resulting in the socio-economic growth of the region.

The new rail line project Errupalem-Amaravati-Namburu traverses through NTR Vijayawada and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh and Khammam district of Telangana.

The Two projects covering 8 Districts in 3 States i.e., Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Bihar will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 313 Kms.

The Union cabinet also approved setting up of a Rs 1000 crore VC fund dedicated to the space sector, under the aegis of IN-SPACe.

The deployment period of the proposed VC fund is planned to be up to five years from the actual date of start of the fund operations. The average deployment amount could be Rs 150-250 crore per year, depending on the investment opportunities and fund requirements.

IN-SPACe was established by the Centre in 2020 to bolster private sector participation in the space sector.

277. Which institute has signed an MoU with Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) Hyderabad to bring innovative health products, particularly probiotics to market?

किस संस्थान ने नवीन स्वास्थ्य उत्पादों, विशेष रूप से प्रोबायोटिक्स को बाजार में लाने के लिए भारत बायोटेक इंटरनेशनल लिमिटेड (बीबीआईएल) हैदराबाद के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) Delhi University
- (c) IISc Bengaluru
- (d) Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology Guwahati
- (e) Both a and d

Ans. d

Sol. IASST Guwahati Inks Technology Transfer Agreement With Bharat Biotech

The Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST) Guwahati has signed an MoU with Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) Hyderabad.

The agreement focuses on technology transfer and aims to bring innovative health products, particularly probiotics to market.

These probiotics, isolated from traditional fermented foods of Northeast India, have shown promising results in addressing metabolic diseases, improving gut health and promoting healthy ageing.

Bharat Biotech, known for its excellence in developing vaccines and health solutions, will conduct pre-clinical and clinical trials to ensure that the probiotics meet regulatory standards. The trials will determine the products' efficacy in combating lifestyle diseases such as diabetes and obesity.

278. On the _____ anniversary of Kittur Vijayotsava, a commemorative Postage stamp was released at the historic Kittur Rani Channamma Stage, Kittur Fort Premises on 23rd October 2024.

किचूर विजयोत्सव की _____ वर्षगांठ पर, 23 अक्टूबर 2024 को ऐतिहासिक किचूर रानी चन्नम्मा स्टेज, किचूर किला परिसर में एक स्मारक डाक टिकट जारी किया गया।

(a) 100th

(b) 125th

(c) 150th

(d) 200th

(e) 175th

Ans. d

Sol. Department of Posts issues a Commemorative Stamp to mark 200 Years of Kittur Vijayotsava

On the 200th anniversary of Kittur Vijayotsava a commemorative Postage stamp was released at the historic Kittur Rani Channamma Stage, Kittur Fort Premises.

This grand event commemorated Rani Channamma's glorious victory on 23rd October, 1824 against the British rule.

The commemorative stamp designed by Shri Brahm Prakash features a striking portrait of Rani Channamma, on her horse drawing a sword, fighting against the British, embodying her strength and bravery.

Surrounding her image are forts symbolizing the rich heritage of Kittur and the historic battle of Kittur.

279. The government will commemorate the _____ birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with a two-year-long nationwide programme from 2024 to 2026 to honour his monumental contribution to the country.

सरकार देश के लिए उनके महत्वपूर्ण योगदान को सम्मानित करने के लिए 2024 से 2026 तक दो साल के राष्ट्रव्यापी कार्यक्रम के साथ सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल की _____ जयंती मनाएगी।

(a) 100th

(b) 125th

(c) 150th

(d) 140th

(e) 130th

Ans. c

Sol. Govt launches two-year nationwide celebration for Sardar Patel's 150th Birth Anniversary

The government will commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with a two-year-long nationwide programme from 2024 to 2026 to honour his

monumental contribution to the country. Patel was born on October 31, 1875, at Nadiad in Gujarat.

Sardar Patel's enduring legacy as the visionary behind the establishment of one of the world's most robust democracies and his pivotal role in unifying India from Kashmir to Lakshadweep remains indelible.

This celebration will serve as a testament to his remarkable achievements and the spirit of unity that he epitomised.

The Central government has been observing October 31 as 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' or National Unity Day since 2014 to foster and reinforce its dedication to preserving and strengthening the unity, integrity and security of the nation.

280. The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has imposed a fine of Rs 54 lakh on which bank for "failing" to report suspicious transactions and not conducting proper investigation under the anti-money laundering law for certain accounts at one of its branches in Mumbai?

वित्तीय खुफिया इकाई (एफआईयू) ने किस बैंक पर संदिग्ध लेनदेन की रिपोर्ट करने में "विफल" रहने और मुंबई में अपनी एक शाखा में कुछ खातों के लिए धन शोधन विरोधी कानून के तहत उचित जांच नहीं करने के लिए 54 लाख रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) Indian Bank
- (d) Union Bank of India
- (e) UCO Bank

Ans. d

Sol. FIU slaps Rs 54 lakh fine on Union Bank of India for multiple PMLA violations
The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has imposed a fine of Rs 54 lakh on the Union Bank of India for "failing" to report suspicious transaction reports and for not undertaking due diligence under the anti-money laundering law for certain accounts at one of its branches in Mumbai.

The federal agency issued the penalty notice under section 13 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) on October 1 as it observed that the charges against the lender were "substantiated" after it considered written and oral submissions made by the Bank.

The investigation started, pursuant to an observation by the FIU, and a "comprehensive review" of the Bank's operations was undertaken, which uncovered certain "irregularities" related to KYC/AML (know your customer/anti-money laundering) compliance.

281. Which edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) began recently at Eastern Naval Command Visakhapatnam?

सिंगापुर-भारत समुद्री द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास (SIMBEX) का कौन सा संस्करण हाल ही में पूर्वी नौसेना कमान विशाखापत्तनम में शुरू हुआ?

- (a) 30th
- (b) 31st
- (c) 32nd
- (d) 33rd
- (e) 34th

Ans. b

Sol. Singapore-India maritime exercise SIMBEX begin at ENC Visakhapatnam

The 31st edition of the Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) will be held till October 29 at the Eastern Naval Command, here.

The exercise will be conducted in two phases - the Harbour Phase from October 23 to 25 at Visakhapatnam and the Sea Phase from October 28 to 29 in the Bay of Bengal.

SIMBEX, which began as 'Exercise Lion King' in 1994, is a bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).

RSN ship RSS Tenacious with embarked helicopter, arrived at ENC for participating in SIMBEX2024.

This year's edition aims to further strengthen the strategic partnership between India and Singapore by enhancing interoperability, improving maritime domain awareness, and fostering cooperation to address common maritime challenges, the release added.

Recent Exercise

- 18 edition of Joint Naval Drill '**Naseem Al Bahr**' between India and Oman - Coast off Goa
- Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command is conducting '**Exercise SWAVLAMBAN SHAKTI**' at Babina Field Firing Ranges near Jhansi.
- **Exercise Malabar 2024** between India, Australia, Japan, and USA - Visakhapatnam
- 8th edition of **Exercise KAZIND 2024** between India -Kazakhstan military - Auli, Uttarakhand.
- **7th edition of Exercise Eastern Bridge** between Indian Air Force and Royal Oman Air Force - Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.
- **5th edition of Exercise Al NAJAH** between Indian Army and Royal Army of Oman - Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.

282. Global Media and Information Literacy Week is an annual event observed from 24th to 31st October to raise awareness and celebrate the progress achieved towards Media and Information Literacy for all. What is the theme of Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2024?

वैश्विक मीडिया और सूचना साक्षरता सप्ताह 24 से 31 अक्टूबर तक मनाया जाने वाला एक वार्षिक कार्यक्रम है, जिसका उद्देश्य जागरूकता बढ़ाना और सभी के लिए मीडिया और सूचना साक्षरता की दिशा में हुई प्रगति का जश्न मनाना है। वैश्विक मीडिया और सूचना साक्षरता सप्ताह 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Media and Information Literacy in Digital Spaces: A Collective Global Agenda
- (b) Resisting Disinfodemic: Media and Information Literacy for Everyone and by Everyone
- (c) Nurturing trust: A Media and Information Literacy Imperative
- (d) The New Digital Frontiers of Information: "Media and Information Literacy for Public Interest Information"
- (e) The need for factual, timely, targeted, clear, accessible, multilingual and science-based information

Ans. d

Sol. 24-31 October - Global Media and Information Literacy Week

Global Media and Information Literacy Week is an annual event observed from 24th to 31st October to raise awareness and celebrate the progress achieved towards Media and Information Literacy for all.

Theme 2024 - The New Digital Frontiers of Information: "Media and Information Literacy for Public Interest Information"

During Global Media and Information Literacy Week, stakeholders around the world organize events and UNESCO co-hosts with a Member State the global conference gathering, the Media and Information Literacy community.

283. UN Disarmament Week is observed every year from 24 October to _____.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र निरस्त्रीकरण सप्ताह हर साल 24 अक्टूबर से _____ तक मनाया जाता है।

- (a) October 29
- (b) October 30
- (c) October 31
- (d) November 1
- (e) November 2

Ans. b

Sol. 24 to 30 October - UN Disarmament Week

UN Disarmament Week is observed every year on from 24 October to 30 October.

The week-long observance is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of disarmament and promoting international dialogue to reduce the spread and impact of weapons.

It was first called for in the Final Document of the UN General Assembly's 1978 Special Session on Disarmament (resolution S-10/2) and reinforced in 1995 by the General Assembly's invitation (resolution 50/72 B, 12 December 1995) to governments and NGOs to actively participate.

As the world marks UN Disarmament Week, global efforts to promote arms control are under the spotlight as the Church strives to reduce the spread of weapons that fuel conflict and instigate violence.

In a world threatened by weapons of mass destruction, conventional arms and emerging cyberwarfare, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres presented a new agenda for disarmament to save humanity, save lives and secure our common future.

284. United Nations Day is celebrated every year on which day?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) October 22
- (b) October 23
- (c) October 24
- (d) October 25
- (e) October 26

Ans. c

Sol. 24 October - United Nations Day

United Nations Day is celebrated every year on October 24 to mark the anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945, which followed the end of World War II.

This day offers an opportunity to reflect on the global body's efforts to maintain peace, promote human rights, and foster social and economic development across the world.

As a founding member of the United Nations, India has played a vital role in supporting the UN's mission and continues to contribute to its various initiative. The UN was established by 51 countries after the Second World War. The UN's six official languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

About United Nations (UN)

- **Founded** - 24 October 1945
- **Headquarters** - New York, US
- **Official languages** - Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian & Spanish

- **Membership** - 193 members (193rd - South Sudan)
- **1st Secretary General** - Trygve Halvdan Lie (Norway)
- **9th Secretary-General** - António Guterres (Portugal)
- **Deputy Secretary-General** - Amina J. Mohammed (Nigeria)
- India's Permanent Representative to UN - Parvathaneni Harish (replace Ruchira Kamboj)

285. The Indian Institute of Management Shillong, through its IIM Shillong Foundation for Incubation and Enterprise (IIMSFIE), has signed an MoU with which organisation to provide comprehensive entrepreneurship training and incubation support to aspiring entrepreneurs?

भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थान शिलांग ने अपने आईआईएम शिलांग फाउंडेशन फॉर इनक्यूबेशन एंड एंटरप्राइज (आईआईएमएसएफआई) के माध्यम से महत्वाकांक्षी उद्यमियों को व्यापक उद्यमिता प्रशिक्षण और इनक्यूबेशन सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए किस संगठन के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) RBI
- (b) SEBI
- (c) NABARD
- (d) SIDBI
- (e) SIDBI

Ans. e

Sol. IIM Shillong signs MoU with SIDBI to launch entrepreneurship training and incubation programme

The Indian Institute of Management Shillong, through its IIM Shillong Foundation for Incubation and Enterprise (IIMSFIE), has signed an MoU with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

The partnership aimed at providing comprehensive entrepreneurship training and incubation support to aspiring entrepreneurs.

By leveraging SIDBI's vast network and IIMSFIE's infrastructure and experience, the initiative will create a robust support system to nurture innovative startups and enterprises.

286. Which digital financial services platform has launched an Instant Fixed Deposit (FD) product on its mobile app with up to a 9.5% interest rate?

किस डिजिटल वित्तीय सेवा प्लेटफॉर्म ने अपने मोबाइल ऐप पर 9.5% तक की ब्याज दर के साथ तत्काल सावधि जमा (FD) उत्पाद लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) MobiKwik
- (b) Rozarpay
- (c) Paytm

(d) PhonePe

(e) GooglePay

Ans. a

Sol. MobiKwik launches fixed deposit product with up to 9.5% interest rate
MobiKwik, a digital financial services platform, has launched an Instant Fixed Deposit (FD) product on its mobile app, in partnership with financial services firms. The product aims to simplify the savings process for its users.

MobiKwik Fixed Deposits allows users to start investing with as little as Rs 1,000 and earn up to 9.5 per cent returns per annum without opening a new bank account. Users can choose a tenure ranging from 7 days to 60 months depending on their convenience.

Through its partnership with RBI-regulated Small Finance Banks and NBFCs such as Suryoday Small Finance Bank, Bajaj Finance, and others along with technology service provider Blostem, MobiKwik aims to provide security of fixed deposit bookings made on its platform.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- MobiKwik launches fixed deposit product with up to 9.5% interest rate
- Indian Overseas Bank launched **Mahila Saksham scheme** to empower women entrepreneurs
- Magma HDI General Insurance launches '**Double Suraksha**': **Affordable Insurance** for Every Income Group
- Bank of Baroda introduces 400-day '**Utsav Deposit Scheme**' at 7.3%
- PhonePe launches new plan **Firecracker Insurance** for Diwali with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- SBI Card launches **KrisFlyer SBI Card** in partnership with Singapore

287. Five-time singles Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova and American twins Bob and Mike Bryan were named to the International Tennis Hall of Fame's Class of 2025. Sharapova is from which country?

पांच बार की एकल ग्रैंड स्लैम चैंपियन मारिया शारापोवा और अमेरिकी जुड़वां बॉब और माइक ब्रायन को इंटरनेशनल टेनिस हॉल ऑफ फ़ेम की 2025 की क्लास में नामित किया गया। शारापोवा किस देश से हैं?

(a) France

(b) Belgium

(c) Australia

(d) Russia

(e) South Africa

Ans. d

Sol. Sharapova, Bryan brothers elected into Hall of Fame

Five-time singles Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova, Russia, and American twins Bob and Mike Bryan, who formed the most successful doubles team in history, were named to the International Tennis Hall of Fame's Class of 2025.

Sharapova, one of only 10 women to achieve a career Grand Slam in singles, became the first Russian woman to reach the world number one ranking in 2005. She also won a silver medal at the 2012 London Olympics.

The Bryans won 16 Grand Slam men's doubles titles together and were the world's top-ranked team for a record 438 weeks.

The Californian pair won a professional era record 119 titles together, including 16 Grand Slams, 39 ATP Masters 1000s and the ATP Finals title four times.

The Bryans also won Olympic gold at London 2012 and were part of the U.S. Davis Cup-winning team in 2007.

288. The government has increased the loan limit under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh. In which year was the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) launched?

सरकार ने प्रधानमंत्री मुद्रा योजना (PMMY) के तहत ऋण सीमा 10 लाख रुपये से बढ़ाकर 20 लाख रुपये कर दी है। प्रधानमंत्री मुद्रा योजना (PMMY) किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) 2014
- (b) 2015
- (c) 2016
- (d) 2017
- (e) 2018

Ans. b

Sol. Loan limit under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) increased to Rs.20 lakh from the current Rs.10 lakh

The government has doubled the limit of Mudra loan amount under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to Rs 20 lakh from Rs 10 lakh under a new 'Tarun Plus' category to promote entrepreneurship in the country.

The increase aims to further the objective of the Mudra Scheme, which is to fund the unfunded. This enhancement is specifically beneficial to emerging entrepreneurs, facilitating their growth and expansion.

The enhanced limit for Mudra loans was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharman in the Union Budget 2024-25 on July 23 this year.

The guarantee coverage of PMMY loans up to Rs 20 lakh will be provided under the Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU).

Who is Eligible for Mudra Loan?

- Mudra loan is a government scheme in India that provides financial support to micro and small enterprises for business development. Eligibility includes non-corporate small businesses, micro-enterprises, and individuals in manufacturing, trading, services, and agriculture-related sectors.
- Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) is a scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 8, 2015 for providing loans up to 10 lakh to micro and small enterprises.
- Loans under the PM mudra loan scheme are available to non-farm micro or small enterprises engaged in income generation through manufacturing, trading and services. Eligibility includes non-corporate small businesses, micro-enterprises, and individuals in manufacturing, trading, services, and agriculture-related sectors.

289. Rajiv Ranjan Singh has launched Gram Panchayat-Level Weather Forecasting. In which city has it been launched?

राजीव रंजन सिंह ने ग्राम पंचायत स्तर पर मौसम पूर्वानुमान की शुरुआत की है। इसे किस शहर में लॉन्च किया गया है?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Jaipur
- (d) Chennai
- (e) Bengaluru

Ans. a

Sol. Rajiv Ranjan Singh launches "Weather Forecasting at the Gram Panchayat Level" in Vigyan Bhawan

Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, Minister of Panchayati Raj, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology & Earth Sciences, and Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, launched Gram Panchayat-Level Weather Forecasting in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

This initiative, developed in collaboration between the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) and the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), marks a major step forward in climate preparedness at the grassroots level. The initiative will provide Gram Panchayats with a five-day weather forecast and hourly updates, enabling rural communities to better plan agricultural activities and prepare for weather-related risks.

290. Which company has partnered with Nvidia to build large-scale AI infrastructure in India that could accelerate India's artificial intelligence capabilities?

किस कंपनी ने भारत में बड़े पैमाने पर AI बुनियादी ढांचे के निर्माण के लिए एनवीडिया के साथ साझेदारी की है जो भारत की कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता क्षमताओं को गति दे सकती है?

- (a) Infosy
- (b) IBM
- (c) Reliance Industries
- (d) Tata Consultancy Service
- (e) Wipro

Ans. c

Sol. Reliance, Nvidia partner to build large-scale AI infrastructure in India

Reliance Industries has partnered with Nvidia to build large-scale AI infrastructure in India that could accelerate India's artificial intelligence capabilities. The announcement came during a fireside chat between Reliance Chairman Mukesh Ambani and Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang at the Nvidia AI Summit 2024 in Mumbai. The partnership will see Reliance deploying Nvidia's latest GB 200 supercomputer technology to build a massive AI infrastructure.

The collaboration aims to make AI accessible and affordable to India's 1.4 billion population, following a model similar to what Reliance's Jio did for mobile data.

291. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 434.25 million (about Rs 3,600 crore) loan to increase renewable energy capacity and improve energy security in which state?

एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) ने किस राज्य में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा क्षमता बढ़ाने और ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में सुधार के लिए 434.25 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर (लगभग 3,600 करोड़ रुपये) के ऋण को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Chhattisgarh
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Punjab

Ans. a

Sol. ADB commits USD 434.25 million loan for solar facility in Assam

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 434.25 million (about Rs 3,600 crore) loan to increase renewable energy capacity and improve energy security in Assam.

This project will help Assam develop a renewable energy road map and increase its solar energy capacity to achieve its target of 3,000 megawatts (MW) by 2030.

The Assam Solar Project will construct a grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) facility in Karbi Anglong district with a capacity of 500 MW. The project will support

the development of a grid-connected battery energy storage system to ensure grid stability and meet peak power demand.

This storage system will be established through a joint venture between the Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. Tripura Power Company Ltd.

The project will help establish a PPP agreement to develop an additional 250 MW solar PV facility in the Karbi Anglong district.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masatsugu Asakawa
- **Vice President** - Ashok Lavasa
- **Director of ADB for India** - Mio Oka (replace Takeo Konishi)
- **Executive Director** - Vikas Sheel
- **Adviser to the Executive Director** - Smita Sarangi
- **Member Countries** - 69 (Israel)

292. In October 2024, Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) has announced that central government pensioners aged 80 and older will qualify for an additional pension called compassionate allowance. Which among the following additional compassionate allowance is/are NOT correct?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, पेंशन और पेंशनभोगी कल्याण विभाग (DoPPW) ने घोषणा की है कि 80 वर्ष और उससे अधिक आयु के केंद्र सरकार के पेंशनभोगी अनुकंपा भत्ता नामक अतिरिक्त पेंशन के लिए पात्र होंगे। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा अतिरिक्त अनुकंपा भत्ता सही नहीं है/हैं?

- (a) From 80 to 85 years of age: 10 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- (b) From 85 to 90 years of age: 30 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- (c) From 95 to 100 years of age: 50 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- (d) 100 years or more: 100 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- (e) all are correct

Ans. a

Sol. Central govt pensioners to get additional compassionate pension after 80
 The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) recently announced that central government pensioners aged 80 and older will qualify for an additional pension called compassionate allowance.

New guidelines have been issued for central government civil service retirees who reach the age of 80 to access these supplementary benefits.

The guidelines simplify the process for distributing these additional allowances -

- From 80 to 85 years of age: 20 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- From 85 to 90 years of age: 30 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- From 95 to 100 years of age: 50 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.
- 100 years or more: 100 percent of basic pension/compassionate allowance.

The additional pension or compassionate allowance will be effective from the first day of the month in which the pensioner reaches the designated age.

293. Axis Bank has reappointed Amitabh Chaudhry as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the bank for how many years with effect from January 1, 2025?

एक्सिस बैंक ने अमिताभ चौधरी को 1 जनवरी 2025 से कितने वर्षों के लिए बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के रूप में फिर से नियुक्त किया है?

- (a) One year
- (b) two years
- (c) three years
- (d) four years
- (e) five years

Ans. c

Sol. Amitabh Chaudhry appoints as MD & CEO of Axis Bank

Axis Bank has been reappointed Amitabh Chaudhry as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the bank for the next three years.

Chaudhry's extended term will commence in January 2025 and conclude on December 31, 2027.

Chaudhry, who joined Axis Bank in 2019 after a nine-year tenure with HDFC Life, has played a pivotal role in the bank's growth.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **CFO of HSBC Bank** - Pam Kaur (first female CFO; replace Georges Elhedery)
- **CEO of JP Morgan Chase Bank India** - Pranav Chawda
- **Chairperson of the Board of National Pension System (NPS) Trust** - Chitra Jayasimha (replace Venkata Rao Yadagani)
- **CEO of Acko Life Insurance** - Sandip Goenka
- **MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank** - Partha Pratim Sengupta (for 3 year)

294. Who has recently inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for various projects worth Rs 7,160 crore in Bihar?

हाल ही में किसने बिहार में 7,160 करोड़ रुपये की विभिन्न परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन और शिलान्यास किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Rajnath Singh
- (c) Nitish Kumar
- (d) Jitendra Singh
- (e) Samarat Choudhary

Ans. c

Sol. Bihar CM unveils panchayat projects worth Rs 7,160 cr.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for various projects worth Rs 7,160 crore.

The projects for which the CM virtually laid the foundation stones include 2,615 panchayat government buildings in different blocks in the state and a panchayat resource center in Sonapur in the Saran district.

Kumar also inaugurated 13 district panchayat resource centres, 65 panchayat government buildings, an e-gram kachhari court management system and portals of several district councils at a function held at the official residence of the CM. The government has set a target of constructing such buildings in every gram panchayat. Initially, 330 panchayat government buildings were built. Of 8,053 panchayat buildings in the state, 6,858 have been approved. Out of these, 1,548 are complete and the rest are under construction.

About Bihar

- **Capital** – Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar (9th time)
- **Deputy CM** - Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha
- **Governor** – Rajendra Vishwanath Arleka

295. World Development Information Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व विकास सूचना दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) October 27
- (b) October 23
- (c) October 24
- (d) October 25
- (e) October 26

Ans. c

Sol. 24 October - World Development Information Day

World Development Information Day is observed every year on October 24, coinciding with the United Nations Day.

The day focuses on the need to mobilise public opinion in both developing and developed countries in a bid to accelerate their economic and social progress.

In 1972, the General Assembly established World Development Information Day to draw the attention of the world to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them (resolution 3038(XXVII)).

The Assembly decided that the date for the Day should coincide with United Nations Day, 24 October, which was also the date of the adoption, in 1970, of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

296. World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year. What is the theme of World Polio Day 2024?

विश्व पोलियो दिवस हर साल 24 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाता है। विश्व पोलियो दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) A Global Mission to Reach Every Child
- (b) A healthier future for mothers and children
- (c) Delivering on a Promise
- (d) Make Polio History
- (e) Heroes of Polio Eradication

Ans. a

Sol. 24 October - World Polio Day

World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year.

Objective - To raise awareness about the fight against poliomyelitis.

Theme 2024 - A Global Mission to Reach Every Child

This day was established by Rotary International in honor of Dr Jonas Salk. He developed the first successful polio vaccine. The day serves to highlight ongoing efforts by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), founded in 1988. This initiative has reduced polio cases worldwide by 99 percent.

About Polio

- Polio, or poliomyelitis, is a serious infectious disease caused by the poliovirus. It mainly affects children under the age of 5.
- The virus can lead to paralysis and, in severe cases, death. Vaccination is crucial to prevent the disease and protect vulnerable populations.

297. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has celebrated its Raising Day on which day every year?

भारत-तिब्बत सीमा पुलिस (आईटीबीपी) हर साल किस दिन अपना स्थापना दिवस मनाती है?

- (a) October 22
- (b) October 23
- (c) October 24
- (d) October 25
- (e) October 26

Ans. c

Sol. 24 October 2024 - 63rd ITBP Raising Day

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has celebrated its Raising Day on October 24 every year.

The ITBP Raising Day commemorates the founding of this elite paramilitary force, which was raised in the aftermath of the 1962 Sino-Indian War.

The force is entrusted with the security of the India-China border in the Himalayas and plays a critical role in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty.

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) was formally raised on October 24, 1962, as a direct response to the Sino-Indian War that highlighted the vulnerabilities in India's border security.

298. What is the total outlay for the 21st Livestock Census being conducted in the country from October 2024 to February 2025?

देश में अक्टूबर 2024 से फरवरी 2025 तक आयोजित की जा रही 21वीं पशुधन जनगणना के लिए कुल परिव्यय कितना है?

- (a) 50 crore
- (b) 100 crore
- (c) 150 crore
- (d) 200 crore
- (e) 250 crore

Ans. d

Sol. 21st Livestock Census launched to count 16 species of livestock

The central government launched the centrally sponsored 21st Livestock Census operation. Simultaneously, the government launched a \$25 million Pandemic Fund Project to strengthen the country's animal health infrastructure.

The Livestock census operation and the Pandemic Fund Project were launched by the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Rajiv Ranjan Singh, in New Delhi.

The census is 100 per cent funded by the central government, and the total outlay for the 21st Livestock Census is Rs 200 crore.

The 21st Livestock Census is conducted by the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying in partnership with the respective state government/Union Territories Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department.

The 21st Livestock census operation will be conducted nationwide from October 2024 to February 2025.

The first livestock census in the country was held between 1919 and 1920, and since then, it has been held every five years. The 20th Livestock Census was held across the country in 2019.

299. Where was the 16th Summit meeting of BRICS countries held in 2024?

2024 में ब्रिक्स देशों की 16वीं शिखर बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Russia hosted the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan

Russia hosted the 16th BRICS summit meeting and the first BRICS Outreach/BRICS plus summit meeting at Kazan.

Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted the meeting, which was attended by the bloc's leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The meeting was also attended by the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the President of the New Development, Dilma Rousseff.

The theme of the 16th BRICS summit meeting was Strengthening Multilateralism for Fair Global Development and Security.

Brazil will host the next 17th BRICS summit meeting in 2025.

300. Which food delivery platform has introduced 'International Logins', a feature that allows users from 27 countries to access all the offerings on its app using their international phone numbers?

किस खाद्य वितरण प्लेटफॉर्म ने 'अंतर्राष्ट्रीय लॉगिन' नामक सुविधा शुरू की है, जो 27 देशों के उपयोगकर्ताओं को अपने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फोन नंबरों का उपयोग करके अपने ऐप पर सभी पेशकशों तक पहुंचने की अनुमति देती है?

- (a) Zomato
- (b) Swiggy
- (c) Food Panda

(d) Dominos

(e) Uber Eats

Ans. b

Sol. Swiggy unveils 'International Logins' for NRIs from 27 countries

Swiggy, the food and grocery delivery platform, has introduced 'International Logins', a feature that allows users from 27 countries—including the United States, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, Australia, and the UAE—to access all the offerings on the Swiggy app using their international phone numbers.

This permanent feature offers a seamless experience while ordering food, shopping on Swiggy's quick commerce platform, Swiggy Instamart, and booking tables through Swiggy Dineout.

Payments can be made using international credit cards or available Unified Payments Interface (UPI) options.

301. The Reserve Bank has revoked the certificate of authorisation of UAE Exchange Centre LLC for non-compliance with regulatory requirements. Now, it cannot transact cross-border inbound money transfers. Where is the headquarters of UAE Exchange Centre LLC?

रिज़र्व बैंक ने नियामक आवश्यकताओं का अनुपालन न करने के कारण यूएई एक्सचेंज सेंटर एलएलसी के प्राधिकरण प्रमाणपत्र को रद्द कर दिया है। अब, यह सीमा पार इनबाउंड मनी ट्रांसफर नहीं कर सकता। यूएई एक्सचेंज सेंटर एलएलसी का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

(a) Abu Dhabi

(b) Sharjah

(c) Dubai

(d) Fujairah

(e) Ajman

Ans. c

Sol. RBI revokes authorisation certificate of UAE Exchange Centre

The Reserve Bank has revoked the certificate of authorisation of UAE Exchange Centre LLC for non-compliance with regulatory requirements and now it cannot transact the business of cross-border in-bound money transfer.

UAE Exchange Centre LLC (UAEEC), with a registered office in Dubai, was issued Certificate of Authorisation (CoA) for cross-border in-bound money transfer operator (customer-to-customer) as 'Overseas Principal'.

the RBI said the CoA of the payment system operator has been revoked for non-compliance with regulatory requirements. Following the revocation of CoA, UAEEC cannot transact the business of cross border in-bound money transfer as 'Overseas Principal'.

302. Indian Navy's 7th Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) Abhay was launched at L&T's Kattupalli shipyard near Chennai. By which company has it been manufactured?

भारतीय नौसेना के 7वें एंटी-सबमरीन वारफेयर शैलो वाटर क्राफ्ट (ASW SWC) अभय को चेन्नई के पास L&T के कट्टुपल्ली शिपयार्ड में लॉन्च किया गया। इसका निर्माण किस कंपनी ने किया है?

- (a) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
- (b) Hindustan Shipyard
- (c) ABG Shipyard
- (d) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
- (e) Cochin Shipyard Limited

Ans. d

Sol. Navy launches 7th GRSE's Anti-Submarine Warfare Vessel 'Abhay'

The Indian Navy's Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) Abhay, constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, was ceremoniously launched at L&T's Kattupalli shipyard near Chennai.

This vessel is the seventh in an eight-ship ASW SWC series, an initiative from a 2019 contract between the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and GRSE.

The Arnala-class ships will eventually replace the existing Abhay-class ASW corvettes, currently serving the Indian Navy.

Designed for anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, these advanced craft are also capable of Low-Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO) and mine-laying activities, enhancing the Navy's operational reach and defensive capabilities along India's coastlines.

These 77-meter-long, 10-meter-wide warships are engineered for powerful subsurface surveillance in coastal waters. They can track various surface and underwater targets, and conduct coordinated anti-submarine operations with aircraft.

The ASW SWCs are compact, waterjet-propelled vessels capable of reaching speeds up to 25 knots, providing agility and swift response in tactical situations.

303. IndiaAI and Meta announced the establishment of the Center for Generative AI, Shrijan (सृजन) at IIT Jodhpur and the launch of the YuvAI initiative for Skilling and Capacity Building in partnership with which of the following?

इंडियाएआई और मेटा ने आईआईटी जोधपुर में जनरेटिव एआई, श्रीजन (सृजन) केंद्र की स्थापना और निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ साझेदारी में कौशल और क्षमता निर्माण के लिए युवाएआई पहल की शुरुआत की घोषणा की?

- (a) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
- (b) University Grants Commission (UGC)
- (c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- (d) Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
- (e) National Testing Agency (NTA)

Ans. a

Sol. 'IndiaAI' and Meta announces the establishment of the Center for Generative AI, Shrijan at IIT Jodhpur

IndiaAI and Meta announced the establishment of the Center for Generative AI, Shrijan (सृजन) at IIT Jodhpur and the launch of the YuvAI initiative for Skilling and Capacity Building in partnership with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

This collaboration is aimed at propelling the advancement of open-source artificial intelligence (AI) in the country.

The Center of Excellence will identify and empower the next generation of AI innovators and entrepreneurs using open-source AI and exploring possibilities in Large Language Model LLMs.

Srijan will encourage students and young developers in India to use open-source AI models to solve real-world problems and drive positive social and economic impact. It will mainly research in education, mobility, and healthcare domains with the global advancements in generative AI.

304. Which company has partnered with the Indian Army to establish a Solar Hydrogen-based Microgrid at Chushul, Ladakh?

किस कंपनी ने लद्दाख के चुशुल में सौर हाइड्रोजन आधारित माइक्रोग्रिड स्थापित करने के लिए भारतीय सेना के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) ReNew Power
- (b) TP renewable Microgrid
- (c) JSW Energy
- (d) NTPC Limited
- (e) SJVN Limited

Ans. d

Sol. NTPC and Indian Army Join Hands for Round-the-Clock Power Supply using Green Hydrogen

NTPC has partnered with the Indian Army to establish a Solar Hydrogen-based Microgrid at Chushul, Ladakh. This significant step will provide a stable power supply using Green Hydrogen in off-grid Army locations.

NTPC has designed this innovative Solar Hydrogen-based microgrid system to operate independently, using hydrogen as an energy storage medium to supply 200kW of power round-the-clock throughout the year.

NTPC will maintain the project for 25 years, aiming to support Indian soldiers stationed in these strategically significant tough terrains and challenging climate. NTPC is committed to achieving 60GW of renewable energy capacity by 2032 and becoming a major player in green hydrogen technology and energy storage domain.

305. Severe tropical cyclone 'Dana' struck the east coast of India, bringing torrential rains and strong winds of 100-120 kmph. Which country has given the name of Dana cyclone?

भीषण उष्णकटिबंधीय चक्रवात 'दाना' ने भारत के पूर्वी तट पर हमला किया, जिससे मूसलाधार बारिश हुई और 100-120 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ़्तार से तेज़ हवाएँ चलीं। दाना चक्रवात का नाम किस देश ने दिया गया है?

- (a) Oman
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Qatar
- (e) Sri Lanka

Ans. d

Sol. Cyclone Dana hits Coastal Odisha & West Bengal

Severe tropical cyclone 'Dana' struck the eastern coast of India, triggering torrential rain and high-speed winds up to 100-120 km per hour.

It caused significant damage to the infrastructure and crops in the coastal districts of Odisha and West Bengal.

This is the third tropical cyclone to hit India in the 2024 season. The first cyclone of the 2024 season to form in the Bay of Bengal was 'Remal,' which hit coastal areas of West Bengal and Bangladesh in May 2024. Oman suggested the name Remal, which in Arabic means sand.

The first cyclone of the season to originate in the Arabian Sea was Cyclone Asna. It hit the coast of Gujarat in August 2024. The name Cyclone Asna was given by Pakistan, which in Urdu means one to be acknowledged or praised.'

Qatar suggested the name Dana, which is an Arabic word meaning 'a most perfectly sized, valuable and beautiful pearl'.

306. Rani Rampal, who recently announced her retirement, belongs to which sport?

रानी रामपाल, जिन्होंने हाल ही में संन्यास की घोषणा की है, किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Hockey

(b) Badminton

(c) Kho Kho

(d) Football

(e) Cricket

Ans. a

Sol. Queen of Indian Hockey Rani Rampal retires from the Game

The 30-year-old former Indian women's hockey captain Rani Rampal, also known as the queen of Indian hockey, announced her retirement from the game.

The hockey governing body in India, Hockey India, has decided to retire the No.28 jersey as an honour to Rani Rampal. Rani used to wear jersey no.28 while playing for India.

Rani played 254 international matches and scored 120 goals since making her debut at just 14 years old in 2008 during the Olympic qualifiers in Kazan, becoming the youngest woman to represent India at the senior level in hockey.

Rani also played a key role in the Indian team that won a silver medal at the Asia Cup in 2009 and helped secure a bronze at the Asian Games in 2014.

The queen of Indian hockey, Rani, will now be seen coaching and nurturing the future stars of the sport, as she was named the coach of India's under-17 team by Hockey India in 2023.

This year, she also took on the role of coach and mentor for the Soorma Hockey Club in the upcoming Hockey India League.

Rani Rampal is the first Indian women's hockey player in the country where a stadium has been named after. The Raebareli stadium of the Indian railway's Modern Coach Factory has been renamed as Rani's Girls Hockey Turf.

In 2020, Rani Rampal was awarded India's highest sporting award, the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award. In 2020, Rani was conferred India's fourth highest civilian award, Padma Shri.

Recently Retired Players

- Rafael Nadal (Spain) - Professional Tennis 🎾
- Dipa Karmakar (Tripura, India) - Gymnastic
- Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) - All forms of Cricket
- Luis Suarez (Uruguay) - National Football ⚽
- Barinder Sran (India) - International Cricket
- Shannon Gabriel (West Indies) - International Cricket
- Shikhar Dhawan (India) - All forms of Cricket
- Ilkay Gundogan (Germany) - International Football ⚽

307. In October 2024, who among the following has made table tennis history as she became the first Indian to qualify for quarter-finals at a WTT Champions event?

अक्टूबर 2024 में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने टेबल टेनिस इतिहास रच दिया है क्योंकि वह WTT चैंपियंस इवेंट में क्वार्टर फाइनल के लिए क्वालीफाई करने वाली पहली भारतीय बन गई है?

- (a) Sreeja Akula
- (b) Anna Hursey
- (c) PV Sindhu
- (d) Manika Batra
- (e) A.G. Kamath

Ans. d

Sol. Manika Batra becomes first Indian to reach Quarterfinals of the World Table Tennis Champions event

Manika Batra has made table tennis history as she became the first Indian to qualify for quarter-finals at a WTT Champions event.

Indian paddler Manika yesterday defeated Bernadette Szocs of Romania 3-1 in the round of 16 in Montpellier, France.

Manika had also beaten the Romanian at the 2024 Paris Olympics earlier this year with a scoreline of 3-2. She had become the first table tennis player from India to reach the last 16 in the singles table tennis competition in an Olympics. Batra, a multiple Commonwealth Games medallist.

308. Famous Gusadi folk dancer Kanaka Raju, also known as Gusadi Raju, passed away recently at the age of 84. In which year he was honoured with the Padma Shri award?

प्रसिद्ध गुसाडी लोक नर्तक कनक राजू, जिन्हें गुसाडी राजू के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, का हाल ही में 84 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्हें किस वर्ष पद्म श्री पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया था?

- (a) 2023
- (b) 2022
- (c) 2021
- (d) 2020
- (e) 2024

Ans. c

Sol. Legendary Gussadi folk dancer Kanaka Raju passed away

The legendary Gussadi folk dancer Kanaka Raju, also known as Gussadi Raju, passed away at the of 84 years.

Kanaka Raju was born in the Marlawai village in Jainoor mandal of Komaram Bheem Asifabad district in Telangana.

Kanaka Raju was named for the national honour of Padma Shri in 2021 for his role in taking the folk dance to the world.

Hailing from the Raj Gond tribe, Kanaka Raju popularised the rhythmic dance of Gussadi. In 1982, he captured the nation's imagination when he performed in front of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

309. Globally renowned conservation scientist Bibhab Kumar Talukdar has been awarded the Harry Messel Award for Conservation Leadership by the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). He is from which state of India?

विश्व स्तर पर ख्याति प्राप्त संरक्षण वैज्ञानिक बिभब कुमार तालुकदार को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रकृति संरक्षण संघ (IUCN) के प्रजाति अस्तित्व आयोग (SSC) द्वारा संरक्षण नेतृत्व के लिए हैरी मेसेल पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है। वे भारत के किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Assam
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) West Bengal
- (e) Sikkim

Ans. b

Sol. Conservation scientist Bibhab Talukdar conferred with IUCN award

A passionate conservation scientist of global repute from Assam Bibhab Kumar Talukdar has been conferred 'The Harry Messel Award' for Conservation Leadership by the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The award was presented to him at the 5th IUCN SSC Leaders' Meeting that is underway in Abu Dhabi.

The award has been presented for Talukdar's contribution to species Conservation on the ground and through leadership, as part of the work of the Species Survival Commission.

He has been associated with IUCN SSC since 1991 and became the Chair of the Asian Rhino Specialist Group in 2008.

About 300 conservation experts have come together in the IUCN SSC meeting to tackle the intertwined crises of biodiversity and climate change.

Recent Award

- **Global Anti-Racism Championship Award 2024** - Nepal's Urmila Chaudhary
- **Conscious Companies Awards** - Mohanji

- **Femina Miss India 2024** - Nikita Porwal (from Madhya Pradesh)
- **54th Dadasaheb Phalke Award (for 2022)** - Mithun Chakraborty
- **32nd Ekalabya Puraskar by Odisha govt** - Pratyasa Ray (Swimming)
- **FIDE 100 Awards** - Men's - Magnus Carlsen (Norway); Women's - Judit Polgar (Hungary)

310. India is ranked 79th out of 142 countries in the Rule of Law Index 2024 released by Washington D.C.-based think tank World Justice Project (WJP).

Which country has topped this index?

वाशिंगटन डी.सी. स्थित थिंक टैंक वर्ल्ड जस्टिस प्रोजेक्ट (WJP) द्वारा जारी रूल ऑफ लॉ इंडेक्स 2024 में भारत 142 देशों में से 79वें स्थान पर है। इस इंडेक्स में कौन सा देश शीर्ष पर है?

- (a) Denmark
- (b) USA
- (c) Norway
- (d) Switzerland
- (e) Germany

Ans. a

Sol. India Ranks 79 out of 142 in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index
India ranked 79 out of 142 countries in the Rule of Law Index 2024, released by the World Justice Project (WJP), a Washington D.C.-based think tank.
Globally, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Germany stood in the top five places.

The Rule of Law Index ranks the countries on eight indicators: constraints on government powers, absence of corruption, open government, fundamental rights, order and security, regulatory enforcement, civil Justice and criminal justice.

India performed tolerably on governance indicators i.e. constraints on government powers (60/142) and open government (44/142). The governance ranks showed India's push for better governance frameworks and also the myriad lapses, lack of coordination and intentionality in the efforts.

It has put up a poor show in the protection of fundamental rights (102/142), the order and security of the people (98/142) and the efficiency of criminal justice (82/142). The sub-par policing systems, the lack of governments' will to respect and protect the commoners' rights and the ever-delayed criminal justice system got the country a poor score.

Within South Asia, India ranked third after Nepal (69) and Sri Lanka (75), followed by Bangladesh (127) Pakistan (129) and Afghanistan (140).

Among the G7 countries, Germany topped fifth, followed by Canada (12), Japan (14), UK (15), France (22), the USA (27) and Italy (32). Venezuela got the lowest rank and placed at 142.

311. Which bank has been recognised as the Best Bank in India for 2024 by Global Finance Magazine of the US at its 31st Annual Best Bank Awards event held during the sidelines of Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank in Washington?

वाशिंगटन में IMF और विश्व बैंक की वार्षिक बैठकों के दौरान आयोजित अपने 31वें वार्षिक सर्वश्रेष्ठ बैंक पुरस्कार समारोह में यूएस की ग्लोबल फाइनेंस मैगजीन द्वारा 2024 के लिए भारत में सर्वश्रेष्ठ बैंक के रूप में किस बैंक को मान्यता दी गई है?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) State Bank of India
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) Exim Bank

Ans. b

Sol. SBI awarded Best Bank in India for 2024 by Global Finance Magazine State Bank of India (SBI) was recognized as the Best Bank in India for 2024 by Global Finance Magazine of the US at its 31st Annual Best Bank Awards event held during the sidelines of Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank in Washington. SBI Chairman CS Setty received the award in recognition of the bank's unwavering commitment to providing exceptional services and promoting financial inclusion nationwide by winning the trust of its customers.

Global Finance's Best Bank Awards, esteemed for their credibility and integrity, spotlight top banks worldwide and hold significant value in the corporate finance sector. The award recognized the bank's outstanding customer service and dedication to advancing financial inclusion across India.

SBI, which boasts an extensive network of over 22,500 branches and 62,000 ATMs, has been strengthening its growth in the Indian banking sector through its YONO digital platform.

63% of new savings accounts opened digitally in Q1 FY25 and pre-approved personal loan disbursements totaling Rs 1,399 crore were made through YONO.

312. Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das has been ranked the top central banker by the US-based Global Finance magazine. Das has been ranked top in the list of three central bank governors who have been given an _____ rating.

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के गवर्नर शक्तिकांत दास को अमेरिका स्थित ग्लोबल फाइनेंस पत्रिका ने

शीर्ष केंद्रीय बैंकर का दर्जा दिया है। दास को तीन केंद्रीय बैंक गवर्नरों की सूची में शीर्ष स्थान दिया गया है, जिन्हें ____ रेटिंग दी गई है।

- (a) A
- (b) A+
- (c) A++
- (d) B
- (e) B+

Ans. b

Sol. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das ranks top central banker by US magazine Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das has been ranked the top central banker by the US-based Global Finance magazine.

This is the second consecutive year that he has been ranked as the top central banker globally.

Governor Shaktikanta received the award for A+ grade in Central Bank Report Cards 2024, for the second consecutive year. Das has been placed at the top of the list of three central bank governors, who have been rated A+.

Grades are based on a scale from A to F for success in inflation control, economic growth goals, currency stability and interest rate management, according to a statement by Global Finance magazine.

An 'A' represents excellent performance, while an 'F' for outright failure.

Denmark's Christian Kettel Thomsen, and Switzerland's Thomas Jordan have also been ranked under the 'A+' category of central bankers.

313. Solex Energy has partnered with which bank to offer solar financing options for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers?

सोलेक्स एनर्जी ने वाणिज्यिक, औद्योगिक और संस्थागत ग्राहकों के लिए सौर वित्तपोषण विकल्प प्रदान करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) State Bank of India
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) Exim Bank

Ans. b

Sol. Solex Energy partners with SBI to provide finance for solar projects

Solex Energy has partnered with State Bank of India (SBI) to offer solar financing options for commercial, industrial, and institutional customers.

As part of the partnership, SBI will offer solar financing through loans up to Rs 10 crore for solar projects under its Surya Shakti Solar Finance Scheme across India.

The collaboration aims to make solar energy accessible, affordable, and a driving force for India's renewable energy future. The partnership will accelerate the growth of solar energy and empower our clients and channel partners to adopt solar solutions and drive business expansion swiftly.

Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Solex Energy - Chetan Shah.

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Liberty General Insurance joined hands with Maruti Suzuki Insurance Broking to enhance insurance awareness across rural and urban regions.
- Indian Navy Collaborates with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance to Provide Insurance for Naval Civilians
- IFC partners with Axis Bank to provide \$500 million climate loan in India
- NCRTC and Airtel Payments Bank Launch Co-Branded National Common Mobility Cards to Enhance Commuter Convenience
- Federal Bank join hands with Bhashini to boost Chatbot Feddy with Vernacular Language Support
- Bandhan Life partners with Bandhan Bank to Strengthen Insurance Business

314. Which city has won the 'City with the Best Public Transport System' at the 17th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2024?

17वें शहरी गतिशीलता भारत (यूएमआई) सम्मेलन और प्रदर्शनी 2024 में किस शहर ने 'सर्वश्रेष्ठ सार्वजनिक परिवहन प्रणाली वाला शहर' पुरस्कार जीता है?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Bhubaneswar

Ans. e

Sol. Bhubaneswar wins the 'City with the Best Public Transport System' at 17th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition

Bhubaneswar won the 'City with the Best Public Transport System' at the 17th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2024.

Union Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs and Power, Manohar Lal addressed the valedictory session of the three-day 17th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2024 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

This year, the Conference was focussed on the theme "Standardisation and Optimisation of Urban Transport Solutions".

The UMI has different categories of awards in the field of Transport Sector, especially in Urban Transport. The awards are given to the state/city authorities for "Excellence/ best practice projects in Urban Transport".

On this occasion, Shri Manohar Lal, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Power, Government of India also announced Gurugram, Haryana as the venue of 18th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Exhibition 2025.

17th UMI Conference & Exhibition 2024 has been organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs through the Institute of Urban Transport (India) and, with the support of Government of Gujarat and Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.

The exhibition comprising display of best practices in urban transport in India and abroad, latest urban transport technologies, attracted more than 2200 delegates including more than 50 participants from abroad. The exhibition is an important part of the UMI Conference organized every year.

Category	City	Organization
City with the Most Sustainable Transport System	Kochi	Kochi Metro Rail Corp.
City with the Best Public Transport System	Bhubaneswar	Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT)
City with the Best Non-Motorized Transport System	Srinagar	Srinagar Smart City Ltd.
City with the Best Safety and Security System & Record	Gandhinagar	Gandhinagar Municipal Corp.
City with the Best Intelligent Transport System (ITS)	Surat	Surat Municipal Corp.
City with the Most Innovative Financing Mechanism	Jammu	Jammu Smart City Ltd.
City with Best Record of Public Involvement in Transport	Bengaluru	Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corp.
Metro Rail with the Best Multimodal Integration	Bengaluru	Bengaluru Metro Rail Corp. Ltd
Metro Rail with the Best Passenger Services and Satisfaction	Mumbai	Mumbai Metro One Pvt. Ltd

315. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) of the National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) for a five-year term?

पांच वर्ष के कार्यकाल के लिए भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कृषि सहकारी विपणन संघ लिमिटेड (नेफेड) के नए प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Parul Goel
- (c) Nikhil Verma
- (d) Deepak Agarwal
- (e) Pankaj Kumar

Ans. d

Sol. Deepak Agarwal Appointed as Regular MD of NAFED

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Deepak Agarwal as the new Managing Director (MD) of the National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) for a five-year term.

Agarwal is a 2000-batch IAS officer from the Uttar Pradesh cadre.

Earlier, on September 30, the ACC had appointed Pankaj Kumar Bansal, the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation, to hold the post of MD, NAFED temporarily. This provisional assignment was set for either a period of three months or until a regular MD appointment could be made.

About NAFED

- NAFED, established in 1958, is a crucial player in India's agricultural sector, functioning as a cooperative marketing organization.
- It aims to promote the welfare of Indian farmers by ensuring fair prices for their produce and providing market linkage.
- The organization operates under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and has a mandate to support price stabilization, especially for key agricultural commodities.

316. How many medals were won by the Indian contingent at the U23 World Wrestling Championships 2024?

अंडर-23 विश्व कुश्ती चैंपियनशिप 2024 में भारतीय दल ने कितने पदक जीते?

- (a) 6
- (b) 7
- (c) 8
- (d) 9
- (e) 10

Ans. d

Sol. India finishes U23 World Wrestling Championships 2024 with 9 Medals

The Indian wrestling contingent finished its U23 World Wrestling Championships 2024 campaign with nine medals—1 gold, 1 silver, and 7 bronze.

Last year also, the Indian contingent had won 9 medals -1 gold, 2 silver and 6 bronze medals at the U23 World Wrestling Championships 2023 held in Tirana.

The U23 World Wrestling Championships 2024 was organised by the world wrestling governing body United World Wrestling (UWW) and hosted by Albania in Tirana.

India sent a 30-member wrestling team for the Tirana Championship.

S.No	Players	Category	Medal
1	Chirag Chikkara	Men's freestyle 57kg	Gold
2	Anjli	Women's freestyle 59kg	Silver
3	Vishvajit More	Men's Greco Roman 55kg	Bronze
4	Monika	Women's freestyle 68kg	Bronze
5	Neha Sharma	Women's freestyle 57kg	Bronze
6	Shiksha	Women's freestyle 65kg	Bronze
7	Abhishek Dhaka	Men's freestyle 61kg	Bronze
8	Sujeet	Men's freestyle 70kg	Bronze
9	Vicky	Men's freestyle 97kg	Bronze

317. How many medals were won by the India Para-Badminton players at the Japan Para-Badminton International 2024?

जापान पैरा-बैडमिंटन इंटरनेशनल 2024 में भारत के पैरा-बैडमिंटन खिलाड़ियों ने कितने पदक जीते?

(a) 20

(b) 12

(c) 24

(d) 27

(e) 6

Ans. c

Sol. India wins 24 medals at the Japan Para-Badminton International 2024

Indian para-badminton players delivered an impressive performance at the Japan Para-Badminton Internationals 2024 by winning 24 medals- 6 gold, 9 silver and 9 bronze.

The Japan Para-Badminton Internationals 2024 was held in Tokyo, Japan. It was a level 2 category Para-Badminton tournament.

Sivarajan Solaimalai and Sukant Kadam lead Indian medals rush
The Paralympians Sivarajan Solaimalai and Sukant Kadam led the Indian medal charge at the Tokyo event.

318. Which country has won the 6th ACC Men's Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2024?

किस देश ने छठा एसीसी पुरुष इमर्जिंग टीम एशिया कप 2024 जीता है?

- (a) India A
- (b) Afghanistan A
- (c) Bangladesh A
- (d) Sri Lanka A
- (e) Pakistan A

Ans. b

Sol. Afghanistan A defeats Sri Lanka A to lift the 2024 Emerging Asia Cup

The Afghanistan A men's cricket team defeated the Sri Lankan A side by seven wickets to win the ACC Men's T20 Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2024.

The Asian Cricket Council organized the 6th ACC Men's Emerging Teams Asia Cup at Al Almerat, Oman.

It was for the first time that the ACC Men's Emerging Teams Asia Cup was held in T20 format.

It was the first title win for Afghanistan's A team in the ACC Men's Emerging Teams Asia Cup. Afghanistan team made it to the final by defeating India A in the semi-final, while Sri Lanka A team defeated Pakistan Shaheens in the other semi-final.

The regular test players of India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan do not participate in the ACC Emerging Team Asia Cup tournament.

Player of the match - Allah Mohammad Ghazanfar (Afghanistan)

Player of the series - Sediqullah Atal (Afghanistan)

319. Which is the first private company in India to manufacture a military transport plane?

भारत में सैन्य परिवहन विमान बनाने वाली पहली निजी कंपनी कौन सी है?

- (a) Tata Advanced Systems
- (b) National Aerospace Laboratories
- (c) Mahindra Aerospace
- (d) Boeing Rotorcraft Systems
- (e) Safran Helicopter Engines

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi & Spanish PM Pedro inaugurate Tata's C-295 aircraft factory

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the visiting Prime Minister of Spain, Pedro Sanchez, jointly inaugurated the Tata Advanced Systems Ltd's (TASL) Tata Aircraft Complex at Vadodara, Gujarat.

The complex is the final assembly line plant of the C-295 military transport aircraft that India bought from Airbus.

This is Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez's first visit to India, and after 18 years, a Spanish Prime Minister has been visiting India.

The plant has been set up by Tata Advanced Systems in collaboration with Airbus Spain. The facility is built at the TATA Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) campus.

A total of 56 aircraft are there under the C-295 programme, of which 16 are being delivered directly by Airbus from Spain and the remaining 40 are to be made in India.

Tata Advanced Systems Ltd. is responsible for making these 40 aircraft in India. This facility will be the first private sector Final Assembly Line (FAL) for military aircraft in India.

320. World Stroke Day is observed annually on which day to raise awareness about strokes, their causes, and the importance of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation?

विश्व स्ट्रोक दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है ताकि स्ट्रोक, उनके कारणों और रोकथाम, उपचार और पुनर्वास के महत्व के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाई जा सके?

- (a) 27 October
- (b) 28 October
- (c) 29 October
- (d) 30 October
- (e) 31 October

Ans. c

Sol. 29 October - World Stroke Day

World Stroke Day is observed annually on October 29 to raise awareness about strokes, their causes, and the importance of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. It was established by the World Stroke Organisation to draw attention to the high prevalence and impact of strokes worldwide, as well as to educate people about risk factors and preventive measures.

Theme 2024 - #GreaterThanStroke

321. The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommended Ashok Chandra for the position of Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of which bank?

वित्तीय सेवा संस्थान ब्यूरो (एफएसआईबी) ने अशोक चंद्रा को किस बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के पद के लिए अनुशंसित किया है?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) UCO Bank
- (d) Indian Bank
- (e) Exim Bank

Ans. a

Sol. FSIB recommends Ashok Chandra as next PNB managing director and CEO. The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommended Ashok Chandra for the position of managing director (MD) & chief executive officer (CEO) of Punjab National Bank (PNB).

Chandra is currently executive director (ED) at Canara Bank since November 21, 2022. The current MD & CEO of PNB, Atul Kumar Goel, is set to complete his tenure on December 31, 2024.

Chandra started his banking career with the erstwhile Corporation Bank in September 1991 as a probationary officer. He holds a Masters degree in economics and is also a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Axis Bank** - Amitabh Chaudhry (reappointment for 3 years)
- **CFO of HSBC Bank** - Pam Kaur (first female CFO; replace Georges Elhedery)
- **CEO of JP Morgan Chase Bank India CEO** - Pranav Chawda
- **Chairperson of the Board of National Pension System (NPS) Trust** - Chitra Jayasimha (replace Venkata Rao Yadagani)
- **CEO of Acko Life Insurance** - Sandip Goenka
- **MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank** - Partha Pratim Sengupta (for 3 year)

322. Which of the following leading consumer payments completed its merger with North East Small Finance Bank, consolidating the operations, assets, and brand identities of the financial entities into a single institution?

निम्नलिखित में से किस अग्रणी उपभोक्ता भुगतान ने नॉर्थ ईस्ट स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक के साथ अपना विलय पूरा कर लिया, जिससे वित्तीय संस्थाओं के संचालन, परिसंपत्तियों और ब्रांड पहचान को एक ही संस्थान में समेकित कर दिया गया?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) Slice
- (c) Phone Pe
- (d) Coco
- (e) Bharat Pe

Ans. b

Sol. Slice, North East Small Finance Bank merge one year after RBI approval

Fintech firm Slice completed its merger with North East Small Finance Bank, consolidating the operations, assets, and brand identities of the financial entities into a single institution.

The merger process was completed over one year after the bank received a no-objection certificate (NOC) from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The merged entity aims to deepen the bank's presence in the country's north-eastern region.

This integration follows the receipt of all necessary shareholder and regulatory approvals, uniting both entities' operations, assets, and brand identities into a single, robust banking institution.

323. Who will take charge as the next Managing Director (MD) and CEO of Bharti Airtel from 1 Jan 2026?

1 जनवरी 2026 से भारती एयरटेल के अगले प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) और सीईओ के रूप में कौन कार्यभार संभालेगा?

- (a) Chitra Jayasimha
- (b) Rekha Shrama
- (c) Dr Archana Majumdar
- (d) Vikram Dev Dutt
- (e) Shashwat Sharma

Ans. e

Sol. Airtel names COO Shashwat Sharma as MD & CEO

Chief Operating Officer (COO) Shashwat Sharma will take charge as the next Managing Director (MD) and CEO of Bharti Airtel.

While incumbent Gopal Vittal has been named vice-chairman from January 1, 2026. Vittal has been at the helm for the past 12 years

Prior to Airtel, Vittal had worked for Hindustan Unilever across categories and countries for two decades.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairperson of the Board of National Pension System (NPS) Trust** - Chitra Jayasimha (replace Venkata Rao Yadagani)
- **Secretary of the Ministry of Coal** - Vikram Dev Dutt
- **Chairperson of National Commission for Women** - Vijaya Rahatkar (9th; replace Rekha Shrama)
- **Member of the National Commission for Women** - Dr Archana Majumdar
- **Director of Cricket at JSW Sports** - Saurav Ganguly
- **CM of Haryana** - Nayab Singh Saini (2nd time)

324. Who has been appointed as Chairman of Airports Authority of India (AAI)?

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण (एएआई) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Chitra Jayasimha
- (b) Rekha Shrama
- (c) Vipin Kumar
- (d) Vikram Dev Dutt
- (e) Shashwat Sharma

Ans. c

Sol. Vipin Kumar appointed as Chairman of Airports Authority of India

Vipin Kumar, an IAS officer of 1996 batch, Bihar cadre, took over as chairman of Airports Authority of India (AAI).

Kumar was earlier additional secretary, department of school education & literacy, education ministry.

He was also the chairman of Bihar Bridge Construction Corporation; Managing Director of Bihar Milk Cooperative Federation (SUDHA) and Director, Mid-Day Scheme-Bihar. Kumar holds a degree in Electronics & Communication Engineering.

325. Who among the following has been given the highest civilian honour of the South Pacific nation of Fiji in October 2024?

निम्नलिखित में से किसे अक्टूबर 2024 में दक्षिण प्रशांत राष्ट्र फिजी का सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान दिया गया है?

- (a) Rajiv Dixit
- (b) Sadhguru
- (c) Acharya Balkrishna
- (d) Baba Ramdev
- (e) Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

Ans. e

Sol. Fiji honours Sri Sri Ravi Shankar with its highest Civilian Award

The South Pacific nation of Fiji has conferred its highest civilian honour upon Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the global spiritual master and humanitarian leader, for his tireless contribution to the upliftment of the human spirit and bringing diverse communities together in peace and harmony.

Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was given the title of 'Honourary Officer Of The Order of Fiji' by the President of the Republic of Fiji, HE Ratu Wiliame M Katonivere.

Fiji becomes the sixth country in the world to confer the highest civilian award upon Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, recognizing the vast scope of his humanitarian work globally through The Art of Living which has been spreading happiness and harmony for the last 43 years, through its multifarious service initiatives in areas of mental health, education, environment, women and youth empowerment, and stress relief and meditation programs.

326. Matthew Wade has announced his retirement from international cricket.

He is from which country?

मैथ्यू वेड ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा कर दी है। वह किस देश से हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Australian Wicketkeeper-batter Matthew Wade Retires

Australia's wicketkeeper-batter has drawn curtains on his international career after playing for 13 years and across 225 fixtures.

Wade, who has played 36 Test matches, 97 One-Day Internationals and 92 T20 Internationals for Australia will continue playing in the domestic cricket and leagues. He will continue playing for Tasmania in white-ball cricket and will feature for Hobart Hurricanes in the Big Bash League.

Wade played a key role for Australia in their maiden T20 World Cup run in 2021. His knock of 41 runs off 17 deliveries against Pakistan in the semi-final was the finest from him and it played a vital role in helping the team ensure a victory.

Recently Retired Players

- Rani Rampal (India) - Hockey
- Rafael Nadal (Spain) - Professional Tennis 🎾
- Dipa Karmakar (Tripura, India) - Gymnastic
- Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) - All forms of Cricket
- Luis Suarez (Uruguay) - National Football ⚽
- Barinder Sran (India) - International Cricket

327. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology,

Dr Jitendra has inaugurated the new campus of India's first Bio manufacturing

Institute in which city?

केंद्रीय विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) डॉ. जितेंद्र ने किस शहर में भारत के पहले जैव विनिर्माण संस्थान के नए परिसर का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Cuttack
- (b) Mohali
- (c) Visakhapatnam
- (d) Bhubaneswar
- (e) Pune

Ans. b

Sol. Dr Jitendra inaugurates new campus of India's first Bio manufacturing Institute at Mohali

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, PMO, Atomic Energy, Space, and Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions has inaugurated the new complex of India's first Bio manufacturing Institute, "BRIC-National Agri-Food Bio-Manufacturing Institute" (BRIC-NABI).

The BRIC-National Agri-Food Bio manufacturing Institute (BRIC-NABI), formed through the strategic merger of NABI and CIAB, is poised to transform India's agricultural landscape by uniting biotechnology and bioprocessing expertise. This newly established entity aims to streamline the journey from research to commercialization, facilitating pilot-scale production and delivering innovative agri-tech solutions to the market.

The establishment of the BRIC-National Agri-Food Bio-Manufacturing Institute marks a pivotal step in India's journey toward an integrated, science-powered economy.

328. Which city was India's first 'Writer's Village' inaugurated?

भारत के पहले 'राइटर्स विलेज' का उद्घाटन किस शहर में किया गया था?

- (a) Dehradun
- (b) Manali
- (c) Sri Nagar
- (d) Indore
- (e) Shillong

Ans. a

Sol. India's first 'Writer's village' inaugurated in Dehradun

The country's first 'Writer's village' was jointly inaugurated by former President Ram Nath Kovind, Uttarakhand Governor Lt Gen Gurmeet Singh (retd) and Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.

Located in Thano village, about 24 km from Dehradun, the 'Writer's village' is the brainchild of former chief minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, a distinguished writer himself.

On this occasion, during the three-day International Literature, Culture and Art Festival 'Sparsh Himalaya Mahotsav-2024', the first work of Writer's village, 'Ram in the Himalayas', written by Nishank, was also released.

329. International Day of Care and Support is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय देखभाल एवं सहायता दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) October 27

(b) October 26

(c) October 28

(d) October 29

(e) October 30

Ans. d

Sol. 29 October - International Day of Care and Support

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has established an International Day of Care and Support. The event is observed on October 29.

It recognises the unequal burden of unpaid care and household work on women and girls, as well as emphasising the importance of addressing these systemic impediments to women's empowerment.

Theme 2024 - Transforming Care Systems: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of Beijing+30

330. World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is celebrated annually on which day?

विश्व दृश्य-श्रव्य विरासत दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) October 26

(b) October 27

(c) October 28

(d) October 29

(e) October 30

Ans. b

Sol. 27 October - World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is celebrated annually on October 27, recognises the dedicated efforts of professionals and institutions working to safeguard our audiovisual cultural heritage for future generations.

Theme 2024 - Your window to the world.

Established by UNESCO in 2005, this day emphasises the significance of preserving audiovisual materials like films, sound recordings, and broadcasts, which are vulnerable to challenges such as chemical decay and technological obsolescence.

The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (WDAH) is a commemoration on 27 October of the adoption, in 1980 by the 21st General Conference, of the Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images.

331. Indian Army Infantry Day is observed every year on which day?

भारतीय सेना इन्फैंट्री दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) October 26

(b) October 27

(c) October 28

(d) October 29

(e) October 30

Ans. b

Sol. 27 October - Indian Army Infantry Day

Every year the Infantry Day is celebrated on October 27 to pay tribute and recognise the contributions of the largest fighting arm of the Indian Army who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

Indian Army is celebrating it as the 78th Infantry Day this year. On this day, the country pays tribute to the brave hearts who sacrificed their lives while protecting the country.

Infantry Day is celebrated as a remembrance of the first military event of independent India, when the First Battalion of the Sikh Regiment of the Indian Army fought a battle to accomplish victory over the first attack on Indian soil by the Pakistan Army and Lashkar invader on October 27, 1947, in the Kashmir valley.

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