

Best 300+ MCQs

November 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 Sambhajinagar 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 Sompo 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 लाइफ्टाइम 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 Vaishnav 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 Khusbhu 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?**सिंकंदराबाद 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 Draupadi 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 चैम्पियनशिप 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 एक्स्टेंडेड 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" फ़िल्म 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 SafaiMitra Suraksha Shivir 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 Somnath
- (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 SAAF 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 Shastri 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 रुपे 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 चैपियन और विश्व नंबर 1 जैनिक 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 द्वारा 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 जैमैका 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 Jamacia 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 स्पिरिता 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 वस्तों 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 एम जनरल और मैंडस 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 प्लेटफॉर्म के विकास और उत्पादन पर केंद्रित है?

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited
- Tata Advanced Systems
- 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 (NMO-Oilseeds) that was recently approved by the union government-

- The duration of the scheme is seven years from 2024-25 to 2030-31.
- The total outlay for the scheme is Rs 10,103 crore.
- The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare will implement the NMO-Oilseeds.
- 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?

- only one
- only two
- 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 (NMO-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 (NMO-Oilseeds).

The newly approved NMO-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 NMO-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-RKVV) and Krishonati 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-RKVV 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-RKVV) and Krishonati 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-RKVV, 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-RKVV)

- The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVV) 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 RKVV was converted into Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVV-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-RKVV).
- The PM-RKVV 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
 - RKVV DPR component
 - Soil Health Management

About Krishonatti Yojana

- Krishonatti 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?

- Hindi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese
- Marathi, Gujarati, Pali, Prakrit and Assamese
- Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Oriya and Assamese
- Marathi, Bengali, Pali, Prakrit and Sindhi
- 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?

- Great or Small, Love Them All
- 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 झारखण्ड 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?

- Airtel Payments Bank
- India Post Payments Bank
- FINO Payments Bank
- Paytm Payments Bank
- 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 पथर साबित होगा। इस महोत्सव का विषय क्या है?

- Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal
- Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Science, Technology, and Innovation
- Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- RISEN India – Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation
- 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 चैम्पियंस 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 रेज 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. Shiv Nadar, the founder of HCL Technologies, has retained his position as India's most generous philanthropist for the third time in five years. While Nikhil Kamath has become the youngest philanthropist featured in the EdelGive-Hurun India Philanthropy List 2024 at just 38 years old. Nikhil Kamath is the cofounder of which company?

एचसीएल टेक्नोलॉजीज के संस्थापक शिव नादर ने पांच साल में तीसरी बार भारत के सबसे उदार परोपकारी व्यक्ति के रूप में अपना स्थान बरकरार रखा है। जबकि निखिल कामथ मात्र 38 साल की उम्र में एडेलगिव-हुरुन इंडिया फिलैथ्रोपी लिस्ट 2024 में शामिल होने वाले सबसे कम उम्र के परोपकारी व्यक्ति बन गए हैं। निखिल कामथ किस कंपनी के सह-संस्थापक हैं?

- (a) Zerodha
- (b) Razorpay
- (c) OYO
- (d) Candela
- (e) IBM

Ans. a

Sol. Shiv Nadar India's most generous philanthropist, Nikhil Kamath youngest Shiv Nadar, the founder of HCL Technologies, has retained his position as India's most generous philanthropist for the third time in five years.

The 79-year-old tech magnate donated Rs 2,153 crore in the financial year 2024 — translating to Rs 5.9 crore every single day, according to the EdelGive-Hurun India Philanthropy List 2024.

Nadar's philanthropic work is primarily channeled through the Shiv Nadar Foundation, with a strong emphasis on education and technology-driven initiatives.

Rohini Nilekani, co-founder of Infosys and wife of Nandan Nilekani, took the lead as the most generous woman on the list with an annual donation of Rs 154 crore.

The EdelGive-Hurun India Philanthropy List 2024 has revealed a remarkable surge in charitable donations across the country, with a collective donation of Rs 8,783 crore by

203 philanthropists, marking an impressive 55% increase in donations compared to two years ago.

The EdelGive-Hurun India Philanthropy List 2024 saw significant milestones in India's charitable landscape:

18 philanthropists donated over Rs 100 crore annually — a tenfold increase from 2019, showcasing a growing trend among the country's wealthiest to contribute larger sums.

30 philanthropists donated over Rs 50 crore (a 125% increase from 2019). 61 philanthropists donated over Rs 20 crore, marking a 128% increase from five years ago. Nikhil Kamath, co-founder of Zerodha, has become the youngest philanthropist featured in the EdelGive-Hurun India Philanthropy List 2024 at just 38 years old.

74. Who has won the FIH Male Player of the Year Award 2024?

FIH पुरुष प्लेयर ऑफ द ईयर अवार्ड 2024 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Sufyan Khan
- (b) PR Sreejesh
- (c) Jeroen Delmee
- (d) Steve Rogers
- (e) Harmanpreet Singh

Ans. e

Sol. Harmanpreet Singh wins FIH Player of the Year; PR Sreejesh receives Goalkeeper of Year title at FIH Hockey Awards

Indian Men's Hockey Team captain Harmanpreet Singh and former goalkeeper PR Sreejesh have won the FIH Player of the Year and Goalkeeper of the Year titles for the year 2024. Both Harmanpreet and Sreejesh received recognition during the 49th FIH Statutory Congress in Oman.

Two-time Olympic bronze medallist Harmanpreet received over 63 per cent of all votes cast in his category. Similarly, Sreejesh was highly popular among voters, polling over 62 per cent of all votes in his category.

The winners were selected through a voting process involving an expert panel, national hockey associations, fans, and media.

Harmanpreet Singh won his third FIH Player of the Year award in 2024, having won it in 2021 and 2022. Incidentally, another Indian, Hardik Singh, won the 2023 Award.

Long-time Indian men's hockey team goalkeeper PR Sreejesh won his third FIH Goalkeeper of the Year award. PR Sreejesh, who, due to his formidable goalkeeping, was also called as the 'the Great Wall of India', had won the award in 2021 and 2022 also.

Winners of the 2024 FIH Hockey Star Awards

Player of the Year

- Male- Harmanpreet Singh (India)
- Women- Yibbi Jansen (Netherlands)

Goalkeeper of the Year

- Male- PR Sreejesh (India)
- Women- Ye Jiao (China)

Rising Star of the Year Award

- Male-Sufyan Khan (Pakistan)
- Women-Zoe Diaz (Argentina)

Coach of the Year Award

- Men- Jeroen Delmee (Netherlands)
- Women-Alyson Annan (China)

Umpire of the Year

- Male - Steve Rogers (Australia)
- Women-Sarah Wilson (Scotland)

75. With an eye on boosting apprenticeship in the country, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has reconstituted the Central Apprenticeship Council (CAC) to mull over reforms in the existing rules and suggest measures to increase the uptake of on-the-job training by the industry.

Who will chair this council?

देश में अप्रेटिसिशिप को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमिता मंत्रालय (MSDE) ने मौजूदा नियमों में सुधार पर विचार करने तथा उद्योग द्वारा ऑन-द-जॉब प्रशिक्षण को बढ़ावा देने के उपाय सुझाने के लिए केंद्रीय अप्रेटिसिशिप परिषद (CAC) का पुनर्गठन किया है। इस परिषद की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Jayant Chaudhary
- (c) Jitendra Singh
- (d) OM Birla
- (e) Vikramjit Singh

Ans. b

Sol. Govt reconstitutes CAC to drive reforms, boost apprenticeship training

With an eye on boosting apprenticeship in the country, the ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship (MSDE) has reconstituted the central apprenticeship council (CAC) to mull over reforms in the existing rules and suggest measures to increase the uptake of on the job training by the industry.

The reconstituted CAC will have a tenure of three years and will comprise 54 members consisting of representatives from various industry associations, public sector undertakings, state governments and independent experts. The erstwhile council constituted in March 2019 had 46 members.

MSDE Minister Jayant Chaudhary will be chairing the new council, while Rajya Sabha member Vikramjit Singh Sahney will be the vice-chairman of the council. Earlier, union minister of state, MSDE was the vice-chairman.

The new council has increased representation from public sector undertakings (PSUs) as it now has representation from 6 PSUs, namely - Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), South Eastern Coalfields Limited, Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited, Bharat Electronics Limited and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Among private sector employer representatives, the council will have members from TATA Group, Maruti Suzuki, Reliance Industries, Toyota, Indian Banks Association among others.

76. Which country will legislate for a ban on social media for children under 16?

कौन सा देश 16 वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों के लिए सोशल मीडिया पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कानून बनाएगा?

- (a) France
- (b) Australia
- (c) Japan
- (d) South Korea
- (e) North Korea

Ans. b

Sol. Australia proposes ban on social media for children under 16

The Australian government will legislate for a ban on social media for children under 16. Australia is trialing an age-verification system to assist in blocking children from accessing social media platforms, as part of a range of measures that include some of the toughest controls imposed by any country to date.

A number of countries have already vowed to curb social media use by children through legislation, though Australia's policy is one of the most stringent.

No jurisdiction so far has tried using age verification methods like biometrics or government identification to enforce a social media age cut-off, two of the methods being trialed.

Australia's other world-first proposals are the highest age limit set by any country, no exemption for parental consent and no exemption for pre-existing accounts.

France last year proposed a ban on social media for those under 15, though users were able to avoid the ban with parental consent.

The United States has for decades required technology companies to seek parental consent to access the data of children under 13, leading to most social media platforms banning those under that age from accessing their services.

77. Which bank has launched the 'Innovation Hub' in partnership with APIX, a global collaborative innovation platform for financial institutions and FinTechs?

किस बैंक ने वित्तीय संस्थानों और फिनटेक के लिए वैश्विक सहयोगी नवाचार मंच APIX के साथ साझेदारी में 'इनोवेशन हब' लॉन्च किया है

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) HDFC Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) ICICI Bank

Ans. d

Sol. SBI and APIX team launches SBI Innovation Hub for Fintechs

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched the 'SBI Innovation Hub' in partnership with APIX, a global collaborative innovation platform for financial institutions and FinTechs.

SBI Innovation Hub provides a dedicated space for FinTechs, startups, and innovators worldwide to design next-generation financial solutions tailored to meet the digital needs of SBI's diverse customer base.

The initiative seeks to promote financial innovation, and digital transformation, and enhance financial inclusion.

To facilitate this digital transformation, the SBI Innovation Hub provides participants with access to over 250 financial service APIs from SBI. This allows them to create and customize their solutions within a secure Sandbox environment.

78. Which payment company has partnered with Indian companies like Swiggy and Nykaa to enable international customers to make payments in India?

किस भुगतान कंपनी ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ग्राहकों को भारत में भुगतान करने में सक्षम बनाने के लिए स्विगी और नाइका जैसी भारतीय कंपनियों के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) Cashfree
- (c) PhonePe
- (d) Google Pay
- (e) Razorpay

Ans. b

Sol. Cashfree launches pilot for cross-border payments

Cashfree Payments has partnered with Indian companies like Swiggy and Nykaa to enable international customers to make payments in India.

This pilot program caters to users of RuPay cards and UPI, which are not typically recognized for global transactions.

Cashfree's cross-border payments license allows them to facilitate seamless transactions for both import and export businesses, as well as individual users.

This pilot programme caters to UPI and RuPay card users, which are not typically recognised for global transactions.

79. World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated annually on which day?

शांति और विकास के लिए विश्व विज्ञान दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 9 November
- (b) 10 November
- (c) 11 November
- (d) 12 November
- (e) 13 November

Ans. b

Sol. 10 November - World Science Day for Peace and Development

World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated annually on November 10, serves as a significant reminder of the vital role that science plays in society and its contribution to global peace and sustainable development.

Organized by UNESCO since 2001, this day emphasizes the importance of connecting science with society and ensuring that scientific knowledge is shared widely, making it relevant and accessible to everyone.

Theme 2024 - Youth at the Forefront

80. GenWise has launched the UPI payments on its app for senior citizens. This is the industry's first-ever introduction of UPI for elders, offering a simple user interface, enhanced security, and cyber fraud awareness. GenWise UPI has been developed in collaboration with which bank, which is acting as the sponsor bank for facilitating transactions.

जेनवाइज ने वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए अपने ऐप पर UPI भुगतान शुरू किया है। यह उद्योग जगत का बुजुर्गों के लिए UPI की पहली शुरूआत है, जो सरल यूजर इंटरफ़ेस, बेहतर सुरक्षा और साइबर धोखाधड़ी जागरूकता प्रदान करता है। जेनवाइज UPI को किस बैंक के सहयोग से विकसित किया गया है, जो लेनदेन की सुविधा के लिए प्रायोजक बैंक के रूप में कार्य कर रहा है।

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Yes Bank

Ans. c

Sol. GenWise launches UPI payments for senior citizens with secure interface. GenWise has launched the UPI payments on its app for senior citizens. This is the industry's first-ever introduction of UPI for elders, offering a simple user interface, enhanced security, and cyber fraud awareness.

GenWise UPI has been developed in collaboration with Axis Bank, which is acting as the sponsor bank for facilitating transactions.

Over the years, UPI has become an integral part of everyday transactions, with over 400 million unique users.

In October alone, the platform processed over 16.5 billion transactions. However, over 250 million Indian elders have remained less connected to this transformation due to fear of the unknown and the complex interfaces of other apps.

81. Union government has launched a Rs 500 crore scheme to strengthen India's medical devices industry, focusing on critical areas such as manufacturing key components and accessories, skill development, support for clinical studies, development of common infrastructure, and industry promotion. This initial outlay of Rs 500 crore will be up to financial year _____.

केंद्र सरकार ने भारत के चिकित्सा उपकरण उद्योग को मजबूत करने के लिए 500 करोड़ रुपये की योजना शुरू की है, जिसमें प्रमुख घटकों और सहायक उपकरणों के निर्माण, कौशल विकास, नैदानिक अध्ययनों के लिए सहायता, साझा बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास और उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने जैसे महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया जाएगा। 500 करोड़ रुपये का यह प्रारंभिक परिव्यय वित्तीय वर्ष _____ तक रहेगा।

- (a) 2025-26
- (b) 2026-27

(c) 2027-28

(d) 2028-29

(e) 2029-30

Ans. b

Sol. Govt launches Rs 500 crore scheme to strengthen medical devices industry
Union Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister JP Nadda has launched a Rs 500 crore scheme to strengthen India's medical devices industry, focusing on critical areas such as manufacturing key components and accessories, skill development, support for clinical studies, development of common infrastructure, and industry promotion.

This initial outlay of Rs 500 crore will be for three years, up to financial year 2026-27. The overall scheme consists of five components, including common facilities for medical device clusters, capacity building and skill development, a marginal investment scheme for reducing import dependence, clinical studies support.

Under the scheme, Rs 110 crore has been allocated to strengthen infrastructure through the creation of common facilities such as research and development (R&D) labs, design and testing centres, and animal labs for around 20 medical device clusters in India. This will also include the enhancement of testing facilities.

Similarly, Rs 180 crore has been outlined for a marginal investment scheme to deepen the value chain by incentivising the production of key components and raw materials used in the manufacturing of medical devices, thereby reducing import dependence.

This sub-scheme offers a one-time capital subsidy of 10-20 per cent, with a maximum cap of Rs 10 crore per project.

The government will also provide a support scheme worth Rs 100 crore for clinical studies of medical devices, enabling developers and manufacturers to apply for financial assistance for animal studies and, if successful, for human trials to validate MedTech products.

82. World Immunization Day is observed annually on which day?

विश्व टीकाकरण दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 9 November

(b) 10 November

(c) 11 November

(d) 12 November

(e) 13 November

Ans. b

Sol. 10 November - World Immunization Day 2024

World Immunization Day, observed annually on November 10.

Objective - To raise awareness about the vital role vaccines play in preventing infectious diseases and protecting public health.

Immunization is one of the most effective and cost-efficient intervention for controlling and eradicating diseases, saving millions of lives globally each year.

The Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is one of India's most comprehensive public health initiatives, aiming to provide life-saving vaccines to millions of newborns

and pregnant women each year. Initially launched in 1978 as the Expanded Programme on Immunization, it was rebranded as the UIP in 1985 when its coverage was extended beyond urban centres to rural areas.

83. National Legal Services Day is observed every year on 9 November across the country. What is the theme of National Legal Service Day?

राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा दिवस हर साल 9 नवंबर को पूरे देश में मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा दिवस का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Legal Services for Ensuring Effective and Meaningful Legal Representation
- (b) Access to Justice for All: Empowering the Marginalised through Legal Awareness.
- (c) Legal Aid
- (d) Celebrating equal access to justice
- (e) None of above

Ans. d

Sol. 9 November - National Legal Service Day

National Legal Services Day is observed every year on 9 November across the country. The day is primarily celebrated to promote legal awareness and ensure access to justice for all citizens, especially those from marginalized communities.

This day is to educate people about their legal rights and promote mechanisms for dispute resolution through a number of projects and activities to create a more equitable society.

Theme 2024 - Celebrating equal access to justice

On November 9, 1995, the Legal Services Authorities Act was created with the intention of providing legal aid to underprivileged and marginalized people. As a result of the historic law, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was established on December 5, the same year. Since then, National Legal Services Day is observed every year.

84. Uttarakhand Foundation Day is celebrated every year on 9 November and in 2024 it is the ___ anniversary of the formation of the state.

उत्तराखण्ड स्थापना दिवस हर साल 9 नवंबर को मनाया जाता है और 2024 में यह राज्य के गठन की ___ वर्षगांठ है।

- (a) 23rd
- (b) 24th
- (c) 21st
- (d) 22nd
- (e) 20th

Ans. b

Sol. 9 November - Uttarakhand Foundation Day

Uttarakhand Foundation Day is annually celebrated on November 9, and in 2024, it marks the 24th anniversary of the formation of the state.

Uttarakhand is commonly referred to as the "Land of the Gods (Devbhumi)," due to several Hindu pilgrimage sites in the state.

The state of Uttarakhand was formed on November 9, 2000, after a prolonged struggle by the people of the region, who sought a separate state due to cultural, geographic, and administrative differences from Uttar Pradesh.

Originally known as Uttaranchal, it formed the 27th state of India, with the name being officially changed to Uttarakhand in 2007.

85. Who has won the IBSF World Billiards Championship 150-up format title in Qatar?

कतर में आईबीएसएफ विश्व बिलियर्ड्स चैम्पियनशिप 150-अप प्रारूप का खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Pankaj Advani
- (b) Geet Sethi
- (c) Wilson Jones
- (d) Sourav Kothari
- (e) R Umadevi Nagaraj

Ans. a

Sol. Pankaj Advani wins IBSF World Billiards Championship 150-up title

India's Pankaj Advani has won the IBSF World Billiards Championship 150-up format title.

He defeated England's Robert Hall in the final clash of the tournament at Doha in Qatar. Earlier, Pankaj had defeated his compatriot Sourav Kothari 4-2 in the semifinal. Sourav settled for the bronze medal.

86. Where was the 83rd session of the Indian Road Congress held?

भारतीय सड़क कांग्रेस का 83वां अधिवेशन कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Raipur
- (c) Nagpur
- (d) Pune
- (e) Indore

Ans. b

Sol. Nitin Gadkari inaugurates 83rd Indian Roads Congress at Raipur

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, has inaugurated the 83rd session of the Indian Roads Congress at Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

The 83rd session of the Indian Road Congress has been organised by the apex body of Indian highway engineers.

The main aim of the Indian Road Congress is to formulate Standards, Codes, Specifications, and Manuals related to roads, bridges, and road transport for adoption by central government road agencies to construct and maintain sustainable road infrastructure for the country's overall development.

Based on the recommendation of the Jayakar Committee on Indian Road Development, the Indian Road Congress was constituted in 1934. The Indian Road Congress is the apex body of Highway engineers in the country, with its headquarters in New Delhi

87. Which Indian Institution has been ranked the best by the recently released QS World University Rankings: Asia (2025)?

हाल ही में जारी क्यूएस वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग: एशिया (2025) में किस भारतीय संस्थान को सर्वश्रेष्ठ स्थान दिया गया है?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) IIT Madras
- (c) IISc Bengaluru
- (d) Delhi University
- (e) IIT Bombay

Ans. a

Sol. IIT Delhi No. 1 Indian Institute in QS World University Rankings: Asia 2025

The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) has been ranked as the top Indian educational institution in the latest QS World University Rankings Asia 2025.

IIT-Delhi has been ranked 44th best educational institution, while China's Peking University retained the top spot amongst the list of educational institutions in Asia as per the QS World University Rankings: Asia (2025).

Out of the 984 educational institutions included in the ranking, the highest, 162 were from India. IIT Delhi was the highest-ranked Indian institution, with a rank of 44, up from 46 last year. IIT-Delhi was also the highest-ranked educational institution in the South Asian Region.

In the South Asian region, among the top 10 institutions, seven are Indian institutions. After IIT-D, IIT-Bombay was second highest, with a rank of 48, and IIT-Madras was third, with a rank of 56.

IIT Kharagpur was in fourth place with a rank of 60, followed by the Indian Institute of Science (62), IIT Kanpur (67), and the University of Delhi (81).

India has two institutions in the top 50 and seven in the top 100 educational institutions. The University of Petroleum and Energy Studies was the improved Indian institution, with its rank improving from 148 last year to 70 this year.

The QS World University Rankings: Asia (2025) ranks 984 educational institutions among 25 South Asian, Central Asian, Eastern Asian and South-East Asian countries. These educational institutions are ranked based on the comparison and preference of the institutions and students.

Top 10 institutions in the QS World University Rankings: Asia (2025)

1. Peking University (Mainland, China)
2. The University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)
3. National University of Singapore (Singapore)
4. Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)
5. Fudan University (Mainland China)
6. The Chinese University of Hong Kong
7. Tsinghua University (Mainland, China)
8. Zhejiang University (Mainland China)
9. Yonsei University (South Korea)

10. City University of Hong Kong

88. According to the World Intellectual Property Indicators Report 2024, what is the rank of India in the world in filing patents in 2023?

विश्व बौद्धिक संपदा संकेतक रिपोर्ट 2024 के अनुसार, 2023 में पेटेंट दाखिल करने में भारत का विश्व में कौन सा स्थान है?

- (a) Second
- (b) Fourth
- (c) Sixth
- (d) First
- (e) Fifth

Ans. c

Sol. India ranked 6th in WIPO Global Patent Filings in 2023

India has, for the first time, has been ranked 6th in the world for Global Patent Filings in 2023.

According to the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) annual World Intellectual Property Indicators Report 2024, global patent filing increased by 15.7 % in 2023, primarily due to a strong increase in patent filing in India.

In 2023, the maximum patent filing was in China (1.64 million), followed by the United States of America (518,364), Japan (414,413), South Korea (287,954), Germany (133,053) and India (64,480).

According to the WIPO report, More than 35 lakh patents were filed in 2023 across the world. The number of patents filed in India in 2023 was 64,480.

The country's growth rate in patent filing was 15.7 % compared to 2022. The patent filing in India has shown the 5th consecutive year of a double-digit growth rate.

For the first time, India was included in the top 10 countries of the world for three main intellectual property (IP) rights: patents, Industrial design applications, and trademark applications.

Patent and industrial design applications more than doubled between 2018 and 2023, and trademark applications increased by 60%.

89. In November 2024, what is the name of the joint military exercise of the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force being conducted along the Indian-China border in Eastern India?

नवंबर 2024 में पूर्वी भारत में भारतीय-चीन सीमा पर आयोजित होने वाले भारतीय सेना, नौसेना और वायु सेना के संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Magan Shakti
- (b) Shriya Shakti
- (c) Avni Chakra
- (d) Approva
- (e) Poorvi Prahar

Ans. e

Sol. Theatre Command Level Ex Poorvi Prahar to commerce along China border

The Indian Army, Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy will jointly commence a command-level tri-service theatre exercise code-named 'Poorvi Prahar' along the India-China border.

The Poorvi Prahar exercise will be held from 10-18 November 2024. The exercise assumes significance in the Indian government's effort to set up an integrated theatre command in India.

The Poorvi Prahar exercise will take place along the mountainous terrain of the India-China border in the eastern theatre. It will be held from the airfields of Assam in Dibrugarh, Jorhat, and Tezpur to the valleys and mountains of Arunachal Pradesh along the India-China border.

Theatre in the military refers to a specific geographical area, whether in the sea, air, or land. These areas could potentially become areas of conflict or war in the future.

90. How much loan has been provided by the Asian Development Bank for the livelihood improvement project of Uttarakhand in November 2024?

नवंबर 2024 में उत्तराखण्ड की जीवन-यापन सुधार परियोजना के लिए एशियाई विकास बैंक द्वारा कितना ऋण प्रदान किया गया है?

- (a) USD100 dollar
- (b) USD150 dollar
- (c) USD200 dollar
- (d) USD250 dollar
- (e) USD500 dollar

Ans. c

Sol. ADB approves \$200 million for Uttrakhand Livability Improvement Project

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned a \$200 million loan to finance the Uttarakhand government's Livability Improvement Project, which aims to upgrade and strengthen its urban infrastructure and make it climate resilient.

The Uttarakhand Livebality Improvement Project is implemented by the Government of Uttarakhand and co-financed by the Asian Development Bank and the European Investment Bank.

The total cost of the Uttarakhand Livability Improvement Project is \$465.9 million, of which the State government will provide \$74.9 million, the European Investment Bank \$191 million, and the ADB \$200 million.

The Livability Improvement Project seeks to enhance the quality of life and climate resilience by upgrading the state's water supply, sanitation, drainage, flood management, urban mobility, and other urban services.

91. In which case did the Supreme Court hold that Aligarh Muslim University was not a minority educational institution?

किस मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने माना कि अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय अल्पसंख्यक शैक्षणिक संस्थान नहीं है?

- (a) Azeez Basha vs Union of India 1950
- (b) Mohd. Ahmed Khan vs Union of India 1967
- (c) Shah Bano Begum vs Union of India 2005

(d) Azeez Basha vs Union of India 1967
(e) Malay Shukla Vs Aligarh Muslim University case 2006

Ans. d

Sol. AMU case: SC overrules 1967 order denying minority status

The Supreme Court of India on Friday ruled that Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) overruled the 1967 verdict, noting that the university may be entitled to minority status under Article 30 of the Constitution of India. However, the court has transferred the case to a regular bench.

Chief Justice of India, Justice D Y Chandrachud led 7-member constitutional bench of the Supreme Court (4 in favour and three against) overturned the previous 5-judge constitutional bench judgement in the Azeez Basha vs Union Of India 1967 case on the 'minority status' of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

In the Azeez Basha vs. Union of India case, the Supreme Court declared that AMU was not a minority educational institution as it was established through an act of legislature. The court opined that an institution established by an act of legislature cannot claim to be a minority institution.

The Aligarh Muslim University was set up under the provisions of the Aligarh Muslim University Act 1920.

The Supreme Court has now held that a future regular bench of the Court will decide whether Aligarh Muslim University is a minority educational institution based on the majority judgement in the present case.

In the Malay Shukla Vs Aligarh Muslim University case 2006, the Allahabad High Court relied upon the Supreme Court judgement of the Azeez Basha case, held that the Aligarh Muslim Muslim University was not a minority institution and it cannot reserve 50 per cent Post Graduate Medical seats for muslims.

92. Where was the second Indian Military Heritage Festival 2024 held?

द्वासरा भारतीय सैन्य विरासत महोत्सव 2024 कहाँ आयोजित किया गया था?

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

Ans. c

Sol. CDS Gen Anil Chauhan inaugurates 2nd Indian Military Heritage Festival

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan has inaugurated the 2nd edition of the annual Indian Military Heritage Festival in New Delhi.

The two-day festival aims to engage global and Indian think tanks, corporations, government and private sectors, non-profits, and academics, focusing on India's national security, foreign policy, and military heritage.

General Chauhan also launched Project Shaurya Gatha, which aims to conserve and promote India's military heritage through education and tourism. He also released key military publications, including Because of This: A History of the Indo-Pak Air War

December 1971 by Air Marshal Vikram Singh (Retd), Valour and Honour, and War-Wounded, Disabled Soldiers and Cadets.

93. Who has been elected as the President of FICCI for 2024-25?

2024-25 के लिए FICCI के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Vipin Kumar
- (b) Shashwat Sharma
- (c) Harsha Vardhan Agarwal
- (d) Praveena Rai
- (e) Itaru Otani

Ans. c

Sol. Emami MD Agarwal to take over as new FICCI president

Emami Limited Vice Chairman and Managing Director Harsha Vardhan Agarwal has been elected as the Ficci president for 2024-25.

Agarwal is currently serving as the Senior Vice President of FICCI.

He will succeed Mahindra & Mahindra's Group CEO and Managing Director Anish Shah as the new president at the conclusion of the 97th Annual General Meeting of Ficci, which will be held on November 21.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of Yamaha Motor India Group** - Itaru Otani (replace Eishin Chihani)
- **CEO and MD of Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX)** - Praveena Rai
- **Chairman of Airports Authority of India** - Vipin Kumar
- **MD and CEO of Bharti Airtel** - Shashwat Sharma (replace Gopal Vittal) effect from 1 Jan
- **DG of ICRISAT** - Dr. Himanshu Pathak

94. The Indian Poultry Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA) will organize a three-day poultry expo in which city from November 27?

भारतीय पोल्ट्री उपकरण निर्माता संघ (आईपीईएमए) 27 नवंबर से किस शहर में तीन दिवसीय पोल्ट्री एक्सपो का आयोजन करेगा?

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

Ans. e

Sol. Hyderabad to host international poultry expo from November 27

The Indian Poultry Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA) will organise a three-day poultry expo in Hyderabad from November 27.

A technical seminar with the theme 'Unlocking Poultry Potential' will be held on November 26.

Over 400 exhibitors from about 50 countries will take part in the expo. Over 40,000 poultry farmers and others in the ecosystem are expected to participate in the 16th edition of the event.

The Knowledge Day event on November 26 will feature sessions on modern poultry production, innovations in feed mills nutrition, and animal health.

The seminar provides an exceptional opportunity to learn from the best minds in the industry.

95. The Karnataka Wrestling Association will host the 2024 Senior National Wrestling Championship in which city from 6th to 8th December?

कर्नाटक कुश्ती संघ 6 से 8 दिसंबर तक किस शहर में 2024 सीनियर राष्ट्रीय कुश्ती चैपियनशिप की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Belgaum
- (b) Bangalore
- (c) Hubli
- (d) Mangalore
- (e) Shimoga

Ans. b

Sol. Senior National Wrestling Championship set to be held in Bengaluru in December. The Karnataka Wrestling Association will host the 2024 Senior National Wrestling Championship in Bengaluru from 6th to 8th December.

This prestigious event will showcase India's top wrestlers, including Olympic Bronze Medalist Aman Sehrawat and U-20 World Champion Antim Panghal, among others.

The championship marks a significant moment as it will be held in Karnataka for the first time, aiming to revive the sport's legacy in the region.

The Competitions will span three disciplines: Free Style, Greco Roman Style, and Women's Wrestling.

96. World Public Transport Day is observed annually on which day?

विश्व सार्वजनिक परिवहन दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. 10 November - World Public Transport Day

World Public Transport Day is observed annually on November 10, encourages people to embrace public transit options and raise awareness of the significant environmental and social benefits of sustainable transportation.

Celebrated globally, this day emphasises the importance of accessible, efficient, and eco-friendly public transport systems for reducing pollution, easing traffic congestion, and enhancing quality of life.

Theme 2024 - Connecting Communities, Reducing Emissions

97. Justice Sanjiv Khanna took oath as the 51st Chief Justice of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan. He assumed office after the retirement of his predecessor Justice DY Chandrachud. He will serve as the Chief Justice till _____ next year.

न्यायमूर्ति संजीव खन्ना ने राष्ट्रपति भवन में भारत के 51वें मुख्य न्यायाधीश के रूप में शपथ ली। उन्होंने अपने पूर्ववर्ती न्यायमूर्ति डीवाई चंद्रचूड़ के सेवानिवृत्त होने के बाद पदभार ग्रहण किया। वे अगले साल _____ तक मुख्य न्यायाधीश के रूप में कार्य करेंगे।

- (a) 2 April
- (b) 13 May
- (c) 13 March
- (d) 12 June
- (e) 13 April

Ans. b

Sol. Justice Sanjiv Khanna takes oath as 51st Chief Justice of India

Justice Sanjiv Khanna takes oath as the 51st Chief Justice of India in Rashtrapati Bhavan. He was following the retirement of his predecessor, Justice DY Chandrachud.

Justice Khanna's name was recommended by Justice Chandrachud, who retired from the post on November 10 at the age of 65. He will serve as the Chief Justice till May 13 next year.

Born on May 14, 1960, Justice Sanjiv Khanna studied law at the Campus Law Centre of Delhi University. He was a third-generation lawyer before being appointed as judge of the Delhi High Court. He also served as the executive chairman of the National Legal Service Authority (NALSA).

Justice Khanna was appointed to the Supreme Court in January 2019. During his tenure as a top court judge, he headed the benches of several politically sensitive cases, including hearing the bail applications of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in the liquor policy case.

As part of the Constitution Bench, Justice Khanna has also contributed to several judgments, including the revoking of Article 370 and the electoral bonds case.

Justice Khanna's bench also dealt with issues related to the electronic voting machines (EVMs) and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs).

98. Li Quanhui was re-elected as president of World Sailing for a new four-year term at the organization's Annual General Meeting. He is from which country?

ली कानहाई को संगठन की वार्षिक आम बैठक में चार साल के नए कार्यकाल के लिए वर्ल्ड सेलिंग के अध्यक्ष के रूप में फिर से चुना गया। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) China
- (b) South Korea
- (c) Vietnam
- (d) Singapore
- (e) Japan

Ans. a

Sol. China's Li Quanhui re-elected as World Sailing president

Li Quanhui was re-elected as president of World Sailing for a new four-year term at the organization's Annual General Meeting continuing as the only Chinese president of an Olympic International Sports Federation.

Founded in Paris in 1907, World Sailing is recognized by the International Olympic Committee as the global governing body for sailing, with 137 member national authorities.

The organization holds leadership elections every four years, and Li first assumed the presidency in November 2020.

Recent Appointment

- **President of FICCI for 2024-25** - Harsha Vardhan Agarwal (replace Anish Shah)
- **Chairman of Yamaha Motor India Group** - Itaru Otani (replace Eishin Chihan)
- **CEO and MD of Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX)** - Praveena Rai
- **Chairman of Airports Authority of India** - Vipin Kumar
- **MD and CEO of Bharti Airtel** - Shashwat Sharma (replace Gopal Vittal) effect from 1 Jan
- **DG of ICRISAT** - Dr. Himanshu Pathak

99. The 29th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) kicks off in which country aiming to address escalating climate challenges?

जलवायु परिवर्तन पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र फ्रेमवर्क कन्वेंशन (COP29) के पक्षों का 29वां सम्मेलन किस देश में शुरू हुआ जिसका उद्देश्य बढ़ती जलवायु चुनौतियों से निपटना है?

- (a) France
- (b) USA
- (c) Azerbaijan
- (d) Kazakhstan
- (e) Bulgaria

Ans. c

Sol. UN Climate Change Conference starts in Azerbaijan

The 29th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) kick off in the Azerbaijani capital Baku, aiming to address escalating climate challenges.

Leaders from around the world are set to gather in Baku for the event, running until Nov. 22.

A key focus of COP29 will be on finance, as trillions of dollars are required for countries to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect lives and livelihoods from the worsening impacts of climate change.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a multilateral treaty established in 1992, following the first assessment report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Its main aim is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations to prevent dangerous human-induced interference with the climate system.

Since entering into force in 1994, the UNFCCC has served as the foundation for global climate negotiations, leading to significant agreements like the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and the Paris Agreement in 2015.

Today, 198 Parties participate in annual meetings to assess progress and forge responses to the climate crisis.

100. Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman launched the National MSME Cluster Outreach Programme, organised jointly by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). How many new SIDBI branches did the Union Finance Minister also virtually inaugurate?

केंद्रीय वित्त एवं कॉर्पोरेट मामलों की मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने वित्तीय सेवा विभाग (DFS), वित्त मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार और भारतीय लघु उद्योग विकास बैंक (SIDBI) द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित राष्ट्रीय MSME क्लस्टर आउटरीच कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ किया। केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्री ने वर्चुअल माध्यम से SIDBI की कितनी नई शाखाओं का उद्घाटन किया?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Nirmala Sitharaman launches National MSME Cluster Outreach Programme
Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman launched the National MSME Cluster Outreach Programme, organised jointly by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

Around 150 MSME Clusters were connected virtually for the launch with senior bank officials being present in each of these Clusters. The programme aims to ensure access to Financial Services and promote the growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across the country.

The Union Finance Minister also virtually inaugurated six new SIDBI Branches in Karnataka, located at Tumakuru, Raichur, Shivamogga, Kalaburagi, Mangaluru and Vijayapura, thereby expanding SIDBI's reach and financial assistance to MSMEs in these Clusters.

Sitharaman also inaugurated four Nari Shakti Branches of Union Bank of India at Bengaluru, Chennai, Jaipur and Vishakhapatnam, with the goal of empowering women entrepreneurs and the Learning Centre of Canara Bank at Bagaluru, Bengaluru.

The Union Finance Minister set the target for all Scheduled Commercial Banks and NBFCs for providing additional MSME credit of Rs. 1.54 lakh crore in the current financial year. Thus the banks and NBFCs should aim at total credit growth of Rs 5.75 lakh crore, Rs. 6.21 lakh crore and Rs 7 lakh crore to MSMEs in Financial Year 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 respectively.

Sitharaman also distributed sanction letters to 11 MSME customers of SIDBI, aggregating to Rs. 25.75 crore and 2 sanction letters to MSME customers of Nari Shakti Branch of Union Bank of India aggregating Rs.11 crore, across various sectors aimed at

supporting enterprises from traditional industries to advanced sectors such as aerospace and quantum technology.

101. Hindalco Industries Limited, the metals flagship of the Aditya Birla Group, has been ranked the world's most sustainable aluminium company for the fifth consecutive year. Who is the MD of Hindalco?

आदित्य बिड़ला समूह की मेटल फ्लैगशिप कंपनी हिंडाल्को इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड को लगातार पांचवें साल दुनिया की सबसे टिकाऊ एल्युमीनियम कंपनी का दर्जा दिया गया है। हिंडाल्को के एमडी कौन हैं?

- (a) Parul Tyagi
- (b) Padam Singh
- (c) Ashish Kumar
- (d) Girish Kumar
- (e) Satish Pai

Ans. e

Sol. Hindalco ranked world's most sustainable aluminium company

Hindalco Industries Limited, the metals flagship of the Aditya Birla Group, has been ranked the world's most sustainable aluminium company for the fifth consecutive year. In the 2024 edition of the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) rankings, Hindalco was the only aluminium company to secure the top position. It got a total score of 87 points (as of 30 October 2024), improving its tally by 9 points from 2023. It was 22 points ahead of its closest peer.

The DJSI World Index comprises the top 10 per cent of the largest 2,500 companies by market capitalisation in the S&P Global Broad Market Index based on long-term economic and ESG factors.

MD of Hindalco Industries Ltd - Satish Pai

102. Indian Navy's submarine _____ arrived in Colombo on a three-day visit for Operational Turnaround.

भारतीय नौसेना की पनडुब्बी _____ ऑपरेशनल टर्नअराउंड के लिए तीन दिवसीय यात्रा पर कोलंबो पहुंची।

- (a) INS Satpura
- (b) INS Sahyadri
- (c) INS Vila
- (d) INS Talwar
- (e) INS Karma

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Navy's submarine INS Vela arrives in Colombo for Operational Turnaround

Indian Navy's submarine INS Vela, arrived in Colombo on a three-day visit. The submarine was accorded a ceremonial welcome by the Sri Lanka Navy.

Several team-building exercises are planned between the crew of the submarine and Sri Lankan navy personnel during the visit.

INS Vela, an indigenous Kalvari-class diesel-electric submarine, was commissioned into the Indian Navy in November 2021.

This visit is categorized as an Operational Turnaround (OTA), during which the submarine will replenish its provisions before departing Colombo.

These visits reflect India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of the 'SAGAR' (Security and Growth for All in the Region) initiative, which seeks to enhance maritime security and regional connectivity.

103. India signed an agreement with BIMSTEC to set up a BIMSTEC Energy Centre in which city?

भारत ने किस शहर में बिम्सटेक ऊर्जा केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए बिम्सटेक के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

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

Ans. c

Sol. India signs agreement to establish BIMSTEC Energy Centre in Bengaluru
Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Secretary (East) Jaideep Mazumder and BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Secretary General Indramani Pandey signed an agreement to establish the BIMSTEC Energy Centre in Karnataka's Bengaluru.

The agreement aims to strengthen inter-grid connectivity across the region.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization that was established on June 6, 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration.

About Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

- **Founded** - 6 June 1997
- **Headquarters** - Dhaka, Bangladesh
- **Membership** - 7 (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka & Thailand)
- **Secretary General** - Indra Mani Pandey (India) (replace Tenzin Lekphell, Bhutan) 8/1/24

104. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) directed Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to obtain necessary approvals from the government and concurrence from the investee companies in cases of acquisition of equity holdings beyond the prescribed limits. The Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) norms prescribe how many per cent as the threshold for investments made by FPIs in the total paid-up equity capital?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) और भारतीय प्रतिभूति एवं विनियम बोर्ड (SEBI) ने विदेशी पोर्टफोलियो निवेशकों (FPI) को निर्देश दिया है कि वे निर्धारित सीमा से अधिक इकिटी होल्डिंग्स के अधिग्रहण के मामले में सरकार से आवश्यक अनुमोदन और निवेशित कंपनियों से

सहमति प्राप्त करें। विदेशी मुद्रा प्रबंधन अधिनियम (FEMA) के मानदंडों में कुल चुकता इक्किटी पूंजी में FPI द्वारा किए गए निवेश के लिए सीमा के रूप में कितने प्रतिशत निर्धारित किए गए हैं?

- (a) 5%
- (b) 12%
- (c) 10%
- (d) 20%
- (e) 25%

Ans. c

Sol. RBI, SEBI unveil rules for converting excess investment by FPIs into FDI

Financial regulators, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), issued new guidelines directing foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to secure government approval and concurrence from investee companies if they acquire equity stakes that exceed prescribed limits.

The regulators introduced an operational framework for reclassification of FPI investments to foreign direct investments (FDI) should holdings surpass the stipulated thresholds. This framework outlines steps to follow if such a breach occurs.

Under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), FPIs are allowed to hold up to 10 per cent of a company's total paid-up equity capital. Any FPI breaching this limit now has the option to divest holdings or reclassify such holdings as FDI, subject to several conditions. The new rules provide a window of five days from the settlement of trades to do the same.

Once reclassified, the entire investment of an FPI will be deemed FDI and remain so, even if holdings fall below 10 per cent at a later date, according to the framework.

RBI and SEBI have separately shared the process to be followed for reporting such breaches and reclassification by the FPIs and custodians.

After ensuring that the reporting for reclassification is complete in all aspects, the custodian shall unfreeze the equity instruments and process the request. The date of the investment causing the breach in such cases shall be considered the date of reclassification, as per the circular.

105. Which company has launched an industry-first multi-sector rotation fund, which will take concentrated sectoral bets through a quantumal approach in November 2024?

नवंबर 2024 में, किस कंपनी ने उद्योग-प्रथम मल्टी-सेक्टर रोटेशन फंड लॉन्च किया, जो मात्रात्मक दृष्टिकोण के माध्यम से केंद्रित क्षेत्रीय दांव लगाएगा?

- (a) Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund
- (b) Axis Mutual Fund
- (c) Shriram Mutual Fund
- (d) Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund
- (e) HDFC Mutual Fund

Ans. c

Sol. Shriram Mutual Fund launches industry-first multi-sector rotation fund

Shriram Mutual Fund (MF) has launched an industry-first multi-sector rotation fund, which will take concentrated sectoral bets through a quantamental approach. The scheme will invest in 3-6 sectors that are likely to outperform in the near-to-long term. The fund will move in and out of sectors based on their relative momentum and other factors. The sectors will be selected based on Shriram AMC's proprietary Enhanced Quantamental Investment (EQI) framework. These sectors will then be vetted based on fundamentals, including macroeconomic parameters, investment indicators, sentiment, prices, etc., before final sector selection.

The fund will be market-cap agnostic, with the share of largecap, midcap, and smallcap stocks in the portfolio depending on the size of companies operational in the selected sectors.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- IDFC FIRST Bank launches **real-time tracking for international money** in partnership with Swift
- Indian Overseas Bank Unveils **Online Re-KYC Service for Hassle-Free Updates**
- Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) launched **e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility** in partnership with National e-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL).
- Jio Financial Services launches **SmartGold for digital gold purchase.**

106. In Japan, Leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Shigeru Ishiba was re-elected as the country's Prime Minister after securing the most votes in both houses of the Japanese parliament is known as?

जापान में लिबरल डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टी (LDP) के नेता शिगेरु इशिबा को जापानी संसद के दोनों सदनों में सबसे अधिक वोट हासिल करने के बाद फिर से देश के प्रधानमंत्री के रूप में चुना गया। जापानी संसद को किस नाम से जाना जाता है?

- (a) Senate
- (b) Althing
- (c) State Duma
- (d) Congress
- (e) Diet

Ans. e

Sol. Liberal Democratic Party's Shigeru Ishiba re-elected as Japan's PM

In Japan, the Leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Shigeru Ishiba was re-elected as the country's Prime Minister after securing the most votes in both houses of the Japanese Diet.

The Japanese Parliament, known as the Diet, convened an extraordinary session to elect the Prime Minister.

Following the loss of its long-held majority in last month's general election, the ruling coalition of the LDP and Komeito faced a runoff vote between Prime Minister Ishiba and the leader of the major opposition Constitutional Democratic Party, Yoshihiko Noda. In the runoff voting in the House of Representatives, 67-year-old Ishiba received 221 votes, outperforming Noda to become the country's 103rd Prime Minister despite falling short of the 233 majority threshold.

About Japan

- Capital - Tokyo
- Currency - Yen
- Prime Minister - Shigeru Ishiba

107. Arjuna Awardee, Harinder Singh Sodhi passed away at the age of 86. He was related to which sport?

अर्जुन पुरस्कार, विजेता हरिंदर सिंह सोढ़ी का 86 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस खेल से संबंधित थे?

- (a) Polo
- (b) Swimming
- (c) Boxing
- (d) Hockey
- (e) Badminton

Ans. a

Sol. Former top polo player H S Sodhi dead

Leading former Indian polo player and Arjuna Awardee, Harinder Singh Sodhi passed away at the age of 86.

He is also known as 'Billy' Sodhi,

Harinder was the manager of the Indian equestrian team during the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

108. Veteran _____ actor Delhi Ganesh passed away at the age of 80.

दिग्गज _____ अभिनेता दिल्ली गणेश का 80 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया।

- (a) Tamil
- (b) Telgu
- (c) Kannad
- (d) Marathi
- (e) Bhojpuri

Ans. a

Sol. Veteran Tamil actor Delhi Ganesh dies

Veteran Tamil actor Delhi Ganesh passed away at the age of 80.

Ganesh started his career in acting after a decade-long stint with the Indian Air Force from 1964 to 1974.

Over the years, Delhi Ganesh appeared in over 400 films across Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam cinema. Some of his most notable works include Nayakan, Michael Madhana Kama Rajan, Sindhu Bhairavi, Iruvar, and others.

109. Where was the 8th International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium held?

8वां अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्राचीन कला महोत्सव और संगोष्ठी कहाँ आयोजित की गई?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Raipur
- (d) Mumbai
- (e) Surat

Ans. b

Sol. IGNCA host the 8th International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium

The 8th International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium was held in New Delhi at the Indira Gandhi National Centers for Arts (IGNCA).

The International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium is country's only multi-arts event of its kind, which tries to educate the people in the ancient Indian art form along with entertaining them with performances.

At the inaugural session of the 8th International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium Dr. Reela Hota and her troupe presented 'Antar Yatra'. This dance drama incorporates Odissi, Chhau, and contemporary ballet to symbolise the ascension of consciousness from the base (Mooladhara) to the crown (Sahasrara) chakra.

On the festival's final day, a Kuchipudi dance performance was given by renowned Kuchipudi exponent Yamini Reddy and her group.

The 8th International Ancient Arts Festival and Symposium was organised by the Indira Gandhi National Centers for Arts (IGNCA) in collaboration with the Rays of Wisdom Society. It is also being supported by the Union Ministry of Culture.

110. Who has won the women's singles title of the 2024 NSW Open Squash Tournament?

2024 एनएसडब्ल्यू ओपन स्कैश टूर्नामेंट का महिला एकल खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Amanda Sobhy
- (b) Nouran Gohar
- (c) Dipika Pallikal
- (d) Joshna Chinappa
- (e) Anahat Singh

Ans. e

Sol. Anahat Singh wins her Seventh PSA Challenger Title

The Indian Squash sensation Anahat Singh won her seventh PSA (Professional Squash Association) Challenger Title by winning the singles title of the 2024 NSW Open Squash Tournament.

In the final of the 2024 NSW Open Squash tournament, she defeated Helen Tang of Hong Kong China 3-1 (8-11, 11-6, 11-3, 11-4).

Last week, Anahat Singh won the singles title of the 2024 Costa North Coast Open Squash Tournament.

The 2024 NSW Open Squash Tournament was held in Sydney, Australia.

111. Who has been appointed as Neeraj Chopra's new coach?

नीरज चोपड़ा के नए कोच के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Jan Zelezny
- (b) Johannes Vetter
- (c) Thomas Röhler
- (d) Uwe Hohn
- (e) Aki Parviainen

Ans. a

Sol. Neeraj Chopra appoints Jan Zelezny as his Coach

Tokyo Olympics gold medallist Neeraj Chopra has appointed javelin throw legend Jan Zelezny as his new coach ahead of the 2025 season.

The former Czech athlete is a World and Olympic champion. He is also the world record holder with a throw of 98.48m.

Zelezny will join Neeraj in South Africa for a 31-day training camp, starting later this month. Neeraj will train with Zelezny for the next two years and not the entire Olympic cycle.

Jan Zelezny considered the greatest javelin thrower of the modern era, won gold medals at the 1992 Barcelona, 1996 Atlanta, and 2000 Sydney Summer Olympics.

112. Who has been confirmed as the women's No.1 tennis player for 2024?

2024 के लिए महिलाओं की नंबर 1 टेनिस खिलाड़ी के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Barbora Krejčíková
- (b) Elena Rybakina
- (c) Coco Gauff
- (d) Iga Swiatek
- (e) Aryna Sabalenka

Ans. e

Sol. Aryna Sabalenka ends 2024 as World number one in Women's Tennis

26-year-old Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus was confirmed as the World No. 1 women's tennis player for 2024 by the Women's Tennis Association (WTA). Her spot as world no.1 was confirmed when Iga Swiatek of Poland lost her match against Coco Gauff in the WTA Finals at Riyadh.

The WTA Finals was eventually won by Coco Gauff of the United States. This is the first time Aryna Sabalenka has been confirmed as the year-end world number one in women's tennis.

Aryna Sabalenka had a very good 2024 season, where she won two grand slam singles titles and two WTA 1000 tournament titles.

She won the 2024 Australian Open singles title and the 2024 US Open singles title. She also won the WTA 1000 - Cincinnati Open and the Wuhan Open.

113. Jannik Sinner has been confirmed as the men's No.1 tennis player for 2024.

He is from which country?

जैनिक सिनर को 2024 के लिए पुरुषों की नंबर 1 टेनिस खिलाड़ी के रूप में पुष्टि की गई है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Italy
- (b) USA
- (c) France
- (d) Belgium
- (e) Spain

Ans. a

Sol. Jannik Sinner ends 2024 as World number one in Men's Tennis

Jannik Sinner ended the 2024 season as world number 1 ranked male tennis player. Jannik Sinner, for the first time, was ranked as the No. 1 singles player on 10 June 2024 by the Association of the Tennis Professionals (ATP).

He is the first Italian male tennis player to be ranked world no. 1 in singles since the computerized ATP ranking system was introduced in 1973.

In 2024, Jannik won the Australian Open and the US Open singles title in 2024.

114. National Education Day is celebrated on November 11 every year in honor of

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा दिवस हर साल 11 नवंबर को _____ के सम्मान में मनाया जाता है।

- (a) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (b) A. P. J. Abdul Kalam
- (c) Rajendra Prasad
- (d) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (e) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

Ans. e

Sol. 11 November - National Education Day

National Education Day is celebrated on November 11 every year in honor of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of India and a prominent educationist. During Azad's tenure as the education minister of India, the country got statutory bodies like the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur, the first IIT in the country. He also played a key role in the establishment of Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI).

Theme 2024 - Learning for Lasting Peace

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was born Abul Kalam Ghulam Muhiyuddin on November 11th 1888 in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. His father, Maulana Khairuddin, was a renowned Islamic scholar.

Azad was inspired by the modernist writings of Indian philosopher and educationist Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.

As a teenager, Azad published Al-Hilal, a Calcutta-based Urdu newspaper that was subsequently banned by the British.

This day highlights the importance of education in shaping India's future. With 65% of the nation's population under the age of 35, it is crucial to provide them with opportunities for quality education.

The Government of India has taken significant strides to promote access to education through various initiatives and constitutional provisions. The introduction of free primary education, reinforced by the 86th Amendment of the Constitution through Article 21-A, guarantees free and compulsory education for children aged six to fourteen as a Fundamental Right.

115. World Pneumonia Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व निमोनिया दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. 12 November - World Pneumonia Day

Every year, the world observes World Pneumonia Day on 12 November which is dedicated to raising awareness about pneumonia.

This disease is life-threatening but a preventable and treatable respiratory illness.

This day focuses on pneumonia impact, especially among children under five and the elderly who are most vulnerable.

Theme 2024 - Every Breath Counts: Stop Pneumonia in Its Track.

World Pneumonia Day was established in 2009 by the Global Coalition against Child Pneumonia, which included organizations like UNICEF, WHO, and Save the Children.

116. Navin Ramgoolam has been elected as the Prime Minister of which country?

नवीन रामगुलाम को किस देश का प्रधानमंत्री चुना गया है?

- (a) Maldives
- (b) Mauritius
- (c) Oman
- (d) Sri Lanka
- (e) Bhutan

Ans. b

Sol. Navin Ramgoolam elected as the PM of Mauritius

Navin Ramgoolam has been elected as the Prime Minister of Mauritius.

Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth has reportedly accepted that his coalition, L'Alliance Lepep, has suffered a "huge defeat" following Sunday's parliamentary election. Navin Ramgoolam, 77, leader of the Alliance of Change coalition, is set to become the next leader of the Indian Ocean archipelago.

About Mauritius

- **Capital** - Port Louis
- **Currency** - Rupee
- **Prime Minister** - Navin Ramgoolam (replace Pravind Jugnauth)

117. Who is Vikram Misri, whose term has been extended till July 14, 2026?

विक्रम मिसरी कौन हैं, जिनका कार्यकाल 14 जुलाई 2026 तक बढ़ा दिया गया है?

- (a) Finance Secretary
- (b) Revenue Secretary
- (c) Foreign Secretary
- (d) Home Secretary
- (e) Defence Secretary

Ans. c

Sol. Govt extends tenure of Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri till 2026

The government has extended the tenure of foreign secretary Vikram Misri till 14th July 2026. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension.

Mr. Misri assumed the charge as Foreign Secretary on 15th July this year.

A career diplomat from the 1989 batch of the Indian Foreign Service, Ambassador Misri has served in various capacities at the Ministry of External Affairs, in the Prime Minister's Office and in various Indian Missions abroad in Europe, Africa, Asia and North America.

118. In November 2024, a high-level committee headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved three projects worth Rs 725.62 crore for expansion and modernization of fire services in three states. What are the names of these three states?

नवंबर 2024 में, केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह की अध्यक्षता वाली एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति ने तीन राज्यों में अग्रिशमन सेवाओं के विस्तार और आधुनिकीकरण के लिए 725.62 करोड़ रुपये की तीन परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी है। इन तीन राज्यों के नाम क्या हैं?

- (a) Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Kerala
- (b) Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal
- (d) Maharashtra Odisha and West Bengal
- (e) Kerala, Punjab and West Bengal

Ans. c

Sol. Central govt approves fire services projects worth Rs 725 cr for 3 states

A high-level committee, headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, has approved three projects worth Rs 725.62 crore for the expansion and modernisation of fire services in Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal.

The committee has approved Rs 376.76 crore for West Bengal, Rs 201.10 crore for Odisha and Rs 147.76 crore for Chhattisgarh under the 'Expansion and Modernisation of Fire Services' in the states.

The high-level committee comprised of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Vice Chairman NITI Aayog Suman K Bery as members.

The central government has allocated a total of Rs 5,000 crore under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for 'Expansion and Modernisation of Fire Services' in the states.

Proposals of 15 states with a total outlay of Rs 2,542.12 crore had already been approved. More than Rs 21,026 crore has already been released to the states during this year for various disaster-related aspects.

This includes Rs 14,878.40 crore from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to 26 states, Rs 4,637.66 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to 15 states, Rs 1,385.45 crore from the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) to 11 states and Rs 124.93 crore from the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF) to three states.

119. India's first tri-service space exercise Antariksha Abhyas began in which city?

भारत का पहला त्रि-सेवा अंतरिक्ष अभ्यास अंतरिक्ष अभ्यास किस शहर में शुरू हुआ?

- (a) Chennai
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Agra
- (e) Gandhinagar

Ans. c

Sol. India's first ever tri-service space exercise Antariksha Abhyas begins in Delhi. In a first, the tri-service exercise 'Antariksha Abhyas 2024', a three-day exercise aiming to secure India's national strategic objectives in space, begins in Delhi.

The exercise is being conducted by the Defence Space Agency of Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff.

The exercise is expected to help secure national strategic objectives in space and integrate India's space capability into military operations.

The Space Exercise aims to provide enhanced understanding of space-based assets and services and to gain understanding of operational dependency on the space segment between stakeholders.

Specialist branches under Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff viz Defence Cyber Agency, Defence Intelligence Agency and Strategic Forces Command would also be active participants in the exercise. Representatives from the Isro and the DRDO will also take part in this exercise.

About Defence Space Agency

- Founded- 28 September 2018
- Headquarters- Bengaluru

120. Which company will invest Rs 550 crore to develop solar and wind power capacities and related infrastructure to supply clean energy to Noida International Airport?

कौन सी कंपनी नोएडा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे को स्वच्छ ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के लिए सौर और पवन ऊर्जा क्षमताओं और संबंधित बुनियादी ढांचे को विकसित करने के लिए 550 करोड़ रुपये का निवेश करेगी?

- (a) Adani Group
- (b) Tata Power
- (c) Reliance Group
- (d) Birla Group
- (e) Bharti Airtel

Ans. b

Sol. Tata Power, Noida International Airport sign Rs 550 crore deal for renewable energy

Tata Power will invest Rs 550 crore to develop solar and wind power capacities and related infrastructure to supply clean energy to Noida International Airport.

Tata Power entered into a partnership with Noida International Airport (NIA) to supply renewable energy to the upcoming airport in Jewar in Uttar Pradesh's Gautam Buddha Nagar district.

Tata Power Trading Company Limited (TPTCL) will be at the forefront of this partnership, managing the complete renewable energy portfolio interface and ensuring NIA's clean energy needs are met through a comprehensive Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

Under the deal, Tata Power Trading Company Ltd. will supply 10.8 MW of wind power to NIA, with secured assets from Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd. (TPREL). In addition, TPREL will develop, operate, and maintain a 13 MW onsite solar power capacity.

121. IIT Madras has collaborated with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to establish a Centre of Excellence for research in Fluid and Thermal Sciences. How many rupees will the ISRO provide seed funding for this centre?

आईआईटी मद्रास ने द्रव और तापीय विज्ञान में अनुसंधान के लिए उत्कृष्टता केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (इसरो) के साथ सहयोग किया है। इस केंद्र के लिए इसरो कितने रुपये की सीड फंडिंग प्रदान करेगा?

- (a) ₹1.84 crore
- (b) ₹2.84 crore
- (c) ₹3.84 crore
- (d) ₹4.84 crore
- (e) ₹5.84 crore

Ans. a

Sol. IIT Madras partners with ISRO to establish Research Centre to study Spacecraft & launch vehicle Thermal Management

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) has collaborated with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to establish a Centre of Excellence for research in 'Fluid and Thermal Sciences'.

The ISRO would be providing a seed funding of ₹1.84 crore towards establishing this centre.

This centre will act as a nodal centre for spacecraft and launch vehicle-related thermal management research activities of ISRO. Thermal problems regarding design, analysis and testing of various components could be performed by leveraging the expertise of IIT Madras faculty.

The projects under the MoU will cover critical areas, including spacecraft thermal management, combustion instability in hybrid rockets, and cryo-tank thermodynamics. The Centre will enhance collaboration between ISRO scientists and IIT Madras faculty, fostering innovation in fluid and thermal sciences.

122. In November 2024, which global technology company launched a facility in Bengaluru to provide underserved school students with free, hands-on training in robotics, computing, artificial intelligence (AI), and 3D printing?

नवंबर 2024 में, किस वैश्विक प्रौद्योगिकी कंपनी ने स्कूली छात्रों को रोबोटिक्स, कंप्यूटिंग, आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) और 3डी प्रिंटिंग में मुफ्त, व्यावहारिक प्रशिक्षण प्रदान करने के लिए बेंगलुरु में एक सुविधा शुरू की?

- (a) Meta
- (b) Amazon

(c) Microsoft

(d) IBM

(e) Infosys

Ans. b

Sol. Amazon launches facility in Bengaluru to train school students in tech

Amazon India has launched a facility in Bengaluru that will provide “underserved” school students free, hands-on learning in robotics, computing, artificial intelligence (AI) and 3D printing.

For beginners, there are three- to four-hour programmes to learn basic robotics and coding.

Six-hour programmes will over two days “dive deeper” into advanced robotics, programming, prototyping and design. For the most advanced students, there are multi-month programmes. Makerspace has areas where students can build and test their robot.

Students can book online sessions that will have groups of up to 40 participants.

Makerspace has 3D printers, lathes, power tools, electronics equipment and kits for international competitions. Mentors and Amazon volunteers will help students develop skills in coding, problem-solving and design.

Amazon Future Engineer is a philanthropic programme of the company to provide opportunities in computer science education to underprivileged students.

In India, Amazon has partnered with 11 non-profit organisations to introduce computer science education in more than 17,000 schools. Amazon said Future Engineer in the past three years has helped more than 2.9 million students and trained 16,000 teachers across the country.

123. Veteran Australian filmmaker Phillip Noyce, known for his work on Clear and Present Danger, Salt, and Rabbit-Proof Fence, will receive the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI). The festival, which will be held in Goa from November 20-28, 2024, has _____ as its Country of Focus this year.

किलयर एंड प्रेजेंट डेंजर, साल्ट और रैबिट-प्रूफ फेंस पर अपने काम के लिए मशहूर ऑस्ट्रेलियाई फिल्म निर्माता फिलिप नॉयस को 55वें भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव (IFFI) में सत्यजीत रे लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया जाएगा। 20-28 नवंबर, 2024 तक गोवा में आयोजित होने वाले इस महोत्सव में इस साल _____ को फोकस का देश बनाया गया है।

(a) Australia

(b) Austria

(c) Japan

(d) France

(e) South Korea

Ans. a

Sol. Australian filmmaker Phillip Noyce to receive Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at IFFI 2024

Veteran Australian filmmaker Phillip Noyce, known for his work on *Clear and Present Danger*, *Salt*, and *Rabbit-Proof Fence*, will receive the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

The festival, which will be held in Goa from November 20-28, 2024, has Australia as its Country of Focus this year.

The festival will open with the Asian premiere of *Better Man*, a biographical film about British pop star Robbie Williams, directed by Michael Gracey.

IFFI will also feature six new theatres and introduce “IFFiesta,” an entertainment zone along Goa’s riverfront.

Theme of 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) - Young Filmmakers – The Future is Now]

124. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation reached a _____ high of 6.21 percent in October 2024, up from 5.49 percent in August 2024, indicating persistent price pressures across sectors.

उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (सीपीआई) आधारित मुद्रास्फीति अक्टूबर 2024 में 6.21 प्रतिशत के _____ उच्च स्तर पर पहुंच गई, जो अगस्त 2024 में 5.49 प्रतिशत थी, जो सभी क्षेत्रों में लगातार मूल्य दबाव का संकेत देती है।

- (a) 6-month
- (b) 10-month
- (c) 12-month
- (d) 14-month
- (e) 18-month

Ans. d

Sol. Retail inflation at a 14-month high, rises to 6.21% in October

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation reached a 14-month high of 6.21 percent in October, up from 5.49 percent in August, indicating persistent price pressures across sectors, according to the data of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

In comparison, retail inflation stood at 3.65% in August 2024 and 3.54% in July 2024. Inflation in October climbed above the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 6% tolerance threshold, marking the first breach of this level in 14 months since August 2023. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) aims to keep inflation within a range of 2-6 percent, with a medium-term target of 4 percent.

The data shows higher inflation in rural areas at 6.68 percent compared to 5.62 percent in urban regions.

The Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) recorded a significant year-on-year (Y-o-Y) inflation rate of 10.87 percent, driven largely by rising prices of vegetables, fruits, oils and fats. In September, food inflation stood at 9.24 percent.

Rural areas experienced a CFPI inflation rate of 10.69 percent, while urban regions saw a slightly higher rate of 11.09 percent.

Housing inflation also rose, with October 2024 recording a rate of 2.81 percent, slightly up from September's 2.72 percent. The housing index is calculated only for urban areas.

Previous Months CPI-based Retail inflation

- **April 2024** – 4.83% (11-months low)
- **May 2024** – 4.75% (12-months low)
- **June 2024** – 5.08% (4 months high)
- **July 2024** – 3.54% (59-months low)
- August 2024 – 3.65% (2nd lowest in last 5 years)
- **September 2024** – 5.49% (9 months high)
- **October 2024** – 6.21% (14- months high)

125. Which Indian multi-asset allocation fund achieved a Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 21.58% over 22 years, turning an initial investment of Rs 10 lakh into approximately Rs 7.26 crore by 30 Sep 2024, significantly outperforming its benchmark CAGR of 17.39%?

किस भारतीय मल्टी-एसेट एलोकेशन फंड ने 22 वर्षों में 21.58% की चक्रवृद्धि वार्षिक वृद्धि दर (CAGR) हासिल की, जिसने 10 लाख रुपये के शुरुआती निवेश को 30 सितंबर 2024 तक लगभग 7.26 करोड़ रुपये में बदल दिया, जो कि इसके बेंचमार्क CAGR 17.39% से काफी बेहतर प्रदर्शन है?

- (a) ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund
- (b) Shriram Asset Management Company Ltd
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company
- (d) HDFC Asset Management
- (e) SBI Funds Management Pvt Ltd

Ans. a

Sol. ICICI Prudential Multi-Asset Fund turns Rs 10 lakh into Rs 7.5 cr in 22 yrs

ICICI Prudential Multi-Asset Fund, one of India's largest and most successful multi-asset allocation funds, has achieved a remarkable milestone—completing 22 years of robust performance. With a closing Asset Under Management (AUM) of Rs 50,495.58 crores as of September 30, 2024.

The fund now holds a dominant share of 48.29% in the multi-asset allocation category, solidifying its position as a preferred choice for investors seeking diversified, long-term growth.

An initial lump sum investment of Rs 10 lakh made at the fund's inception would have grown to approximately Rs 7.26 crore by September 30, 2024, reflecting a Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 21.58%. In comparison, a similar investment in the fund's benchmark—composed of Nifty 200 TRI (65%), Nifty Composite Debt Index (25%), Domestic Price of Gold (6%), Domestic Price of Silver (1%), and iCOMDEX Composite Index (3%)—would have amounted to around Rs 3.36 crore, yielding a CAGR of 17.39%.

ICICI Prudential Multi-Asset Fund is an open-ended scheme that invests across equity, debt, and a range of other asset classes, including Exchange Traded Commodity Derivatives, Gold ETFs, Silver ETFs, and units of REITs and InvITs.

MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential AMC - Nimesh Shah

126. The Union Finance Ministry said that aggregate business of public sector banks (PSBs) has shown strong growth of how much per cent in the first half of the financial year 2024-25 (H1FY25) to touch Rs 236 trillion.

केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्रालय ने कहा कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों (PSB) के कुल कारोबार ने वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 (H1FY25) की पहली छमाही में कितने प्रतिशत की मजबूत वृद्धि दिखाते हुए 236 ट्रिलियन रुपये को छू लिया है?

- (a) 5%
- (b) 7%
- (c) 11%
- (d) 15%
- (e) 19%

Ans. c

Sol. PSBs show strong performance in the First Half of FY 2024-25 with 11% Y-o-Y growth.

The Union Finance Ministry said that aggregate business of public sector banks (PSBs) has shown strong growth of 11 per cent in the first half of the financial year 2024-25 (H1FY25) to touch Rs 236 trillion. The operating and net profit were also robust.

At Rs 1.5 trillion, operating profit grew by 14.4 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) while the net profit saw an impressive 25.6 per cent jump at Rs 85,520 crore in the first half of FY25.

The global credit and deposit portfolio of PSBs grew by 12.9 per cent and 9.5 per cent Y-o-Y to Rs 102.29 trillion and Rs 133.75 trillion respectively.

The Gross and Net NPA stood at 3.12% and 0.63% as on Sep-24 (Gross and Net NPA declined by 108 bps and 34 bps respectively YoY).

The Capital to RWA assets ratio (CRAR) stood at 15.43% in Sep-24 against the regulatory requirement of 11.5%.

PSBs have also shown significant progress in adopting new age technologies like AI/ cloud/ Blockchain etc., upgradation of existing digital infrastructure, putting in place necessary systems/ controls to tackle cyber security risks and taking multiple steps to provide best-in-class customer services.

127. The Ministry of Textiles has approved how many new research projects worth INR 13.3 crore as part of the National Technical Textiles Mission, that focused on areas like geotextiles, sustainable and smart textiles, and composites, were proposed by leading research bodies such as IITs, NITs, and CRRI?

कपड़ा मंत्रालय ने राष्ट्रीय तकनीकी वस्त्र मिशन के हिस्से के रूप में 13.3 करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली कितनी नई शोध परियोजनाओं को मंजूरी दी है, जो कि भू-वस्त्र, टिकाऊ और स्मार्ट वस्त्र और कंपोजिट जैसे क्षेत्रों पर केंद्रित हैं, जिन्हें आईआईटी, एनआईटी और सीआरआरआई जैसे प्रमुख अनुसंधान निकायों द्वारा प्रस्तावित किया गया था?

- (a) 12
- (b) 15
- (c) 10
- (d) 4

(e) 24

Ans. a

Sol. Ministry of Textiles approves 12 research projects worth INR 13 Crores under the National Technical Textiles Mission

The 10th Mission Steering Group under the chairmanship of Union Minister of Textiles has approved 12 research projects of value INR 13.3 Cr. under the National Technical Textiles Mission.

The research projects were approved across key strategic areas of geotextiles, sustainable and smart textiles, composites, etc.

The approved projects were proposed by eminent research bodies and institutions including IITs, NITs, CRRI, etc. The total number of approved research projects under the Mission now stands at 168 with a total value of approx. INR 509 Cr.

National Technical Textiles Mission is a flagship scheme of Ministry of Textiles focused on developing the research and development capabilities of the local industry, especially in the areas of high performance fibre development.

128. Where was the 25th Meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council held?

दक्षिण एशियाई दूरसंचार नियामक परिषद की 25वीं बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई?

- (a) New Delhi**
- (b) Dehradun**
- (c) Noida**
- (d) Shimla**
- (e) Hyderabad**

Ans. a

Sol. Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurates SATRC-25 in New Delhi

The 25th Meeting of SATRC-25 (South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council) was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya Scindia.

The meeting is held annually to discuss and coordinate regulatory and other issues related to the telecommunication and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sectors common for the regulators of SATRC Members.

The 25th Meeting of the SATRC has been organised by the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. It is being hosted by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in New Delhi.

The Telecom sector regulators of 9 countries -Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka are attending the 25th meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council.

The SATRC-25 provides a platform for telecommunications experts, service providers, industry representatives and international delegates of the region to discuss issues related to telecommunication regulations and policy challenges.

129. World Kindness Day is observed annually on which day?

विश्व दयालुता दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 11 November**
- (b) 12 November**

- (c) 13 November
- (d) 14 November
- (e) 15 November

Ans. c

Sol. 13 November - World Kindness Day

World Kindness Day is commemorated annually on November 13 and aims to promote several acts that inspire compassion, empathy, and goodwill around the world.

This day urges people around the world to perform acts of kindness whether great or small, to help create a more peaceful world.

World Kindness Day is a relatively new commemoration which began in 1998 following the formation of the World Kindness Movement (WKM). The World Kindness Movement (WKM) is a worldwide non-governmental organisation with no political or religious affiliation.

130. The world's first high-altitude para sports centre will be established in _____.

दुनिया का पहला उच्च ऊंचाई वाला पैरा खेल केंद्र _____ में स्थापित किया जाएगा।

- (a) Gulmarg
- (b) Shimla
- (c) Sonamarg
- (d) Srinagar
- (e) Leh

Ans. e

Sol. World's first high-altitude para sports centre to come up in Leh

The world's first high-altitude para sports centre will be established in Leh, Ladakh, aiming to advance the skills and confidence of athletes ahead of the 2028 Paralympics.

A Memorandum and Understanding (MoU) to this effect was signed by the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh, and the Aditya Mehta Foundation (AMF).

Indian para-athletes have won 29 medals, including seven gold, in the 2024 Paralympics in Paris and it is a testament to the talent we have in our country.

131. Amelia Kerr has won the ICC Women's Player of Month for October 2024. She is from which country?

अमेरिका केर ने अक्टूबर 2024 के लिए ICC महिला प्लेयर ऑफ मंथ का पुरस्कार जीता है। वह किस देश से हैं?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Kerr and Noman win ICC Player of the Month awards for October

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the ICC Players of the Month for October 2024 as New Zealand's Amelia Kerr and Pakistan's Noman Ali.

All-rounder Kerr was instrumental in her side's surge to victory at the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in the UAE last month, while Noman was equally pivotal to his side's comeback Test series win over England on home soil.

In men's cricket, Noman Ali clinched the ICC Men's Player of the Month title for his stellar performances in Pakistan's Test series against England. His bowling was instrumental in Pakistan's comeback victory at home, turning the series around from a 1-0 deficit to a memorable series win.

ICC Men's Player of the Month

- June 2024 - Jasprit Bumrah (India)
- July 2024 - Gus Atkinson (England)
- August 2024 - Duniwell Wellalage (Sri Lanka)
- September 2024 - Kamindu Mendis (Sri Lanka)
- October 2024 - Noman Ali (Pakistan)

ICC Women's Player of the Month

- June 2024 - Smriti Mandhana (India)
- July 2024 - Chamari Athapaththu (Sri Lanka)
- August 2024 - Tammy Beaumont (England)
- September 2024 - Harshitha Madavi (Sri Lanka)
- October 2024 - Amelia Kerr (New Zealand)

132. Who has won the Chennai Grand Masters 2024?

चेन्नई ग्रैंड मास्टर्स 2024 किसने जीता है?

- (a) R Praggnanandhaa
- (b) Aravindh Chithambaram
- (c) Alexandre Predke
- (d) Abhijeet Gupta
- (e) Jaykumar Sammed

Ans. b

Sol. GM Aravindh Chithambaram wins Chennai Grand Masters 2024.

In Chess, GM Aravindh Chithambaram clinched the Chennai Grand Masters title after an intense final against American GM Levon Aronian. Meanwhile, GM V Pranav remained unbeaten throughout the tournament to claim the Challengers title.

With the Masters category witnessing a three-way tie for the top spot, Aravindh defeated GM Levon Aronian in the first blitz play-off and then held his nerve to draw the second blitz match with black pieces to clinch the second edition of the competition. Organised by MGD1 and sponsored by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, the Chennai Grand Masters 2024 features two categories- Masters & Challengers.

133. Manoj Mitra passed away recently at 86. Who was he?

मनोज मित्रा का हाल ही में 86 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वे कौन थे?

- (a) Actor
- (b) Politician
- (c) Historian
- (d) Scientist
- (e) Electrician

Ans. a**Sol.** Veteran Bengali actor Manoj Mitra passes away

Veteran Bengali actor and eminent theatre personality Manoj Mitra passed at 86.

Mr. Mitra won many awards for his acting and writing skills. Among them was the much-celebrated Sangeet Natak Akademy Award for Best Playwright in 1985 and the Asiatic Society Award in 2005.

Some of his most celebrated works include Narak Guljar (The Great Hell), Aswathama, Chakbhanga Madhu (Honey from Broken Hive), Mesh O Rakhash (The Lamb and the Monster), Sajano Bagan (Decorated Garden), Chhayar Prashad (The Palace of Shadows).

134. Public Service Broadcasting Day is observed every year on which day?**लोक सेवा प्रसारण दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?**

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

Ans. a**Sol.** 12 November - Public Service Broadcasting Day

Public Service Broadcasting Day is observed every year on 12 November.

The day is celebrated every year to commemorate the only visit of Mahatma Gandhi to the studio of Akashvani in Delhi in 1947.

The Father of the Nation addressed the displaced people, who had temporarily settled at Kurukshetra in Haryana after partition.

135. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted the maiden flight test of the LRLACM from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. What is the meaning of 'C' in 'LRLACM'?**रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने ओडिशा के तट से दूर चांदीपुर में एकीकृत परीक्षण रेंज (ITR) से LRLACM का पहला उड़ान परीक्षण सफलतापूर्वक किया है। 'LRLACM' में 'C' का क्या अर्थ है?**

- (a) Cruise
- (b) Censor
- (c) Combat
- (d) Category
- (e) Corps

Ans. a**Sol.** DRDO successfully conducts maiden flight test of long-range land attack cruise missile

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted the maiden flight-test of the Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. The test was carried out using a mobile articulated launcher, and the missile performed as expected, meeting all primary mission objectives.

During the flight, the missile's performance was carefully monitored through a range of sensors, including radar, electro-optical tracking systems, and telemetry equipment deployed at various locations along the missile's flight path.

Equipped with advanced avionics and software, LRLACM is designed to ensure greater reliability and enhanced operational performance.

Developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) in Bengaluru, LRLACM also saw collaborations from other DRDO laboratories and Indian industries. Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) in Hyderabad and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) in Bengaluru served as the Development-Cum-Production Partners, contributing to missile development and integration.

The LRLACM is a Defence Acquisition Council-approved, Mission Mode Project sanctioned under the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), marking a major step forward in India's missile development capabilities.

136. Recently, which country has bought the surface to air the Akash missile system from India?

हाल ही में, किस देश ने भारत से सतह से हवा में मार करने वाली आकाश मिसाइल प्रणाली खरीदी है?

- (a) Oman
- (b) Iran
- (c) Israel
- (d) Armenia
- (e) Azerbaijan

Ans. d

Sol. India ships first batch of Akash Weapon system to Armenia

In a significant milestone for the indigenous Indian defence sector, the first batch of the indigenously developed surface-to-air missile system Akash, was shipped to Armenia.

The indigenously developed and manufactured Akash system is part of a deal under which India is to supply 15 Akash systems to Armenia.

This is the second missile system to be exported from India after India sold the supersonic Brahmos cruise missile to the Philippines.

With a record defence export of Rs 21,083 crore in 2023-24, the government has set a defence export target of Rs 35,000 crore for 2024-25.

The United States of America has emerged as the largest buyer of the Indian weapon system, followed by France.

137. The coastal defence exercise Sea Vigil is held after how many years?

तटीय रक्षा अभ्यास सी विजिल कितने वर्षों के बाद आयोजित किया जाता है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Navy all set to host 4th Sea Vigil Exercise 2024

The Indian Navy will host the 4th Sea Vigil Exercises on 20 and 21 November 2024.

The biennial Sea Vigil is a national-level coastal defence exercise that involves various other stakeholders responsible for India's coastal and maritime security.

The third edition of the Sea Vigil was held in November 2022 and conducted under the overall leadership of the Indian Navy.

The Sea Vigil exercise led by the Indian Navy was started in 2018, and it is held every two years. The Sea Vigil exercise is a precursor to the Indian Navy's own 'Theatre Level Readiness Operational Exercise (TROPEX)', conducted every two years.

The Sea Vigil exercise was conceptualised in India after the Mumbai terror attack of 2008 when Pakistani terrorists used the sea routes to attack Mumbai.

Regular exercises are conducted in the coastal states by the Indian Coast Guard under the code name Sagar Kavach to assess the coastal security in a particular coastal region of the country.

The Indian Navy will lead the 4th Sea Vigil exercise, which will include 6 central government ministries and 21 Organisations /Agencies related to coastal security, such as Customs, State marine police, Indian Coast Guard, etc.

The Indian Army and the Indian Air Force are also participating in the exercise.

138. Which team has won the 16th Senior Women T-20 Trophy 2024?

किस टीम ने 16वीं सीनियर महिला टी-20 ट्रॉफी 2024 जीती है?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Bengal
- (e) Saurashtra

Ans. a

Sol. Mumbai wins its second Senior Women's T20 Trophy

Humaira Kazi led her Mumbai team to their second Senior Women's T20 trophy title by beating Bengal in the final by 10 wickets.

The final of the 16th Senior Women's T20 trophy was played at the Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Mumbai, which won the Senior Women's T20 trophy for the first time last year, joined Railway as the only team that successfully defended its title.

The Senior Women's T-20 Trophy is organised by the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) and was first held in 2008-09.

With 11 title wins, Railway is the most successful team in the tournament. Delhi won the title in 2017-18, Punjab in 2018-19, and Mumbai in 2023 and 2024.

Player of the match - Jagravi Pawar of Mumbai

Player of the Series - Humaira Kaazi

139. Arvinder Singh Sahney has been appointed as the Chairman of which company?

अरविंदर सिंह साहनी को किस कंपनी का अध्यक्ष नियुक्त 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. b

Sol. Arvinder Singh Sahney appointed as new Chairman of Indian Oil

Arvinder Singh Sahney has been appointed as Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation.

Prior to the appointment, he was petrochemical vertical head of the national oil marketing company.

Mr. Sahney has over three decades of expertise in the refinery and petrochemical sector. He takes over from director (marketing) V.Satish Kumar, who was holding additional charge as Chairman after the completion of tenure of S.M. Vaidya.

Recent Appointment

- **Coach of Neeraj Chopra** - Jan Zelezny (Czech Republic)
- **51st Chief Justice of India** - Justice Sanjiv Khanna (replace Justice DY Chandrachud).
- **President of World Sailing** - Li Quanhui (China)
- **President of FICCI for 2024-25** - Harsha Vardhan Agarwal (replace Anish Shah)
- **Chairman of Yamaha Motor India Group** - Itaru Otani (replace Eishin Chihan)

140. The Union Ministry of Mines has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with which agency for collaboration in critical minerals?

केंद्रीय खान मंत्रालय ने महत्वपूर्ण खनिजों में सहयोग के लिए किस एजेंसी के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) World Energy Council
- (b) Solar Energy Industries Association
- (c) International Energy Agency
- (d) World Energy Council
- (e) World Bank

Ans. c

Sol. Mines Ministry signs MoU with International Energy Agency on Cooperation in the Area of Critical Minerals

The Ministry of Mines has signed an agreement with the International Energy Agency (IEA) on cooperation in the area of critical minerals.

This collaboration will provide India with access to reliable data, analysis, and policy recommendations in the critical minerals sector, enhancing the country's decision-making capabilities and ensuring strategic resource management.

It will also enable the country to streamline its policies, regulations, and investment strategies in the critical minerals sector.

Recent MoU

- NTPC and Indian Army Join Hands for Round-the-Clock Power Supply using Green Hydrogen
- Reliance, Nvidia partner to build large-scale AI infrastructure in India
- IIM Shillong signs MoU with SIDBI to launch entrepreneurship training and incubation programme
- Government and Meta join forces for "Scam se Bacho" Campaign to tackle rising online scams

- BHP signed MoU with SAIL to accelerate potential pathways to steel decarbonisation

141. In November 2024, The World Bank and Asian Development Bank jointly agreed to grant a loan of Rs. 13,500 crore rupees for Amaravati development project. Amaravati Development Project is located in which among the following state?

नवंबर 2024 में, विश्व बैंक और एशियाई विकास बैंक ने संयुक्त रूप से अमरावती विकास परियोजना के लिए 13,500 करोड़ रुपये का ऋण देने पर सहमति व्यक्त की। अमरावती विकास परियोजना निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य में स्थित है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Amaravati capital project gets major boost with Rs. 13,500 crore loan from World Bank and ADB

The dream of a world-class capital for Andhra Pradesh is advancing with a major funding boost. The World Bank and Asian Development Bank have jointly agreed to grant a loan of Rs. 13,500 crore rupees for Amaravati development project.

The two-day long negotiations between executives of World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Union Finance Ministry and the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority in New Delhi concluded on a positive note with the World Bank and ADB giving final clearance to grant a loan of Rs. 13,500 crores for development of green field capital city, Amaravati.

Titled, "the Amaravati Inclusive and Sustainable Capital City Development Program," the program aims to build a safe and sustainable city with focus on inclusive socioeconomic growth and community development, building resilient service delivery, and strengthening governance and financing frameworks.

142. Which country has appointed Chris Evans as the country's first anti-slavery commissioner to strengthen the work undertaken across government, business, and society to prevent and respond to modern slavery?

किस देश ने आधुनिक दासता को रोकने और उसका जवाब देने के लिए सरकार, व्यवसाय और समाज में किए गए कार्यों को मजबूत करने के लिए क्रिस इवांस को देश का पहला गुलामी-विरोधी आयुक्त नियुक्त किया है?

- (a) Australia
- (b) South Africa
- (c) New Zealand
- (d) UK
- (e) France

Ans. a

Sol. Australian govt appoints country's first anti-slavery commissioner

In Australia, the government has appointed the country's first anti-slavery commissioner. Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus announced that Chris Evans, a former senator and human rights official, will serve as the inaugural Australian anti-slavery commissioner for a five-year term commencing in December.

The new commissioner role will strengthen the work undertaken across government, business, and society in Australia to prevent and respond to modern slavery.

Walk Free's 2023 Global Slavery Index estimated that 41,000 people were living in modern slavery in Australia in 2021.

A report released by the anti-slavery commissioner of the state of New South Wales in September estimated that there were 16,400 people in modern slavery in the state.

143. Which organization has recently released the report On Sources of Revenue Generation in Municipal Corporations: Opportunities and Challenges?

हाल ही में किस संगठन ने नगर निगमों में राजस्व सृजन के स्रोत: अवसर और चुनौतियां पर रिपोर्ट जारी की है?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) DRDO
- (c) Niti Aayog
- (d) NABARD
- (e) SIDBI

Ans. a

Sol. Civic bodies need major reforms to enhance revenue sources: RBI report Municipal corporations need to enhance their sources of revenue through reforms in property tax, rationalisation of user charges, and better collection mechanisms, an RBI report has suggested.

The report titled 'Own Sources of Revenue Generation in Municipal Corporations: Opportunities and Challenges' analysed the budgetary data for 232 MCs, covering more than 90 percent of the total MCs in the country.

The elasticity of property tax revenues, the predominant source of tax revenue, can be improved through adopting property tax formulae which are more reflective of property valuation. While the revenue account of the MCs has remained in surplus, their heavy reliance on transfers and grants from upper tiers of government continues.

The own revenue sources are not adequate for meeting the revenue expenditure of most of the MCs. This affects their functional and financial autonomy.

The revenue receipts of MCs rose by 20.1 percent year on year (Y-o-Y) to Rs 1.7 trillion till March 2024 (FY24). In the preceding year, their revenues were Rs 1.42 trillion, and Rs 1.37 trillion in FY22.

The share of own resources in receipts stood at 61.9 percent (Budget estimates) in FY24, up from 59.7 percent (revised estimates) in FY23. The revenue expenditure of MCs grew by 13.9 per cent to Rs 1.49 trillion in FY24 from Rs 1.31 trillion in FY23 and Rs 1.23 trillion in FY22.

144. Wholesale price inflation rose to a 4-month high of _____ in October as prices of food items, especially vegetables, and manufactured goods turned dearer, as per the government data released in November 2024.

नवंबर 2024 में जारी सरकारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार, खाद्य पदार्थों, विशेष रूप से सब्जियों और विनिर्मित वस्तुओं की कीमतें महंगी होने के कारण अक्टूबर में थोक मूल्य मुद्रास्फीति बढ़कर 4 महीने के उच्च स्तर _____ पर पहुंच गई।

- (a) 2.26%
- (b) 2.36%
- (c) 2.46%
- (d) 2.66%
- (e) 2.86%

Ans. b

Sol. WPI inflation rises to 4-month high of 2.36% in Oct, food prices surge

Wholesale price inflation rose to a 4-month high of 2.36 percent in October as prices of food items, especially vegetables, and manufactured goods turned dearer, as per the government data released.

The wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation was 1.84 percent in September 2024. It was (-) 0.26 percent in October, last year.

As per the data, inflation in food items shot up to 13.54 percent in October, as against 11.53 percent in September. This was led by 63.04 percent inflation in vegetables, as against 48.73 percent in September.

The month of October witnessed the second consecutive month of rise in WPI inflation print. WPI higher than October's level was recorded last in June 2024, when it was 3.43 percent.

The fuel and power category witnessed a deflation of 5.79 percent in October, against a deflation of 4.05 percent in September.

The consumer price index data released earlier this week showed retail inflation surged to a 14-month high of 6.21 per cent with a sharp rise in prices of food items.

Recent WPI-based Wholesale inflation in India

- June 2024 – 3.36%
- July 2024 – 2.04%
- August 2024 – 1.31%
- September 2024 – 1.84%
- October 2024 – 2.36%

145. World Diabetes Day (WDD) is observed every year on which day?

विश्व मधुमेह दिवस (WDD) हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 10 November
- (b) 11 November
- (c) 12 November
- (d) 14 November
- (e) 15 November

Ans. d

Sol. 14 November - World Diabetes Day

World Diabetes Day (WDD) is observed every year on 14 November.

Objective - To increase the awareness of diabetes, a chronic condition that affects millions of people around the world.

Theme 2024 - Breaking Barriers, Bridging Gaps

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) organise the event, which focuses on diabetes prevention, health risks, and managing and living well with the disease.

The IDF and WHO established World Diabetes Day in 1991 in response to growing global concerns about diabetes as a major health concern. By adopting Resolution 61/225 in 2006, the UN formally recognized WDD and identified diabetes as a global health concern.

What is Diabetes?

- Diabetes mellitus, also known as diabetes, is a metabolic disease marked by consistently elevated blood sugar levels.
- Diabetes is a chronic illness in which the body either produces insufficient amounts of insulin or is unable to use the insulin that it does produce efficiently.

146. Galaxy Health Insurance has launched "Galaxy Promise", a robust health insurance solution aimed at providing affordable and extensive coverage for Indian families. Available with sum insured options ranging from Rs 3 Lakhs to Rs 1 Crore, the product offers different plan levels, including the which among the following plan?

गैलेक्सी हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस ने भारतीय परिवारों को किफायती और व्यापक कवरेज प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से एक मजबूत स्वास्थ्य बीमा समाधान "गैलेक्सी प्रॉमिस" लॉन्च किया है। 3 लाख रुपये से लेकर 1 करोड़ रुपये तक की बीमा राशि के विकल्पों के साथ उपलब्ध, यह उत्पाद विभिन्न योजना स्तर प्रदान करता है, जिसमें निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी योजना शामिल है?

- (i) Signature plan
- (ii) Eco Plan
- (iii) Future Plan
- (iv) Elite plan
- (v) Premier plan

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

Ans. d

Sol. Galaxy Health Insurance launches its first product with comprehensive coverage options

Galaxy Health Insurance has launched its first product, Galaxy Promise, offering a range of health insurance plans designed to meet the needs of families seeking affordable and comprehensive coverage.

The plans, which provide sum insured options ranging from ₹3 lakh to ₹1 crore, come with four tailored options: Signature plan, Elite plan, Premier plan, and Enhanced Optional covers.

Designed with a customer-centric approach, Galaxy Promise addresses India's escalating healthcare costs, which are influenced by factors such as inflation, advances in treatment, and the growing demand for specialized care.

The company, jointly promoted by the esteemed TVS family—represented by Shri. Venu Srinivasan, Chairman Emeritus of TVS Motor Company and Sundaram–Clayton Limited—and Shri. V. Jagannathan, the founder of Star Health & Allied Insurance Co. Ltd., received its IRDAI license earlier this year, marking its official entry into the insurance market.

147. The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention will be organised from January 8 to January 10 2025 in _____ collaboration with the Odisha government, it provides an important platform to engage and connect with the Indian diaspora.

18वां प्रवासी भारतीय दिवस सम्मेलन 8 जनवरी से 10 जनवरी 2025 तक ओडिशा सरकार के सहयोग से _____ में आयोजित किया जाएगा, यह भारतीय प्रवासियों के साथ जुड़ने और संपर्क करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण मंच प्रदान करता है।

- (a) Cuttack
- (b) Bhubaneswar
- (c) Sambalpur
- (d) Dhenkanal
- (e) Rourkela

Ans. b

Sol. 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention to be organised in Bhubaneswar

The 18th PBD Convention will be organised from January 8 to January 10 next year in Bhubaneswar in collaboration with the Odisha government, and it will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Theme of PBD Convention for 2025 is "Diaspora's contribution to a Viksit Bharat"

The official website of the 18th PBD Convention was jointly launched by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi.

Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh also joined the launch ceremony. The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention is a flagship event of the government of India. It provides an important platform to engage and connect with the Indian diaspora.

The 18th PBD Convention will be inaugurated by Modi. A youth edition of the convention will be held in partnership with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. President Droupadi Murmu will confer the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards and preside over the valedictory session.

148. Labour & Employment Ministry signed an MoU with TeamLease EdTech in New Delhi, marking a significant milestone in promoting employment opportunities across multiple sectors. Under the MoU, more than 15,000 open jobs available with TeamLease EdTech on daily basis, will be shared with NCS portal through integration. In which year the National Career Service was launched?

श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय ने नई दिल्ली में टीमलीज एडटेक के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसरों को बढ़ावा देने में एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर साबित हुआ। समझौता ज्ञापन के तहत, टीमलीज एडटेक के पास प्रतिदिन उपलब्ध 15,000 से अधिक खुली नौकरियों को एकीकरण के माध्यम से एनसीएस पोर्टल के साथ साझा किया जाएगा। राष्ट्रीय कैरियर सेवा किस वर्ष शुरू की गई थी?

- (a) 2014
- (b) 2015
- (c) 2016
- (d) 2017
- (e) 2018

Ans. b

Sol. Ministry of Labour and Employment and TeamLease EdTech sign MoU to enhance employment opportunities for National Career Service

The Ministry of Labour & Employment signed an MoU with TeamLease EdTech in New Delhi, marking a significant milestone in promoting employment opportunities across multiple sectors.

This collaboration underscores a shared commitment to leveraging the National Career Service (NCS) portal to expand job opportunities for jobseekers of NCS.

The partnership with TeamLease EdTech will marks a major step in broadening employment prospects for jobseekers registered on NCS, empowering them to find roles that align with their career goals and fostering growth.

Under the MoU, more than 15,000 open jobs available with TeamLease EdTech on daily basis, will be shared with NCS portal through integration. The collaboration will also introduce work-linked degree programs, combining academic learning with practical experience to boost youth employability and align education with industry needs.

The National Career Service (NCS) portal, operational since July 2015, has been a transformative platform in the employment landscape. Managed by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, it provides a wide range of services, including job search, career counselling, vocational guidance, and skill development resources.

149. _____, a pilot project under National Geospatial Policy 2022 has been launched in November 2024 to demonstrate the potential applications of geospatial technologies and innovations in improving the quality of life of citizens and ease of doing business, at Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FIIT).

राष्ट्रीय भू-स्थानिक नीति 2022 के तहत एक पायलट परियोजना नवंबर 2024 में फाउंडेशन फॉर इनोवेशन एंड टेक्नोलॉजी ट्रांसफर (एफआईआईटी) में नागरिकों के जीवन की गुणवत्ता में सुधार और व्यापार करने में आसानी के लिए भू-स्थानिक प्रौद्योगिकियों और नवाचारों के संभावित अनुप्रयोगों को प्रदर्शित करने के लिए शुरू की गई है।

- (a) Operation Dronacharya
- (b) Operation Dronadevta
- (c) Operation Dronagiri
- (d) Operation Danush
- (e) Operation Deepanjali

Ans. c

Sol. Operation Dronagiri launched along with GDI marking a milestone in the National Geospatial Policy

Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Professor Abhay Karandikar has launched the Operation Dronagiri, a pilot project under National Geospatial Policy 2022 to demonstrate the potential applications of geospatial technologies and innovations in

improving the quality of life of citizens and ease of doing business, at Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi.

The Operation Dronagiri is part of the numerous efforts of DST in liberalising geospatial data, developing geospatial infrastructure, geospatial skill and knowledge as well as standards in implementing the policy.

In the first phase, Operation Dronagiri will be implemented in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Assam, Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra, where pilot projects will be run and use cases will be demonstrated to showcase the potential applications of integration of geospatial data and technology in 3 sectors --Agriculture, Livelihoods, Logistics and Transport.

Operation Dronagiri gains a powerful backbone with support from Integrated Geospatial Data Sharing Interface (GDI), also unveiled today, that will make spatial data accessible, bringing transformation similar to the process in which UPI has brought about financial inclusion.

150. Alix Didier Fils-Aime was sworn in as Prime Minister of which Caribbean country?

एलिक्स डिडिएर फिल्स-ऐम ने किस केरेबियाई देश के प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में शपथ ली?

- (a) Antigua and Barbuda
- (b) Barbados
- (c) Grenada
- (d) Dominica
- (e) Haiti

Ans. e

Sol. Alix Didier Fils-Aime sworn in as Prime Minister of Haiti

Alix Didier Fils-Aime was sworn in as Prime Minister of Caribbean country Haiti. Haiti faces severe humanitarian and security challenges. Gang violence has surged, leading to important casualties. In the first quarter of 2024 alone, approximately 2,500 individuals were killed or injured due to this violence. The new Prime Minister has pledged to address these issues head-on.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- PM of Japan - Shigeru Ishiba
- President of USA - Donald Trump (47th)
- Deputy President of USA - JD Vance
- President of Botswana - Duma Boko
- President of Vietnam - Luong Cuong

151. Who has been nominated as the CEO of DBS Bank India?

डीबीएस बैंक इंडिया के सीईओ के रूप में किसे नामित किया गया है?

- (a) Debasish Mishra
- (b) Amitabh Chaudhry
- (c) Rajat Verma
- (d) Ashok Chandra
- (e) Rahul Bhave

Ans. c

Sol. DBS Bank nominates Rajat Verma to be next India unit CEO

DBS's India unit has nominated its head of institutional banking, Rajat Verma, to be the bank's new chief executive officer.

He is slated to replace Surojit Shome, who plans to retire after leading DBS Bank India since 2015.

Verma was appointed DBS managing director and head of institutional banking for India last year.

Before joining DBS, he spent more than 26 years at HSBC, where he was head of commercial banking in India, according to his LinkedIn profile.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Chief General Manager of SBI for New Delhi Circle** - Debasish Mishra
- **MD and CEO of IFCI Ltd.** - Rahul Bhave
- **MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB)** - Ashok Chandra
- **MD & CEO of Axis Bank** - Amitabh Chaudhry (reappointment for 3 years)

152. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of AIIMS

Darbhanga land inaugurates development projects worth Rs _____ in Bihar.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने दरभंगा एम्स की आधारशिला रखी और बिहार में _____ रुपये की लागत वाली विकास परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन किया।

- (a) 1200 crore
- (b) 12000 crore
- (c) 1300 crore
- (d) 14000 crore
- (e) 1200 crore

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi lays foundation stone of AIIMS Darbhanga

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of AIIMS Darbhanga and inaugurated development projects worth Rs 12,000 crore in Bihar.

AIIMS Darbhanga will include a super-specialty hospital, AYUSH block, medical and nursing colleges, residential facilities, and a night shelter, providing tertiary healthcare to the people of Bihar and surrounding regions.

The prime minister also inaugurated multiple National Highway projects worth Rs 5,070 crore. He launched the four-lane Galgalia-Araria section of NH-327E, which will provide an alternate route from Araria to West Bengal via Galgalia.

The PM laid the foundation for eight more National Highway projects, including a two-lane road from Ramnagar to Rosera, Bihar-West Bengal border to Manihari section of NH-131A, and the Hajipur to Bachhwara section.

In the railway sector, PM Modi laid the foundation for projects worth over Rs 1,740 crore, including the Sonenagar Bypass Railway Line and the Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Bazar rail section. The Darbhanga Bypass Railway Line will help alleviate traffic congestion at Darbhanga Junction.

PM Modi also launched initiatives in the petroleum and natural gas sector worth over Rs 4,020 crore. He laid the foundation for the City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in five

districts—Darbhanga, Madhubani, Supaul, Sitamarhi, and Sheohar, aimed at providing piped natural gas to households and clean energy to commercial and industrial sectors. Additionally, the Prime Minister will also lay the foundation for a Bitumen manufacturing facility at the Barauni Refinery, which is being developed by Indian Oil Corporation Limited, to produce bitumen domestically and lessen imports.

153. In November 2024, which country will confer its highest civilian award, the 'Award of Honour', to Narendra Modi?

नवंबर 2024 में कौन सा देश नरेंद्र मोदी को अपना सर्वोच्च नागरिक पुरस्कार 'अवार्ड ऑफ ऑनर' प्रदान करेगा?

- (a) Dominica
- (b) Japan
- (c) Israel
- (d) Oman
- (e) Iran

Ans. a

Sol. Dominica to Confer Highest National Honour to PM Modi

Dominica has announced to confer its highest national honour to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Dominica Award of Honour will be bestowed to the Prime Minister in recognition of his contributions to Dominica during the COVID-19 pandemic and his dedication to strengthening the partnership between India and Dominica.

President of Dominica Sylvanie Burton will confer the award during the upcoming India-CARICOM Summit, scheduled to take place in Georgetown, Guyana from 19th to 21st of this month.

India supplied Dominica with 70 thousand doses of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine during the Covid pandemic in February 2021. The award also recognizes India's support for Dominica in healthcare, education and information technology under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, as well as his role in promoting climate resilience-building initiatives and sustainable development on a global level.

The award is an expression of Dominica's gratitude for Prime Minister Modi's solidarity with Dominica and the wider region.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was recently conferred the 'Order of St. Andrew the Apostle, the highest Russian award, by the Russian President Vladimir Putin in July 2024

154. External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar has launched his book, Why Bharat Matters, at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in _____.

विदेश मंत्री डॉ. एस. जयशंकर ने _____ स्थित मोहम्मद बिन राशिद लाइब्रेरी में अपनी पुस्तक, 'क्वाई भारत मैटर्स' का विमोचन किया।

- (a) Doha
- (b) Dubai
- (c) Sharjah
- (d) Ajman
- (e) Al Ain

Ans. b

Sol. EAM S. Jaishankar launches his book 'Why Bharat Matters' in Dubai

External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar launched his book, Why Bharat Matters, at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in Dubai, UAE.

During the event, Dr. Jaishankar provided insight into the themes and key messages of his book, reflecting on the complex interplay of global and domestic factors shaping India's position in the world.

155. National Housing Bank (NHB) has raised Rs 3,830 crore through 10-year bonds in the domestic debt capital markets at a coupon rate of 7.14 percent.

Where is the headquarters of NHB?

नेशनल हाउसिंग बैंक (NHB) ने घरेलू ऋण पूँजी बाजारों में 7.14 प्रतिशत की कूपन दर पर 10-वर्षीय बॉन्ड के ज़रिए 3,830 करोड़ रुपये जुटाए हैं। NHB का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. NHB raises Rs 3,830 cr through 10-yr bonds at 7.14%; gets 'AAA' rating
State-owned National Housing Bank (NHB) has raised Rs 3,830 crore through 10-year bonds in the domestic debt capital markets at a coupon rate of 7.14 per cent.

The coupon rate is the rate of interest that the entity will pay to investors.

NHB, a development financial institution which was earlier the apex regulator body for housing finance companies, was looking to raise Rs 5,000 crore, with a base issue size of Rs 2,000 crore and a green shoe option of Rs 3,000 crore. But it did not raise the full amount as the rates were slightly higher than anticipated. The bonds have been rated 'AAA' by domestic credit agency CRISIL, ICRA, and CARE

NHB got bids for Rs 4,950 crore at a coupon of 7.16 per cent, and Rs 4,310 core at a coupon of 7.15 per cent.

About National Housing Bank (NHB)

- Founded - 9 July 1988
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- Jurisdiction - Ministry of Finance
- MD - Sanjay Shukla

156. Samantha Harvey has won the prestigious Booker Prize 2024 for her novel

सामंथा हार्वे ने अपने उपन्यास _____ के लिए प्रतिष्ठित बुकर पुरस्कार 2024 जीता है।

- (a) Orbital
- (b) The Shapeless Unease: A Year of Not Sleeping
- (c) Dear Thief
- (d) The Wilderness
- (e) The Western Wind

Ans. a

Sol. Samantha Harvey Wins 2024 Booker Prize

Samantha Harvey has won the prestigious Booker Prize for her novel "Orbital".

Harvey's book is a unique exploration of life aboard the International Space Station. It reflects on human connections and the beauty of Earth. The novel was inspired by the isolation experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Orbital" is described as a space pastoral. It features six astronauts orbiting Earth. The narrative unfolds over 16 sunrises and sunsets.

The confined setting amplifies the characters' interactions. Harvey's writing captures the fragile beauty of the planet. The book is concise, spanning only 136 pages. The Booker Prize carries a £50,000 award. It is open to English-language novels published in the UK or Ireland. Previous winners include notable authors like Ian McEwan and Margaret Atwood.

This year's prize was important for various reasons. It marked the first Booker win for a British author since 2020. Harvey is the first female winner since 2019. This year's shortlist included five women, the highest representation in the prize's history.

157. _____'s Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) under its award to reward initiative, launched a pilot program with urban company to support women MSMEs to scale up their businesses in the beauty and wellness sector.

_____ की महिला उद्यमिता मंच (WEP) ने अपने पुरस्कार-से-पुरस्कार पहल के तहत, सौदर्य और कल्याण क्षेत्र में अपने कारोबार को बढ़ाने के लिए महिला एमएसएमई को समर्थन देने के लिए शहरी कंपनी के साथ एक पायलट कार्यक्रम शुरू किया।

- (a) Ministry of Women and Child Development of India
- (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- (d) Both a and e
- (e) NITI Aayog

Ans. e

Sol. NITI Aayog's WEP partners with Urban Company to support women MSMEs. NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) under its award to reward initiative, launched a pilot program with urban company to support women MSMEs to scale up their businesses in the beauty and wellness sector.

The program focuses on supporting women entrepreneurs who own local salons and parlors.

Women entrepreneurs will be offered training across six key ecosystem needs of entrepreneurial growth. These are skilling, legal and compliance, access to finance, market, and business development services along with mentorship and networking. This collaboration with Urban Company is a significant step toward creating a robust ecosystem for women in the beauty and wellness sector. She said it will enable them to create more sustainable businesses.

158. In November 2024, Union Minister for Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal inaugurated the power flow from Nepal to _____ through a virtual event hosted by the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Government of Nepal, that marks the first trilateral power transaction carried out through the Indian grid.

नवंबर 2024 में, केंद्रीय ऊर्जा और आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्री, मनोहर लाल ने नेपाल सरकार के ऊर्जा, जल संसाधन और सिंचाई मंत्रालय द्वारा आयोजित एक आभासी कार्यक्रम के

माध्यम से नेपाल से _____ तक बिजली प्रवाह का उद्घाटन किया, जो भारतीय ग्रिड के माध्यम से किए गए पहले त्रिपक्षीय बिजली लेनदेन को चिह्नित करता है।

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

Ans. b

Sol. Historic inauguration of 1st trilateral power transaction from Nepal to Bangladesh via Indian Grid

The first trilateral power transaction – from Nepal to Bangladesh through the Indian Grid, was inaugurated. Power Minister Manohar Lal jointly inaugurated the power flow from Nepal to Bangladesh, along with the Adviser of Bangladesh Ministry of Power, Fouzul Kabir Khan, and Nepal's Minister of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Dipak Khadka, through a virtual event.

This historic occasion marks the first trilateral power transaction which has been carried out through the Indian grid.

The government announced its decision to facilitate the first trilateral power transaction from Nepal to Bangladesh, through the Indian grid with an export of up to 40 MW of power during the visit of the former Nepal Prime Minister, Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' to India last year.

Following this, a tripartite power sales agreement between NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam, Nepal Electricity Authority and Bangladesh Power Development Board was signed on 3rd October this year in Kathmandu. The start of this power flow from Nepal to Bangladesh through India is expected to boost sub-regional connectivity in the power sector.

159. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 1st Bodoland Mahotsav in New Delhi. The two-day Mahotsav is a mega event on language, literature, and culture to sustain peace and build a Vibrant Bodo Society. What is the theme of this Mahotsav?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने नई दिल्ली में पहले बोडोलैंड महोत्सव का उद्घाटन किया। दो दिवसीय महोत्सव भाषा, साहित्य और संस्कृति पर एक बड़ा आयोजन है, जिसका उद्देश्य शांति बनाए रखना और जीवंत बोडो समाज का निर्माण करना है। इस महोत्सव का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Vikshit Bharat
- (b) Vikassheel Bharat
- (c) Bhart@2047
- (d) Peace of Culture
- (e) Peace and Harmony for Prosperous Bharat

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated 1st Bodoland Mahotsav

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 1st Bodoland Mahotsav in New Delhi. The two-day Mahotsav is a mega event on language, literature, and culture to sustain peace and build a Vibrant Bodo Society.

The Mahotsav aims to integrate the indigenous Bodo people residing not only in Bodoland but also in other parts of Assam, West Bengal, Nepal, and other international border areas of the North East.

The theme for the Mahotsav is 'Peace and Harmony for Prosperous Bharat' with a focus on the rich culture, language and education of the Bodo community along with other communities from the Bodoland Territorial Region. It aims to capitalise on the richness of cultural and linguistic heritage, ecological biodiversity and touristic potential of Bodoland.

The Mahotsav is also about celebrating the remarkable journey of recovery and resilience ever since the signing of the Bodo Peace Accord in 2020 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This peace agreement resolved decades of conflict and violence in Bodoland and also catalyzed other peace settlements.

160. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has launched which of the following app that aims to empower athletes with critical information, helping them avoid inadvertent doping and maintain fair play and is part of NADA India's broader mission to raise anti-doping awareness and education, equipping athletes with essential information to stay clean?

डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा ऐप लॉन्च किया है जिसका उद्देश्य एथलीटों को महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी के साथ सशक्त बनाना, उन्हें अनजाने में डोपिंग से बचने और निष्पक्ष खेल बनाए रखने में मदद करना है और यह नाडा इंडिया के व्यापक मिशन का हिस्सा है, जो डोपिंग विरोधी जागरूकता और शिक्षा को बढ़ाता है, एथलीटों को स्वच्छ रहने के लिए आवश्यक जानकारी से लैस करता है?

- (a) Know Your Tablet
- (b) Know Your Patient
- (c) Know Your Doctor
- (d) Know Your Hospital
- (e) Know Your Medicine

Ans. e

Sol. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launches India's 'Know Your Medicine' App

Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, has launched a nationwide appeal to strengthen the fight against doping in sports, urging athletes, coaches, and the entire sporting community to embrace the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) India's 'Know Your Medicine (KYM)' app.

This innovative tool aims to empower athletes with critical information, helping them avoid inadvertent doping and maintain fair play.

The KYM app is part of NADA India's broader mission to raise anti-doping awareness and education, equipping athletes with essential information to stay clean.

The app allows users to easily verify whether a specific medicine or its ingredients contain any substances listed as prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). By offering this quick and seamless verification, the KYM app helps athletes to stay informed and uphold integrity of sport, fostering a culture of fair and ethical sportsmanship.

161. Moody's Ratings has raised India's economic growth forecast for FY2024 to what per cent?

मूडीज रेटिंग्स ने वित्त वर्ष 2024 के लिए भारत के आर्थिक विकास का अनुमान बढ़ाकर कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 7.1%
- (b) 7.2%
- (c) 7.3%
- (d) 7.4%
- (e) 7.5%

Ans. b

Sol. India's economy to grow to 7.2% in 2024: Moody's

Moody's Ratings forecast a 7.2 percent GDP growth for India in 2024, saying the Indian economy is in a sweet spot, but inflation risks may prompt the RBI to retain a relatively tight monetary policy this year.

Moody's said that despite the near-term uptick, retail inflation should moderate toward the Reserve Bank's target in the coming months as food prices ease amid higher sowing and adequate food grain buffer stocks.

The retail inflation scaled to a 14-month high of 6.21, breaching the RBI's upper tolerance limit, on a sharp jump in vegetable prices.

Updated GDP List

- Moody Ratings - 7.2% (CY24)
- S&P - 6.8% (FY25), 6.9% (FY26), 7% (FY27)
- IMF - 7% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- World Bank - 7% (FY25)
- ADB - 7% (FY24), 7.2% (FY25)
- Goldman Sachs - 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)
- SBI - 7%

162. Which organization has introduced a dedicated localized weather forecasting system for the Sabarimala pilgrimage, marking the first such initiative for the region, with rain gauges installed at Sannidhanam, Pamba, and Nilakkal to provide three-day forecasts and plans to issue real-time "nowcasts," following a request from the Pathanamthitta district administration?

किस संगठन ने सबरीमाला तीर्थयात्रा के लिए एक समर्पित स्थानीय मौसम पूर्वानुमान प्रणाली शुरू की है, जो इस क्षेत्र के लिए पहली ऐसी पहल है, जिसमें पथानामथिट्टा जिला प्रशासन के अनुरोध के बाद तीन दिवसीय पूर्वानुमान प्रदान करने के लिए सत्रिधानम, पंबा और निलक्कल में वर्षा गेज स्थापित किए गए हैं और वास्तविक समय "अभी पूर्वानुमान" जारी करने की योजना है?

- (a) National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting
- (b) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
- (c) National Disaster Management Authority
- (d) National Disaster Response Force
- (e) India Meteorological Department

Ans. e

Sol. IMD launches dedicated weather forecast for Sabarimala pilgrimage

In a first for the Sabarimala pilgrimage, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has introduced a localised weather forecasting system, similar to those for the Amarnath and Char Dham yatras.

Its regional centre has installed three rain gauges at Sannidhanam, Pamba, and Nilakkal to issue three-day weather forecasts. These forecasts will soon be upgraded to real-time weather bulletins, known as "nowcasts".

The initiative follows a request from the Pathanamthitta district administration, which sought real-time weather updates for Sabarimala due to the region's susceptibility to extreme rainfall.

163. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully completed the Flight Tests of Guided Pinaka Weapon System as part of Provisional Staff Qualitative Requirements (PSQR) Validation Trials. The flight tests have been conducted in _____ phases at different field firing ranges.

रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने प्रोविजनल स्टाफ कालिटेटिव रिक्षायरमेंट्स (PSQR) वैलिडेशन ट्रायल के हिस्से के रूप में गाइडेड पिनाका हथियार प्रणाली के उड़ान परीक्षण सफलतापूर्वक पूरे कर लिए हैं। उड़ान परीक्षण विभिन्न फील्ड फायरिंग रेंजों में _____ चरणों में आयोजित किए गए हैं।

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

Ans. b

Sol. DRDO successfully completes Flight Tests of Guided Pinaka Weapon System
Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully completed the Flight Tests of Guided Pinaka Weapon System as part of Provisional Staff Qualitative Requirements (PSQR) Validation Trials.

The flight tests have been conducted in three phases at different field firing ranges.

During these tests, the PSQR parameters viz., ranging, accuracy, consistency and rate of fire for multiple target engagement in a salvo mode have been assessed by extensive testing of rockets.

Twelve (12) rockets from each production agency from two in-service Pinaka launchers upgraded by the launcher production agencies have been tested.

164. Against which team Haryana's Anshul Kamboj took 10 wickets in an inning in a Ranji Trophy match?

हरियाणा के अंशुल कंबोज ने रणजी ट्रॉफी मैच में किस टीम के खिलाफ एक पारी में 10 विकेट लिए?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Saurashtra
- (c) Bengal
- (d) Mumbai
- (e) Chennai

Ans. a

Sol. Haryana's Anshul Kamboj bags all 10 wickets in an inning
Haryana fast bowler Anshul Kamboj created history by taking all the 10 wickets of Kerala in a Ranji Trophy match.

He achieved this milestone when he dismissed Shoun Roger of Kerala to return with a match figure 10 for 49 in his 30.1 overs.

The Ranji Trophy Elite Group C match between Haryana and Kerala is being played at the Chaudhary Bansi Lal Stadium in Lahli, Haryana.

This is the third instance in the history of the premier Ranji Trophy tournament when a bowler has taken all 10 wickets in an inning.

Bengal's fast bowler Premangsu Chatterjee was the first player to take all ten wickets in an inning. In the 1956-57 Ranji season, he took all 10 wickets of Assam in an innings.

Pradeep Sunderam of Rajasthan was the second player who took all 10 wickets of Vidarbha in the 1985-86 Ranji Trophy season. Anshul Kamboj is the third player.

165. Which state government has launched the 'Come and Install Solar Power Projects' initiative?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 'आओ और सौर ऊर्जा परियोजनाएँ लगाएँ' पहल शुरू की है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Himachal Government launched Come and Install Solar Power Projects initiative
Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has launched the 'Come and Install Solar Power Projects' initiative to encourage investment in the state's solar and solar energy projects.

This is part of the state government initiative to turn Himachal Pradesh into a clean and green energy state by 31st March 2026.

Under the State government's Come and Install Solar Power Projects initiative, the private sector will be encouraged to invest in the solar power sector in the state.

According to the government, 300 MW of ground-mounted solar power projects have been awarded to the private sector, of which 62 MW are operational. The public sector is setting up 32 MW solar projects.

The state government has launched a scheme to encourage people to rent lands to the government. Under this scheme, the government will pay a rent of Rs 20,000 per month to the farmers if they donate three bighas of land for the construction of a solar power plant.

About Himachal Pradesh

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

166. What was the mascot of the 2024 FISU World University Championship Shooting?

2024 FISU विश्व विश्वविद्यालय चैम्पियनशिप शूटिंग का शुभंकर क्या था?

- (a) Trunk
- (b) Feeza
- (c) Sabhu
- (d) Reol
- (e) Java

Ans. a

Sol. India won 24 medals at FISU World University Championship Shooting 2024

The Indian shooters finished their campaign at the 2024 FISU World University Championship Shooting with a rich haul of 24 medals, including 9 gold, 9 silver, and 6 bronze.

The FISU World University Championship Shooting 2024 was held at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in Tughlakabad, New Delhi. It was organised by the International University Sports Federation, known by its French acronym FISU and hosted by India. The mascot of the game was Trunk, an elephant.

Players	Event	Medal
Bhavtegh Singh Gill	Men's Skeet	Gold
Aakash Bhardwaj/Amit Sharma/Samrat Rana/	Men's 10m air pistol team	Gold
Palak Gulia/Sainyam/ Arshdeep Kaur	Women's 10m air pistol team	Gold
Palak Gulia/Amit Sharma	10m air pistol Mixed Team	Gold
Smit Rameshbhai Moradiya / Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar / Umamahesh Maddineni	Men's 10m air rifle Team	Gold
Manini Kaushik / Disha Dhankhar / Sanjeeta Das	Women's 10m air rifle Team	Gold
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar / Sanjeeta Das	10m air rifle Mixed Team	Gold
Simranpreet Kaur Brar / Arshdeep Kaur / Palak Gulia	Women's 25m pistol Team	Gold
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar / Parikshit Singh Brar / Adriyan Karmakar	Men's 50m rifle 3 positions Team	Gold

Aakash Bhardwaj	Men's 10m air pistol	Silver
Palak Gulia	Women's 10m air pistol	Silver
Sainyam / Samrat Rana	10m air pistol Mixed Team	Silver
Smit Rameshbhai Moradiya	Men's 10m air rifle	Silver
Raajwardan Ashutosh Paatil / Sameer / Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu	Men's 25m rapid-fire pistol	Silver
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar	Men's 50m rifle 3 positions	Silver
Sift Kaur Samra / Vanshika Shahi / Manini Kaushik	Women's 50m rifle 3 positions team	Silver
Neeru	Women's trap	Silver
Kirti Gupta / Jungsher Singh	Mixed team trap	Silver
Arshdeep Kaur	Women's 10m air pistol	Bronze
Simranpreet Kaur Brar	Women's 25m pistol	Bronze
Kirti Gupta	Women's trap	Bronze
Bakhtyaruddin Malek / Aashima Ahlawat	Mixed team trap	Bronze
Yashasvi Rathore	Women's skeet	Bronze
Abhay Singh Sekhon	Men's skeet	Bronze

167. In November 2024, which Indian company, recognized for its expertise in defense electronics and associated with numerous naval projects, is collaborating with Japan for the co-development of Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN) masts to be installed on Indian Navy ships, under a Memorandum of Implementation signed at the Embassy of India in Tokyo?

नवंबर 2024 में, रक्षा इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स में अपनी विशेषज्ञता के लिए पहचानी जाने वाली और कई नौसैनिक परियोजनाओं से जुड़ी कौन सी भारतीय कंपनी, टोक्यो में भारतीय दूतावास में

हस्ताक्षरित एक कार्यान्वयन ज्ञापन के तहत, भारतीय नौसेना के जहाजों पर लगाए जाने वाले यूनिफाइड कॉम्प्लेक्स रेडियो एंटीना (यूनिकॉर्न) मस्तूलों के सह-विकास के लिए जापान के साथ सहयोग कर रही है?

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

Ans. e

Sol. India, Japan sign agreement for UNICORN masts for Indian naval warships A Memorandum of Implementation (MoI) was signed at the Embassy of India, Tokyo between Govt of India and Govt of Japan, for the co-development of UNICORN mast for fitment onboard Ships of the Indian Navy.

The Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN) is a mast with Integrated Communication systems that will help improve the stealth characteristics of Naval Platforms.

The Indian Navy is pursuing the induction of these advanced systems which will be co-developed by Bharat Electronics Limited in India with Japanese collaboration.

When implemented, this would be the first case of co-development / co-production of Defence Equipment between India and Japan.

168. Which company has collaborated with SoftBank Corp to launch the world's first AI-driven 5G telecom network, termed the Artificial Intelligence Radio Access Network (AI-RAN), integrating AI workloads with 5G capabilities to enable advancements like autonomous vehicles and remote-controlled robotics?

किस कंपनी ने दुनिया का पहला AI-संचालित 5G दूरसंचार नेटवर्क लॉन्च करने के लिए सॉफ्टबैंक कॉर्प के साथ सहयोग किया है, जिसे आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस रेडियो एक्सेस नेटवर्क (AI-RAN) कहा जाता है, जो स्वायत्त वाहनों और रिमोट-नियंत्रित रोबोटिक्स जैसी प्रगति को सक्षम करने के लिए 5G क्षमताओं के साथ AI कार्यभार को एकीकृत करता है?

- (a) TCS
- (b) Wipro
- (c) Infosys
- (d) Nvidia
- (e) IBM

Ans. d

Sol. Nvidia And SoftBank Unveil World's First AI-driven 5G Telecom Network Leading chipmaker Nvidia and SoftBank Corp, the telecommunications arm of SoftBank Group, have piloted the world's first artificial intelligence (AI) and 5G telecoms network. The network can run AI and 5G workloads concurrently, a process known as an artificial intelligence radio access network (AI-RAN). Applications for the network include autonomous vehicle remote support and robotics control.

The innovative framework allows the network to handle massive data processing and real-time decision-making, elevating the potential for AI-driven solutions across telecom and enterprise sectors.

CEO of Nvidia - Jensen Huan

169. Which of the following has launched a Compliance-Cum-Awareness Campaign for Assessment Year (AY) 2024-25 to assist taxpayers in accurately completing Schedule Foreign Assets (Schedule FA) and reporting income from foreign sources (Schedule FSI) in their income tax returns (ITR)?

निम्न में से किसने करदाताओं को उनके आयकर रिटर्न (आईटीआर) में अनुसूची विदेशी संपत्ति (अनुसूची एफए) को सही ढंग से पूरा करने और विदेशी स्रोतों (अनुसूची एफएसआई) से आय की रिपोर्टिंग करने में सहायता करने के लिए मूल्यांकन वर्ष (एवाई) 2024-25 के लिए अनुपालन-सह-जागरूकता अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- (d) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- (e) Reserve Bank of India

Ans. c

Sol. CBDT launches campaign to inform taxpayers on undeclared foreign assets
The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has launched a Compliance-Cum-Awareness Campaign for Assessment Year (AY) 2024-25 to assist taxpayers in accurately completing Schedule Foreign Assets (Schedule FA) and reporting income from foreign sources (Schedule FSI) in their income tax returns (ITR).

In a statement, CBDT said informational messages will be sent via SMS and email to resident taxpayers who have already submitted their ITRs for AY 2024-25. These messages are intended for individuals identified through information received under bilateral and multilateral agreements, suggesting that they may hold foreign accounts or assets, or have received income from foreign jurisdictions

These messages are intended for individuals identified through information received under bilateral and multilateral agreements, suggesting that they may hold foreign accounts or assets, or have received income from foreign jurisdictions.

The purpose is to remind and guide those who may not have fully completed Schedule Foreign Assets in their submitted ITR for AY 2024-25, especially in cases involving high-value foreign assets.

By using technology and leveraging data obtained through the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI), the department is working to create a more efficient, taxpayer-friendly system.

170. Reliance Industries has completed the merger of its media assets with the India business of global media house Walt Disney to form a new joint venture worth Rs _____.

रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज ने वैश्विक मीडिया हाउस वॉल्ट डिज्नी के भारतीय कारोबार के साथ अपनी मीडिया परिसंपत्तियों का विलय पूरा कर लिया है, जिससे _____ रुपये का नया संयुक्त उद्यम बनाया गया है।

- (a) 70,352 crore
- (b) 60,352 crore
- (c) 80,352 crore

(d) 70,152 crore

(e) 60,252 crore

Ans. a

Sol. Reliance, Disney complete merger; form Rs 70,352 crore joint venture

Reliance Industries has completed the merger of its media assets with the India business of global media house Walt Disney to form a new joint venture worth Rs 70,352 crore.

The JV, in which Reliance Industries has invested Rs 11,500 crore (USD 1.4 billion) for its growth, will be headed by Nita Ambani as its Chairperson.

Reliance Industries holds a 16.34 percent stake in the JV, while its step-down unit Viacom18 holds 46.82 percent and Disney the rest 36.84 percent.

The JV will be one of the largest media & entertainment companies in India with pro forma combined revenue of approximately Rs 26,000 crore (USD 3.1 billion) for the fiscal year ended in March 2024.

Viacom 18 Media and The Walt Disney Company has already received necessary approvals required from authorities such as CCI, NCLT for the merger of the media and JioCinema businesses of media and JioCinema businesses of Viacom18 into Star India.

171. In November 2024, which Indian airport was internationally recognized for its groundbreaking digital innovations at the Saudi Airport Exhibition 2024 during the Airport Excellence Awards, winning accolades for advancements like the 'Digital Twin' in the Innovation and Technology and Facility Management categories?

नवंबर 2024 में, सऊदी एयरपोर्ट प्रदर्शनी 2024 में एयरपोर्ट एक्सीलेंस अवार्ड्स के दौरान अपने अभूतपूर्व डिजिटल नवाचारों के लिए किस भारतीय हवाई अड्डे को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर मान्यता मिली, जिसने इनोवेशन और टेक्नोलॉजी तथा सुविधा प्रबंधन श्रेणियों में 'डिजिटल ट्रिन' जैसी प्रगति के लिए प्रशंसा प्राप्त की?

- (a) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi
- (b) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
- (c) Cochin International Airport, Kochi
- (d) GMR Hyderabad International Airport, Hyderabad
- (e) Mangaluru International Airport, Mangaluru

Ans. d

Sol. Hyderabad Airport wins global recognition for digital innovations

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) has received international acclaim for its advancements in digital innovation, securing accolades at the 'Airport Excellence Awards' held during the Saudi Airport Exhibition 2024.

The awards ceremony took place on November 12 at the Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center (RICEC), and celebrated leading global innovations in the aviation industry.

GHIAL's 'Digital Twin' secured an award in the Innovation and Technology and Facility Management categories. Another of GHIAL's innovations, the 'Smart Shopping Trolley,' was recognised as the runner-up in the Airport Revenue Management category.

The Digital Twin at RGIA creates a virtual replica of the physical airport. Through real-time data integration from CCTV, sensors, and IoT devices, this advanced model offers a

holistic, data-driven view of airport operations, from terminal functionality to passenger flow and resource management.

172. International Day for Tolerance is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहिष्णुता दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 15 November
- (b) 16 November
- (c) 17 November
- (d) 18 November
- (e) 19 November

Ans. b

Sol. 16 November - International Day for Tolerance

International Day for Tolerance is observed every year on 16 November.

Objective - To promote mutual understanding among various cultures and enhance tolerance among individuals.

Theme 2024 - Promoting Respect and Understanding Worldwide

This day was declared in 1995 to encourage global dialogue and cooperation to counter intolerance, discrimination, and violence. This declaration emphasised that tolerance is not just a moral duty but a legal and political requirement for peace and social harmony.

173. National Press Day is observed on November 16 in India, which honours the establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI) in 1966. What is the theme of National Press Day 2024?

भारत में राष्ट्रीय प्रेस दिवस 16 नवंबर को मनाया जाता है, जो 1966 में भारतीय प्रेस परिषद (पीसीआई) की स्थापना का सम्मान करता है। राष्ट्रीय प्रेस दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Representation of LGBTQ+ Community
- (b) Changing nature of the press
- (c) The Media's Role in Nation Building
- (d) The Changing Nature of Press
- (e) Who is Not Afraid of Media?

Ans. b

Sol. 16 November - National Press Day

National Press Day is observed on November 16 in India, which honours the establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI) in 1966.

It marks the critical role of the press in a democratic society. The press is often regarded as the "fourth pillar of democracy" which plays a vital role in holding the government accountable.

Theme 2024 - Changing nature of the press

The PCI was established under the Press Council Act, whose main aim is to safeguard the freedom of the press.

174. Which former Indian sportsperson has been appointed as the sports ambassador of the Dubai Sports Council?

किस पूर्व भारतीय खिलाड़ी को दुबई स्पोर्ट्स काउंसिल का खेल राजदूत नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Harbhajan Singh and Mithali Raj
- (b) Mithali Raj and Sania Mirza
- (c) Harleen Deol and Sania Mirza

(d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Sania Mirza

(e) Harbhajan Singh and Sania Mirza

Ans. e

Sol. Harbhajan & Sania Mirza appointed Dubai Sports Council brand ambassador

The Dubai Sports Council has appointed former cricket player Harbhajan Singh and women's Tennis player Sania Mirza as the Sports Ambassador.

They join Russian Khabib Nurmagomedov and French football player Patrice Evra as the four sporting icons appointed by the Dubai Sports Council.

As sports ambassadors, these four former players will play a vital role in enhancing Dubai's status as a premier global sports destination. They will help strengthen Dubai's sports ecosystem by attracting prestigious international events, nurturing local talent, and promoting sports tourism.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Shreyanka Patil - BOBCARD Limited
- 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

175. Prajesh Gunneswaran, who recently announced his retirement, is related to which sport?

प्रजेश गुणेश्वरन, जिन्होंने हाल ही में अपनी सेवानिवृत्ति की घोषणा की, किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Badminton
- (c) Squash
- (d) Hockey
- (e) Chess

Ans. a

Sol. Prajesh Gunneswaran announces retirement from professional tennis

Asian Games bronze medal winner Prajesh Gunneswaran announced his retirement from professional tennis.

The 35-year-old Indian won singles bronze in the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games. His highest doubles ranking was 248 which he attained in 2018.

Gunneswaran also competed in all four Grand Slams, bowing out in the opening round in all instances.

The Australian Open was the only Slam in which he competed on multiple occasions — 2019 and 2020. He won only a title in the doubles — Egypt F25, Sharm El Sheikh (ITF Futures Tour) -- 2018 with his Egyptian partner Issam Haitham Taweeel.

176. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the International Jury for the 2024 International Film Festival of India (IFFI)?

2024 के भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म महोत्सव (IFFI) के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जूरी का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Parul Tyagi
- (b) Avinash Gowariker

- (c) Gayatri Joshi
- (d) Ashutosh Gowariker
- (e) Harman Baweja

Ans. d

Sol. Filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker appointed as chairperson of International Jury for IFFI 2024

Filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker has been appointed as the chairperson of the International Jury for the 2024 International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

Gowariker, known for films such as 'Jodhaa Akbar', 'Lagaan', and 'Swades', said he is honoured to be associated with the prestigious film festival, which will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28.

177. Valdecy Urquiza has been elected as the new secretary general of Interpol at the global police organisation's 92nd General Assembly in Glasgow. He is from which country?

ग्लासगो में वैश्विक पुलिस संगठन की 92वीं आम सभा में वाल्डेसी उर्कोज़ा को इंटरपोल का नया महासचिव चुना गया है। वह किस देश से हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Valdecy Urquiza appointed new Chief of INTERPOL

Brazil's Federal Police Commissioner Valdecy Urquiza has been elected as the new secretary general of Interpol at the global police organisation's 92nd General Assembly in Glasgow.

Urquiza will take over from the incumbent, Jurgen Stock, when the General Assembly concludes. Stock has been at the helm of the world's largest police organisation for the past 10 years.

From India, the annual event was attended by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) director, Praveen Sood, and Vijayendra Bidari, joint director of the federal anti-corruption agency.

About International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

- Founded- 7 September 1923, Vienna, Austria
- Headquarters- Lyon, France
- Member Countries - 195
- President- Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi
- Secereatory General - Valdecy Urquiza (Brazil)

178. Victoria Kjaer Theilvig has been crowned Miss Universe for 2024, marking her country's first win at the international beauty pageant. She is from which country?

विक्टोरिया केजर थेल्विंग को 2024 के लिए मिस यूनिवर्स का ताज पहनाया गया है, जो अंतरराष्ट्रीय सौंदर्य प्रतियोगिता में उनके देश की पहली जीत है। वह किस देश से हैं?

- (a) Spain
- (b) Norway
- (c) South Korea
- (d) Sweden
- (e) Denmark

Ans. e

Sol. Denmark's Victoria Kjaer Theilvig named 73rd Miss Universe

Victoria Kjaer Theilvig of Denmark has been crowned Miss Universe for 2024, marking her country's first win at the international beauty pageant.

The 73rd edition of the pageant, which saw participation by more than 120 contestants, was held at the Mexico City Arena.

Miss Nigeria Chidimma Adetshina placed second, whereas Miss Mexico Maria Fernanda Beltran came in third.

Theilvig, an animal protection advocate who works in the diamond selling business, was crowned by Miss Universe 2023 Sheynnis Palacios from Nicaragua.

Rhea Singha, who represented India at the 73rd edition of the competition, was called into the list of top 30 contestants.

Miss Universe 2024 was hosted by Mario Lopez, Miss Universe 2012 Olivia Culpo, presenter Zuri Hall, and Miss Universe 2018 Catriona Gray.

The gala, hosted for the third time in Mexico, also had first-time representatives in countries such as Belarus, Eritrea, Guinea, Macau, Maldives, Moldova and Uzbekistan.

179. Nigeria has conferred its second-highest national award – the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger – on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, making him the _____ foreign dignitary to receive the distinction.

ਨਾਇਜੀਰਿਆ ਨੇ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨਮੰਤ੍ਰੀ ਨਰੇਂਦ੍ਰ ਮੋਦੀ ਕੋ ਅਪਨਾ ਦੂਜਾ ਸਰ्वੋਚ੍ਚ ਰਾ਷ਟ੍ਰੀਯ ਪੁਰਸ਼ਕਾਰ - ਗ੍ਰੈਂਡ ਕਮਾਂਡਰ ਅੱਫ ਦ ਅੱਫਰ ਅੱਫ ਦ ਨਾਇਜਰ - ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਿਯਾ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸਦੇ ਵਾਲੇ ਯਹ ਸਮਾਨ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨੇ ਵਾਲੇ ਵਿਦੇਸ਼ੀ ਗਣਮਾਨ ਬਨ ਗਏ ਹਨ।

- (a) First
- (b) Second
- (c) Third
- (d) Fourth
- (e) Fifth

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi receives Nigeria's second-highest national award

Nigeria has conferred its second-highest national award – the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger – on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, making him the second foreign dignitary to receive the distinction.

This was the 17th such international award conferred on PM Modi by a country.

Queen Elizabeth is the only foreign dignitary who was awarded GCON in 1969.

PM Modi is in Nigeria on the first leg of his three-nation visit at the invitation of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu. This visit is the first by an Indian prime minister to Nigeria in 17 years.

180. US space agency NASA has partnered with which company to develop an easier-to-access and user-friendly Artificial Intelligence-based chatbot that can help people decode scientific data about Earth?

अमेरिकी अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी नासा ने किस कंपनी के साथ साझेदारी करके एक आसान-से-पहुंच और उपयोगकर्ता के अनुकूल आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस-आधारित चैटबॉट विकसित किया है जो लोगों को पृथ्वी के बारे में वैज्ञानिक डेटा को डिकोड करने में मदद कर सकता है?

- (a) Microsoft
- (b) Google
- (c) IBM
- (d) Infosys
- (e) Meta

Ans. a

Sol. NASA-Microsoft's New Earth Copilot To Enhance Understanding on Our Planet
US space agency NASA has partnered with Microsoft to develop an easier-to-access and user-friendly Artificial Intelligence-based chatbot that can help people decode scientific data about Earth.

The new Earth Copilot can answer people "through plain language queries" ranging from monitoring wildfires to tracking climate change -- transforming how people interact with Earth's data.

The AI model leverages Microsoft's Azure cloud platform and comes with advanced AI capabilities that will transform how people can search, discover and analyse NASA's complex geospatial data, which so far has been accessible only to a limited number of researchers and scientists.

181. International Students' Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय छात्र दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 November
- (b) 17 November
- (c) 18 November
- (d) 19 November
- (e) 20 November

Ans. b

Sol. 17 November - International Students' Day

International Students' Day is observed every year on November 17.

Theme 2024 - Keep striving, keep learning, and keep believing in the power of education.

The day is commemorated in memory of the bravery of thousands of student activists in Prague, during the Nazi attack, who fought for the right to higher education.

The Nazi forces occupied the Czech Republic on November 17, 1939 and executed nine protesters without trial. They also detained more than 1,200 students and sent them to concentration camps. Only a few survived in the camp.

To mark this loss of 1,200 University of Prague students' lives, the first observance was held at London's International Students' Council in 1941. It was this moment that university students decided to introduce the day as International Students' Day.

182. National Epilepsy Day is observed on November 17 to spread awareness about the neurological disorder that affects millions worldwide. What is the theme of National Epilepsy Day 2024?

राष्ट्रीय मिर्गी दिवस 17 नवंबर को मनाया जाता है ताकि दुनिया भर में लाखों लोगों को प्रभावित करने वाले न्यूरोलॉजिकल विकार के बारे में जागरूकता फैलाई जा सके। राष्ट्रीय मिर्गी दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Stigma
- (b) There is no NEAM without ME
- (c) Remove the Filter
- (d) Friendship and Inclusion.
- (e) Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey

Ans. e

Sol. 17 November - National Epilepsy Day

National Epilepsy Day is observed on November 17 to spread awareness about the neurological disorder that affects millions worldwide.

Theme 2024 - Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey

Epilepsy refers to a condition in which the affected person faces frequent seizures. This chronic non-communicable disease can affect people of all ages, and each age group has its unique concerns and problems.

183. Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced, the chowk outside the Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT) bus stand in Delhi's Sarai Kale Khan will be renamed after Bhagwan Birsa Munda. The decision was announced on the occasion of the _____ birth anniversary of the freedom fighter and tribal leader Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

आवास एवं शहरी मामलों के मंत्री मनोहर लाल खट्टर ने घोषणा की कि दिल्ली के सराय काले खां में अंतर-राज्यीय बस टर्मिनल (आईएसबीटी) बस स्टैंड के बाहर चौक का नाम बदलकर भगवान बिरसा मुंडा के नाम पर रखा जाएगा। इस निर्णय की घोषणा स्वतंत्रता सेनानी और आदिवासी नेता भगवान बिरसा मुंडा की _____ जयंती के अवसर पर की गई।

- (a) 175th
- (b) 150th
- (c) 125th
- (d) 100th
- (e) 75th

Ans. b

Sol. Sarai Kale Khan ISBT Chowk in Delhi renamed after Birsa Munda

Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced, the chowk outside the Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT) bus stand in Delhi's Sarai Kale Khan will be renamed after Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

The decision was announced on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of the freedom fighter and tribal leader Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

This decision was taken to honour the freedom fighter so that people visiting the area could know about him and get inspired by his life.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah along with Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Delhi LG VK Saxena, also unveiled a statue of Bhagwan Birsa Munda in the national capital city on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary.

184. Which of the following states hosted the 6th Helicopter and Small Aircraft Summit 2024?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने छठे हेलीकॉप्टर और लघु विमान शिखर सम्मेलन 2024 की मेजबानी की?

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Mizoram
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Manipur
- (e) Madhya Pradesh

Ans. a

Sol. Meghalaya hosts Helicopter and Small Aircraft Summit 2024

The 6th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit 2024 was inaugurated in Shillong, Meghalaya. The event, held at Courtyard by Marriott, was organized by Pawan Hans Ltd in collaboration with FICCI, with support from the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Meghalaya government.

The summit aims to enhance the use of helicopters and small aircraft across India, with a particular focus on addressing the challenges of connectivity in regions like the Northeast.

The summit brought together various industry participants, including operators, original equipment manufacturers, maintenance providers, regulators, and financing companies, alongside representatives from state governments.

About Meghalaya

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

185. How many coastal villages in Odisha were recognized by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO as 'Tsunami Ready'?

ओडिशा के कितने तटीय गांवों को यूनेस्को के अंतर-सरकारी समुद्र विज्ञान आयोग ने 'सुनामी के लिए तैयार' माना है?

- (a) 12
- (b) 16
- (c) 10
- (d) 26
- (e) 24

Ans. e

Sol. 24 coastal villages in Odisha recognised by UNESCO as 'Tsunami Ready'

24 coastal villages in Odisha were recognised by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO as 'Tsunami Ready'.

The recognition was given during the 2nd Global Tsunami Symposium held in Indonesia.

These villages are located in Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapada, Jagatsinghpur, Puri and Ganjam districts,

Besides, the Tsunami Ready Recognition Certificates were renewed for two villages in the state. These villages are Noliasahi in Jagatsinghpur district and Venkatraipur in Ganjam district. They were recognised as Tsunami Ready in 2020.

186. Karnataka Bank Ltd. has launched two financial products – 'KBL Peak', and 'KBL Genius'. What is the purpose of KBL Peak product?

कर्नाटक बैंक लिमिटेड ने दो वित्तीय उत्पाद लॉन्च किए हैं - 'केबीएल पीक' और 'केबीएल जीनियस'। केबीएल पीक उत्पाद का उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) to provide education loan
- (b) to provide health insurance
- (c) to provide solar loan
- (d) to provide home loan
- (e) to provide free cyber insurance

Ans. a

Sol. Karnataka Bank launches 2 financial products for students

Karnataka Bank Ltd. has launched two financial products – 'KBL Peak', an education loan with financing of up to ₹2 crore and comprehensive coverage, and 'KBL Genius', a student savings account featuring free cyber insurance.

With the 'KBL Peak' education loan and 'KBL Genius' savings account, Karnataka Bank aims to help students pursue their academic goals and aspirations with financial freedom, contributing to a brighter future for both individuals and the nation.

'KBL Peak' supports students pursuing higher education in India and abroad. With loan amounts up to ₹2 crore, it covers tuition fees and expenses related to accommodation, travel, books and laptops. 'KBL Peak' provides a pre-admission sanction letter, simplifying the admission process, and includes credit life insurance for both the student and the parent, ensuring comprehensive financial protection.

'KBL Genius' savings account is a student-focused product available in two variants – 'KBL Genius Signature' and 'KBL Genius Advantage'. With features like a minimum average balance requirement, seamless digital transactions and exclusive benefits on debit cards, 'KBL Genius' empowers students to manage their finances effectively.

187. Unifi Asset Management Pvt Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Unifi Capital, has received final approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch its mutual fund operations. In which year Unifi Capital was founded?

यूनिफी कैपिटल की पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी यूनिफी एसेट मैनेजमेंट प्राइवेट लिमिटेड को भारतीय प्रतिभूति एवं विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) से अपने म्यूचुअल फंड परिचालन शुरू करने के लिए अंतिम मंजूरी मिल गई है। यूनिफी कैपिटल की स्थापना किस वर्ष हुई थी?

- (a) 2000
- (b) 2001
- (c) 2004
- (d) 2010
- (e) 2014

Ans. b

Sol. Unifi Asset Management gets SEBI nod for mutual fund operations

Unifi Asset Management Pvt Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Unifi Capital, has received final approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch its mutual fund operations.

The Fund is designed to bring Unifi's core absolute value investing process to investors seeking specialist funds with a focus on niche and rewarding opportunities.

The company has built an experienced mutual fund team by blending internal expertise with strategic external hires.

Unifi Capital, founded in 2001, is a registered portfolio manager with assets under management (AUM) of approximately ₹27,000 crore (\$3.2 billion) across equity and debt platforms via its PMS and AIF offerings in India and abroad, as of October 31, 2024.

CEO of Unifi Mutual Fund - George Alexander

188. In November 2024, The United States announced the return of over 1,400 looted artefacts valued at _____ dollars to India.

नवंबर 2024 में, संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका ने भारत को _____ डॉलर मूल्य की 1,400 से अधिक लूटी गई कलाकृतियाँ लौटाने की घोषणा की।

- (a) 10 million
- (b) 20 million
- (c) 30 million
- (d) 40 million
- (e) 50 million

Ans. a

Sol. US announces return of over 1,400 looted artefacts to India

The United States announced the return of over 1,400 looted artefacts valued at 10 million dollars to India.

The items, part of an ongoing initiative to restore stolen art to South and Southeast Asia, include pieces recently displayed at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. Among the returned treasures is a sandstone sculpture of a celestial dancer, illicitly transported from central India to London before being sold to a Met patron and subsequently donated to the museum.

Manhattan District Attorney's Office revealed the recovery was the result of 'several ongoing investigations' targeting looting networks, including those run by convicted art traffickers Nancy Wiener and Subhash Kapoor.

Kapoor, a former antiquities dealer, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for managing a multimillion-dollar looting operation through his New York gallery. After his arrest in Germany in 2011, Kapoor was extradited to India, where he awaits further legal proceedings and extradition to the US.

Just two months earlier, the US had returned 297 artefacts to India, spanning 4,000 years from 2000 BCE to 1900 CE. These items originated from across India, with many terracotta pieces from Eastern India, alongside stone, metal, wood, and ivory artefacts.

The Ministry of External Affairs noted that since 2016, the US has repatriated 578 cultural items to India, the largest number returned by any single country. Notable instances include the return of 10 antiquities during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's US visit in 2016, 157 in 2021, and 105 in 2022.

189. Which aerospace company has been selected to launch India's GSAT-20 satellite—a 4,700 kg communication satellite equipped with a Ka-band high-throughput payload offering 70 Gbit/s capacity—using its rocket, marking a shift from Isro's traditional reliance on the LVM-3 launcher in November 2024?

किस एयरोस्पेस कंपनी को भारत के GSAT-20 उपग्रह को लॉन्च करने के लिए चुना गया है - एक 4,700 किलोग्राम का संचार उपग्रह जो 70 Gbit/s क्षमता वाले Ka-बैंड हाई-थ्रूपूट पेलोड से लैस है - अपने रॉकेट का उपयोग करके, जो नवंबर 2024 में LVM-3 लांचर पर इसरो की पारंपरिक निर्भरता से बदलाव को चिह्नित करता है?

- (a) Virgin Galactic
- (b) Blue Origin
- (c) SpaceX
- (d) Rocket Lab
- (e) Stoke Space

Ans. c

Sol. Elon Musk's SpaceX launches India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20 from Cape Canaveral, US

Elon Musk's SpaceX launched India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20 from Cape Canaveral in the US.

SpaceX's Falcon-9 has launched ISRO's GSAT-20, also called GSAT N-2. The satellite is expected to remain in operation for 14 years. It will provide vital services across India, including internet connectivity for remote areas.

Weighing 4,700 kg, GSAT-20 is one of India's heaviest communication satellites. The GSAT-20 is too heavy for India's own rocket LVM-3, popularly known as 'Bahubali' to carry, so SpaceX was chosen for the launch.

SpaceX's heavy-lifter Falcon-9 rocket can launch payloads of 8,300 kg or 8.3 tonnes to geostationary transfer orbit.

190. The Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) has unveiled the new trophy for the upcoming FIFA Club World Cup 2025, which is scheduled to be played in the US from July 15 to July 13, 2025. The cup has been created in collaboration with which company?

फेडरेशन इंटरनेशनल डी फुटबॉल एसोसिएशन (फीफा) ने आगामी फीफा क्लब विश्व कप 2025 के लिए नई ट्रॉफी का अनावरण किया है, जो 15 जुलाई से 13 जुलाई, 2025 तक अमेरिका में खेला जाना है। कप किस कंपनी के सहयोग से बनाया गया है?

- (a) Tanishq
- (b) Tiffany & Co
- (c) Malabar Gold and Diamonds
- (d) Lockheed Marti
- (e) Boeing

Ans. b

Sol. FIFA Unveils NASA-Inspired Trophy for Expanded 2025 Club World Cup

The Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) has unveiled the new trophy for the upcoming FIFA Club World Cup 2025, which is scheduled to be played in the US from July 15 to July 13, 2025.

The football's past and future are symbolized by the cup's design, which was inspired by NASA's Voyager Golden Records. The 24-carat gold cup also features many graphics that illustrate the periodic table, astronomy, and the football's magnificence.

The cup was created in collaboration with Tiffany & Co. and will be given to the champion after the final game at MetLife Stadium.

The trophy also symbolizes the world of club football, which is a celebration of greatness, hope, and pride. It captures the journey of every club, player, and supporter who is bound together by their love of the beautiful game.

191. In November 2024, DRDO successfully conducted the flight trial of India's first long-range _____ capable of carrying various payloads for ranges greater than 1,500 kilometres, from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast.

नवंबर 2024 में, डीआरडीओ ने ओडिशा तट से डॉ. एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम द्वीप से भारत की पहली लंबी दूरी की _____ का उड़ान परीक्षण सफलतापूर्वक किया, जो 1,500 किलोमीटर से अधिक दूरी तक विभिन्न पेलोड ले जाने में सक्षम है।

- (a) Air-to-air missile
- (b) Short-range ballistic missile
- (c) Cruise missile
- (d) Hypersonic missile
- (e) Anti-tank

Ans. d

Sol. DRDO carries out successful flight trial of India's first long-range hypersonic missile off the Odisha coast

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight trial of India's first long-range hypersonic missile from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.

This hypersonic missile is designed to carry various payloads for ranges greater than 1,500 kms for the Armed Forces.

The missile was tracked by various range systems, deployed in multiple domains. The flight data obtained from down-range ship stations confirmed the successful terminal maneuvers and impact with a high degree of accuracy.

This missile has been indigenously developed by the laboratories of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex, Hyderabad, along with various other DRDO laboratories and Industry Partners. The flight trial was carried out in the presence of senior scientists of DRDO and officers of the Armed Forces.

192. Which significant cybersecurity initiative, jointly organized by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), aims to strengthen India's cyber defense, incident response, and strategic decision-making capabilities?

राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिषद सचिवालय (NSCS) और राष्ट्रीय रक्षा विश्वविद्यालय (RRU) द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित किस महत्वपूर्ण साइबर सुरक्षा पहल का उद्देश्य भारत की साइबर सुरक्षा, घटना प्रतिक्रिया और रणनीतिक निर्णय लेने की क्षमताओं को मजबूत करना है?

- (a) National Cyber Resilience Program

- (b) Bharat Cyber Defense Initiative**
- (c) Cyber India Resilience Framework**
- (d) Bharat National Cyber Security Exercise**
- (e) India Strategic Cybersecurity Alliance**

Ans. d

Sol. Bharat NCX 2024 Officially Inaugurated: Strengthening Cyber Defense and Strategic Decision-Making Across India.

The Bharat National Cyber Security Exercise (Bharat NCX 2024), a landmark initiative to fortify India's cybersecurity resilience, was inaugurated at a high-profile ceremony organized by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) in collaboration with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU).

The 12-day exercise is a critical step in preparing India's cybersecurity professionals and leadership to tackle evolving threats with advanced cyber defence, incident response capabilities, and strategic decision-making.

The event runs from November 18 to November 29, 2024, culminating in a comprehensive debrief to consolidate lessons learned and establish best practices in cybersecurity.

193. Which country has launched the "Global Energy Efficiency Alliance" at COP29, held in Azerbaijan, aiming to double global energy efficiency rates by 2030 while supporting carbon emission reductions and sustainable resource management through knowledge-sharing and strategic public-private partnership?

किस देश ने अज़रबैजान में आयोजित COP29 में "वैश्विक ऊर्जा दक्षता गठबंधन" का शुभारंभ किया, जिसका लक्ष्य 2030 तक वैश्विक ऊर्जा दक्षता दरों को दोगुना करना है, जबकि ज्ञान-साझाकरण और रणनीतिक सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी के माध्यम से कार्बन उत्सर्जन में कमी और स्थायी संसाधन प्रबंधन का समर्थन करना है?

- (a) UAE**
- (b) Qatar**
- (c) USA**
- (d) India**
- (e) Japan**

Ans. a

Sol. UAE Launches Global Energy Efficiency Alliance at COP29

The UAE has unveiled an ambitious initiative to establish the 'Global Energy Efficiency Alliance' during COP29, hosted in Azerbaijan.

This move aims to double global energy efficiency rates by 2030 and contribute to significant emission reductions.

The initiative builds on the 'UAE Consensus' from COP28, a commitment that brought together countries, organizations, and corporations to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable resource management.

The UAE plans to lead the alliance by sharing its expertise in energy efficiency, fostering knowledge transfer, and building effective partnership models with the private sector.

The alliance is designed to support the reduction of carbon emissions and the

sustainable use of natural resources through knowledge sharing, capacity building, and standardization efforts.

194. World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is celebrated every year from November 18-24. What is the theme of World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week 2024?

विश्व रोगाणुरोधी जागरूकता सप्ताह (WAAW) हर साल 18-24 नवंबर तक मनाया जाता है।

विश्व रोगाणुरोधी प्रतिरोध जागरूकता सप्ताह 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Preventing antimicrobial resistance together
- (b) United to preserve antimicrobials
- (c) Preventing antimicrobial resistance together
- (d) Spread Awareness, Stop Resistance
- (e) Educate. Advocate. Act now

Ans. e

Sol. 18 - 24 November - World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is celebrated every year from November 18-24.

Objective - To increase awareness of global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and to encourage best practices.

Theme 2024 - Educate. Advocate. Act now

As per the WHO, an estimated 1.27 million global deaths in 2019 were directly the result of bacterial AMR, and it also contributed to 4.95 million deaths.

Wazed cited increased population, limited access to healthcare, and misuse of antimicrobials as major risk factors for raising the risks for AMR in developing nations.

195. World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence is observed every year on which day?

बाल यौन शोषण, दुर्ब्यवहार और हिंसा की रोकथाम और उपचार के लिए विश्व दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 November
- (b) 17 November
- (c) 18 November
- (d) 19 November
- (e) 20 November

Ans. c

Sol. 18 November - World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence

World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence is observed every year on November 18.

Objective - To promote global action to prevent abuse, provide healing, and uphold the rights and dignity of affected children.

Affirming the need to eliminate and prevent all forms of child sexual exploitation, abuse, and violence and to promote dignity and rights, including mental and physical health and healing, of those who experience child sexual exploitation, abuse and violence, on 7 November 2022, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/77/8, proclaiming 18

November of each year as the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence

196. In November 2024, which bank partnered with Jagriti Yatra 2024, a transformative 8,000-km, 15-day entrepreneurial journey across India's Tier 2 and Tier 3 regions?

नवंबर 2024 में, किस बैंक ने जागृति यात्रा 2024 के साथ भागीदारी की, जो भारत के टियर 2 और टियर 3 क्षेत्रों में 8,000 किलोमीटर, 15-दिवसीय उद्यमशीलता यात्रा है?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Union Bank of India
- (d) Canara Bank
- (e) Indian Bank

Ans. a

Sol. SBI Empowers Rural Youth Entrepreneurs Through Jagriti Yatra 2024 to Boost 'Viksit Bharat'

State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with Jagriti Yatra 2024, a transformative 8,000-km, 15-day entrepreneurial journey across India's Tier 2 and Tier 3 regions.

This initiative will support 500 young aspirants in exploring entrepreneurial opportunities, receiving expert mentorship, and engaging in practical learning experiences.

Through this collaboration, SBI aims to nurture future innovators, advancing India's vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) by 2047.

The bank has established 152 Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs), which have successfully trained over 11.5 lakh rural candidates, enabling 74% of them to become self-employed. Additionally, SBI leads the Self-Help Group (SHG) loans market, with a portfolio exceeding Rs. 50,000 crores, benefiting over 1 crore women members.

In FY24 alone, the bank disbursed ₹49,000 crore in Mudra loans and approximately ₹1,550 crore under the PM SVANidhi scheme, further reinforcing its role in fostering grassroots entrepreneurship.

197. Which bank and Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited (BFIL) have signed an MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), GoI, to launch the Bharat Sanjeevani Krishi Utthan initiative?

किस बैंक और भारत फाइनेंशियल इन्क्लूजन लिमिटेड (बीएफआईएल) ने भारत संजीवनी कृषि उत्थान पहल शुरू करने के लिए कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय (एमओए एंड एफडब्ल्यू), भारत सरकार के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) IndusInd Bank
- (e) Indian Bank

Ans. d

Sol. IndusInd Bank and BFIL partnered with Ministry of Agriculture to Empower Farmer Producer Organizations

IndusInd Bank Limited (IBL) and Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited (BFIL), a wholly owned subsidiary of IBL, have signed an MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India, to launch the Bharat Sanjeevani Krishi Utthan initiative.

The initiative aligns with the government's flagship program, "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)," and aims to provide a robust framework for empowering FPOs across India.

These organizations play a pivotal role in enhancing farmers' bargaining power, reducing production costs, and improving incomes through collective efforts.

This unit will oversee the implementation of FPO projects at the national level and in 11 target states, including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. It also includes capacity-building, IT infrastructure development, and data management to optimize FPO operations.

BFIL and IBL have previously demonstrated expertise in agri-allied sectors through the Bharat Sanjeevani initiative, provides veterinary services to rural communities.

198. Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary have been declared as tiger reserves. It is located in which state?

गुरु घासिदास राष्ट्रीय उद्यान और तमोर पिंगला वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य को बाघ अभ्यारण्य घोषित किया गया है। यह किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Jharkhand
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Chhattisgarh
- (e) Madhya Pradesh

Ans. d

Sol. 56th Tiger Reserve of the country notified in Chhattisgarh

The Chhattisgarh government has officially declared Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a tiger reserve, increasing the total number of tiger reserves in the state to four.

The state's public relations department shared the notification dated November 4 issued by the Forest and Climate Change Department defining the area of the tiger reserve. The reserve will be named 'Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve.'

The tiger reserve, encompassing a total area of 2829.38 skms, includes a core/critical tiger habitat of 2049.2 s km, comprising the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary, and has a buffer of 780.15 s km.

A total of 753 species, including 365 invertebrates and 388 vertebrates, have been documented from Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve by the Zoological Survey of India. The vertebrate fauna includes 230 species of birds and 55 species of mammals comprising several threatened species from both the groups.

About Chhattisgarh

- **Capital** – Raipur
- **Chief Minister** – Vishnu Deo Sai (replace Bhupesh Baghel)
- **Deputy CM** - Arun Sao & Vijay Sharma

199. Who has won the singles title of the 2024 ATP Finals?

2024 एटीपी फाइनल का एकल खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Taylor Fritz
- (b) Coco Gauff
- (c) Zheng Qinwen
- (d) Jannik Sinner
- (e) both c and d

Ans. d

Sol. Italian Jannik Sinner wins his first ATP Finals Singles Title

World No.1 men's tennis player Jannik Sinner of Italy won his first ATP Finals title in Turin, Italy, by defeating American Taylor Fritz in straight sets in the final.

Earlier, American Coco Gauff won the season-ending 2024 WTA Finals by defeating Zheng Qinwen of China.

The German pair of Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz won the season-ending ATP Finals doubles title.

The season's ending ATP Finals which is the last tournament of the year in the men's professional tennis was held in the Italian city of Turin.

200. Who has been appointed as the next Comptroller and Auditor General of India?

भारत के अगले नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ashutosh Gowariker
- (b) Arvinder Singh Sahney
- (c) Sanjiv Khanna
- (d) K. Sanjay Murthy
- (e) Parul Tyagi

Ans. d

Sol. K. Sanjay Murthy to be next Comptroller and Auditor General of India

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed 1989 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer K. Sanjay Murthy as the new Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

The appointment came two days ahead of the completion of the incumbent Girish Chandra Murmu's tenure. Mr Murmu was appointed CAG in August 2020.

Murthy is currently posted as Secretary, the Department of Higher Education, and his tenure is to end on December 31, 2024.

By virtue of the power vested in her by clause (1) of article 148 of the Constitution of India, the President has been pleased to appoint K Sanjay Murthy to be the Comptroller and Auditor General of India with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office. Girish Chandra Murmu assumed office as the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on August 8, 2020. He will complete his term on November 20, 2024.

Recent Appointment

- **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** - K. Sanjay Murthy (replace Girish Chandra Murmu)
- **Chairperson of International Jury for IFFI 2024** - Ashutosh Gowariker

- **Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation** - Arvinder Singh Sahney (replace V.Satish Kumar)
- **Coach of Neeraj Chopra** - Jan Zelezny (Czech republic)
- **51st Chief Justice of India** - Justice Sanjiv Khanna (replace Justice DY Chandrachud).
- **President of World Sailing** - Li Quanhui (China)

201. The Global Freight Summit 2024 commenced in Dubai, marking its third edition since its inception in 2022. What is the theme of the 3rd Global Freight Summit?

ग्लोबल फ्रेट समिट 2024 दुबई में शुरू हुआ, जो 2022 में इसकी शुरुआत के बाद से इसका तीसरा संस्करण है। तीसरे ग्लोबल फ्रेट समिट का विषय क्या है?

- (a) MAKING THE FUTURE SUPPLY CHAIN A REALITY
- (b) Acting today to reach the opportunities of tomorrow
- (c) Moving Pharma – at the right time and at the right temperature
- (d) Acting today to reach the opportunities of future
- (e) None of above

Ans. b

Sol. Dubai Hosts 3rd Global Freight Summit

The Global Freight Summit 2024 commenced in Dubai, marking its third edition since its inception in 2022.

The three-day event, hosted by DP World, has attracted more than 5,000 industry leaders from 155 countries, representing diverse sectors of the global supply chain industry.

Theme 2024 - Acting today to reach the opportunities of tomorrow

The agenda emphasizes four critical pillars: the integration of AI and blockchain in business operations, strategies for navigating volatile global markets, sustainable shipping practices, and building resilient trade routes amidst geopolitical challenges and natural disasters.

The event has drawn significant participation from Indian corporations, with technology giants Wipro, Tech Mahindra, and SRM Tech to name a few, along with dozens of other corporations and entrepreneurs.

202. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has slapped a penalty of how much rupees on Meta, the US-based firm that owns WhatsApp, for alleged abuse of its dominant position in the implementation of the messaging app's 2021 privacy policy?

भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (सीसीआई) ने मैसेजिंग एप की 2021 गोपनीयता नीति के कार्यान्वयन में अपने प्रमुख स्थान के कथित दुरुपयोग के लिए क्वाट्सएप के स्वामित्व वाली यूएस-आधारित फर्म मेटा पर कितने रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) 13 crore
- (b) 113 crore
- (c) 213 crore
- (d) 313 crore
- (e) 413 crore

Ans. c

Sol. CCI slaps penalty of Rs 213 crore on Meta for abusing dominant position
 The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has slapped a penalty of Rs 213.14 crore on Meta, the US-based firm which owns WhatsApp, for alleged abuse of its dominant position in the implementation of the messaging app's 2021 privacy policy.
 In an order, the antitrust regulator said that user data was collected and shared with other Meta companies in contravention of the competition law. It asked Meta and WhatsApp to implement certain behavioural remedies within a defined timeline, on top of issuing cease-and-desist directions for these entities.
 The Commission has concluded that the 2021 policy update by WhatsApp on a 'take-it-or-leave-it' basis constitutes an imposition of unfair condition under the Act, as it compels all users to accept expanded data collection terms and sharing of data within Meta Group without any opt-out," the regulator said in a statement issued separately.

203. Morgan Stanley has lowered India's growth forecast for FY25 from 7 per cent to how much per cent in November 2024?

मॉर्गन स्टेनली ने वित्त वर्ष 2025 के लिए भारत के विकास पूर्वानुमान को 7 प्रतिशत से घटाकर नवंबर 2024 में कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.6%
- (c) 6.7%
- (d) 6.8%
- (e) 6.9%

Ans. c

Sol. Morgan Stanley trims India's FY25 GDP forecast to 6.7%

Morgan Stanley has lowered India's growth forecast for FY25 from 7 per cent to 6.7 per cent, on the back of weaker-than-expected high-frequency growth data for the second quarter, which is anticipated to grow at a slower pace of 6.3 per cent.

However, Morgan Stanley projected that growth may rebound to approximately 6.7-6.8 per cent in the second half of FY25, driven by improved agricultural output and increased government spending.

Furthermore, the financial services company also maintained its forecast for FY26 and FY27 at a steady 6.5 per cent, noting that domestic demand will remain a key growth driver in the coming years.

Updated GDP

- Morgan Stanley - 6.7% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26), 6.5% (FY27)
- Moody Ratings - 7.2% (CY24)
- S&P - 6.8% (FY25), 6.9% (FY26), 7% (FY27)
- IMF - 7% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- World Bank - 7% (FY25)
- Moody's - 7.1% (CY24), 6.5% (CY25)
- ADB - 7% (FY24), 7.2% (FY25)
- Goldman Sachs - 6.7% (CY24), 6.4% (CY24)

204. Which bank has raised Rs 10,000 crore through its seventh infrastructure bond issuance?

किस बैंक ने अपने सातवें इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर बॉन्ड जारी करके 10,000 करोड़ रुपये जुटाए हैं?

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

Ans. b

Sol. SBI raises Rs 10,000 cr through infra bond issuance

Country's largest lender State Bank of India has raised Rs 10,000 crore through its seventh infrastructure bond issuance.

SBI raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.23 per cent through its seventh infrastructure bond issuance.

The issue attracted overwhelming response from investors with bids in excess of Rs 11,500 crore and was oversubscribed in excess of 2 times against the base issue size of Rs 5,000 crore.

The total number of bids received was 85 indicating wider participation with heterogeneity of bids.

The investors were across provident funds, pension funds, insurance companies, mutual funds etc. The proceeds of bonds will be utilized in enhancing long-term resources for funding infrastructure and affordable housing segments.

205. World Toilet Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व शौचालय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 19 November
- (b) 20 November
- (c) 21 November
- (d) 22 November
- (e) 23 November

Ans. a

Sol. 19 November - World Toilet Day

World Toilet Day is observed every year on 19 November.

World Toilet Day has become an opportunity to raise awareness about this issue, which affects health of people living in poor conditions.

Theme 2024 - Toilets – A Place for Peace

World Toilet Day was created in 2001 by the World Toilet Organization (WTO), which was founded by Jack Sim. However, it was officially recognized by the United Nations in 2013.

During the time, the Government of Singapore worked with the WTO to create the first UN resolution called Sanitation for All.

206. Which of the following has signed an MoU with the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI) to advance the quality and consistency of diabetes care in India through the use of robust clinical and digital health standards?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने मजबूत नैदानिक और डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मानकों के उपयोग के माध्यम से भारत में मधुमेह देखभाल की गुणवत्ता और स्थिरता को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए रिसर्च सोसाइटी फॉर द स्टडी ऑफ डायबिटीज इन इंडिया (RSSDI) के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Quality Council of India
- (b) All India Council for Technical Education
- (c) National Assessment and Accreditation Council
- (d) International healthcare accreditation
- (e) National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers

Ans. e

Sol. NABH under Quality Council of India (QCI) signs MoU with Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI)

National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH), a constituent body of the Quality Council of India (QCI), signed an MoU with the Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI), to advance quality and consistency of diabetes care in India through the use of robust clinical and digital health standards.

RSSDI is India's largest professional body representing over 12,000 diabetes care providers across the country.

Under the MoU, NABH and RSSDI will collaborate closely to enhance NABH's Accreditation Standards for Allopathic Clinics for specific needs of diabetes care, and develop digital health standards for Clinic Management Systems (CMS) for better management of diabetes.

RSSDI will actively promote certification of NABH's Allopathic Clinic Accreditation Standards across its member base, resulting in better and standardised diabetes care across the country, and helping in decreasing morbidity and complications resulting from diabetes.

National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) is a constituent board of Quality Council of India, set up to establish and operate accreditation programme for healthcare organisations. NABH was set up in the year 2005 to establish and operate accreditation programs for healthcare organizations in India.

The first accreditation programme "Hospital Accreditation" was launched in the year 2006.

207. The Indian Army successfully concluded the Multilateral Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise, 'Sanyukt Vimochan 2024' held in which state?

भारतीय सेना ने किस राज्य में आयोजित बहुपक्षीय वार्षिक संयुक्त मानवीय सहायता और आपदा राहत (HADR) अभ्यास, 'संयुक्त विमोचन 2024' का सफलतापूर्वक समापन किया?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Himachal Pradesh

Ans. c

Sol. Army concludes multilateral joint exercise 'Sanyukt Vimochan 2024' in Gujarat
The Indian Army successfully concluded the Multilateral Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise, 'Sanyukt Vimochan 2024' held in Ahmedabad and Porbandar, Gujarat.

The exercise brought together all agencies involved with disaster relief efforts, signifying the necessity of a whole-government approach. Notably, there were 15 international participants from nine friendly foreign countries.

Exercise Sanyukt Vimochan 2024 had successfully showcased the practical execution of rescue and relief plans through an integrated, multi-agency, multilateral disaster response while showcasing indigenous HADR equipment promoting Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Recent Exercise

- 5th Edition of Exercise "**VINBAX 2024**" between Vietnam and India- Ambala and Chandimandir
- 9th edition of **Exercise GARUD SHAKTI 2024** between India and Indonesia - Jakarta
- 15th edition of **Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR** between India and USA - Orchard Combat Training Centre in Idaho, US.
- 31st edition of **Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMPBEX)** between Singapore and India - Eastern Naval Command Visakhapatnam
- 18th edition of Joint Naval Drill '**Naseem Al Bahr**' between India and Oman - coast off Goa

208. Which company was conferred with the esteemed Green World Environment Award in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) category along with the distinguished tile of Green World Ambassador?

किस कंपनी को कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (सीएसआर) श्रेणी में प्रतिष्ठित ग्रीन वर्ल्ड पर्यावरण पुरस्कार के साथ-साथ ग्रीन वर्ल्ड एम्बेसेडर की प्रतिष्ठित उपाधि से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) ReNew Power
- (b) Coal India Limited
- (c) JSW Energy
- (d) NTPC Limited
- (e) SJVN Limited

Ans. b

Sol. Coal India Ltd under the Aegis of Ministry of Coal receives Green World Awards 2024 in London

Coal India Limited (CIL) under the aegis of the Ministry of Coal, has been conferred with the esteemed Green World Environment Award in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) category along with the distinguished tile of Green World Ambassador.

Ministry of Coal has overall responsibility of determining policies and strategies in respect of mining of coal and other minerals in large interest of the country.

This prestigious international award has been given to CIL for exemplary work in the field of CSR i.e Thalassemia Bal Sewa Yojna for permanent curative treatment of more than 600 Thalassemia patients, through stem cell transplant also known as Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT).

CIL, in 2017 became the first Public Sector Undertakings to take up the CSR project for curative treatment of Thalassemia through BMT operations across the country. Under this scheme, financial assistance upto to Rs.10 lakh is provided by CIL for the BMT.

Recent Award

- **73rd Miss Universe (2024)** - Victoria Kjaer Theilvig (Denmark); Second- Chidimma Adetshina (Nigeria); Third - Maria Fernanda Beltran (Mexico)
- **First Indian to win Miss Grand International 2024** - Rachel Gupta (from Jalandhar)
- **Fiji highest Civilian Award** - Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
- **Top central banker by the US-based Global Finance magazine** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (A+ rating)
- **Best Bank in India for 2024 by Global Finance Magazine** - State Bank of India

209. In November 2024, Jyothi Surekha Vennam clinched the gold medal in the women's compound event at the GATE Open in Luxembourg. She is related to which sport?

नवंबर 2024 में, ज्योति सुरेखा वेन्नम ने लक्जमर्ग में GATE ओपन में महिलाओं की कंपाउंड स्पर्धा में स्वर्ण पदक जीता। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Jyothi Surekha Vennam clinches gold medal in women's Archery compound event at GT Open

In Archery, Reigning Asian Games champion Jyothi Surekha Vennam clinched the gold medal in the women's compound event at the GT Open in Luxembourg.

Competing in the GT Open for the first time, Jyothi played brilliantly throughout the tournament and secured the title with a 147-145 win against Sarah Prieels of Belgium. Meanwhile, in the men's compound event, Abhishek bagged the silver medal. He fell just short of claiming gold despite scoring a perfect 150 in the final. His opponent, the legendary Mike Schlosser of the Netherlands, secured the top spot after a perfect shot in the final.

210. Which of the following state has won the 14th Men's Senior Hockey National Championship?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने 14वीं पुरुष सीनियर हॉकी राष्ट्रीय चैम्पियनशिप जीती है?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Maharashtra

(d) Haryana

(e) Punjab

Ans. a

Sol. Men's Senior Hockey Nationals: Odisha thumps Haryana 5-1 to win title

Odisha hammered two-time champion Haryana 5-1, courtesy of a hat-trick by Shilanand Lakra, in the final of the Hockey India-14th Senior National championship at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium for its maiden gold medal.

For Haryana, it was its second successive defeat in the summit clash, having lost to Punjab last time. Earlier, Uttar Pradesh beat Manipur 2-1 to bag the bronze medal.

Odisha's defenders especially the rushers Kerobin Lakra and Amit Kumar Topno along with goalkeeper Sahil Kumar Nayak showed great alacrity by disrupting the penalty corners of Haryana which had 10 in total.

211. GM Magnus Carlsen has won the 2024 Tata Steel Chess India Open Blitz title 2024 to his Rapid crown after beating _____ in the penultimate round in November 2024.

जीएम मैग्नस कार्लसन ने नवंबर 2024 में अंतिम दौर में _____ को हराकर 2024 टाटा स्टील शतरंज इंडिया ओपन ब्लिट्ज खिताब 2024 अपने रैपिड ताज के लिए जीत लिया है।

(a) R Praggnanandhaa

(b) Aravindh Chithambaram

(c) Alexandre Predke

(d) Abhijeet Gupta

(e) Arjun Erigaisi

Ans. e

Sol. Magnus Carlsen, Kateryna Lagno win Tata Steel Chess India blitz titles

GM Magnus Carlsen from Norway has added the 2024 Tata Steel Chess India Open Blitz title to his Rapid crown after beating GM Arjun Erigaisi in the penultimate round. The Indian star then lost the last three games, however, enabling GM Wesley So to snatch second with a six-game winning streak.

GM Kateryna Lagno from Russia clinched the 2024 Tata Steel Chess India Women's Blitz with a round to spare after earlier seeing her lead evaporate. GM Valentina Gunina caught her with five rounds to go and won their last-round encounter to ensure second place, while GM Aleksandra Goryachkina took third, sharing prize money with GM Vantika Agrawal.

212. Which of the following has introduced UPI International, allowing users to make UPI payments at select locations in the UAE, Singapore, France, Mauritius, Bhutan, and Nepal, Indian travellers can now experience seamless, cashless payments abroad, due to its latest innovation in November 2024?

युक्त अरब अमीरात, सिंगापुर, फ्रांस, मॉरीशस, भूटान और नेपाल में चुनिंदा स्थानों पर UPI भुगतान कर सकते हैं, भारतीय यात्री अब नवंबर 2024 में अपने नवीनतम नवाचार के कारण विदेश में सहज, कैशलेस भुगतान का अनुभव कर सकते हैं?

(a) Paytm

(b) BHIM

(c) GooglePay

(d) PhonePe

(e) AmazonPay**Ans. a**

Sol. Paytm UPI goes global; app users can make payments at select international locations

One97 Communications (OCL), that owns Paytm brand, said Paytm users will be able to make UPI payments at select international locations, including popular spots in the UAE, Singapore, France, Mauritius, Bhutan, and Nepal.

The move allows users to conveniently pay for all use cases including shopping, dining, and local experiences abroad using UPI through their Paytm app.

"One97 Communications (OCL) that owns the brand Paytm, India's leading payments and financial services distribution company and the pioneer of QR, Soundbox and mobile payments, has enabled Paytm users to make UPI payments at select international locations.

Indian travellers can now use their Paytm app to make seamless, cashless payments at destinations where UPI is accepted, including popular spots in the UAE, Singapore, France, Mauritius, Bhutan, and Nepal.

213. On the occasion of 2024 World Toilet Day, which ministry of the government of India has launched the Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman campaign?

वर्ष 2024 के विश्व शौचालय दिवस के अवसर पर भारत सरकार के किस मंत्रालय ने हमारा शौचालय: हमारा सम्मान अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Ministry of Rural Development
- (b) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (d) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- (e) Ministry of Jal Shakti

Ans. e

Sol. Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman" Campaign launched On World Toilet Day The Government of India has launched a three-week campaign, "Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman," on the occasion of World Toilet Day on 19 November 2024.

The campaign will end on 10 December 2024, on the occasion of Human Rights Day. The end of the campaign on Human Rights Day symbolises the powerful link between sanitation, human rights, and an individual's dignity.

The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Union Ministry of Jal Shakti, has launched the three-week Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman. The responsibility for implementing the Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen component of the Swachh Bharat Mission lies with the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Union Ministry of Jal Shakti.

The campaign will affirm the country's commitment to behavioural change regarding sanitation. Maintaining the country's Open Defecation-Free (ODF) status and achieving the Phase II goal of the Swachh Bharat Mission(Grameen).

214. Where was the 2024 Global Soils Conference held?

2024 वैश्विक मृदा सम्मेलन कहाँ आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Surat

- (c) Jaipur
- (d) Shillong
- (e) Guwahati

Ans. a

Sol. Global Soil Conference 2024 Inaugurated in New Delhi

The four-day Global Soils Conference 2024 was inaugurated in New Delhi.

The Global Soils Conference is being organised by the Indian Society of Soil Science, New Delhi, under the aegis of the International Union of Soil Sciences, Italy, with the collaboration of the New Delhi-based Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the National Academy of Agricultural Science.

Theme 2024 - Caring Soils Beyond Food Security: Climate Change Mitigation and Ecosystem Services

The conference, which is the apex global platform for world soil scientists and stakeholders, provides a platform for the stakeholders- government, scientists, industry leaders, farmers, etc. to discuss various issues regarding the importance of soils and to find a solution to concerns about the issue of soil degradation and its sustainable management.

Professor Ramesh Chand, a Member of the NITI Aayog, was the chief guest, and he inaugurated the Global Soil Conference. Later, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, virtually addressed the conference.

215. Which country hosted the 31st Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders Meeting?

किस देश ने 31वीं एशिया प्रशांत आर्थिक सहयोग (APEC) आर्थिक नेताओं की बैठक की मेजबानी की?

- (a) Peru
- (b) Oman
- (c) South Korea
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) China

Ans. a

Sol. Peru hosted the 31st APEC Summit Economic Leaders Meeting 2024

The 31st Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders Meeting, in which the leaders of the 21 member countries participated, was held in Lima, Peru. The meeting was hosted by the Peruvian President, Dina Boluarte.

The theme of the 2024 APEC Economic Leaders meeting was "Empower. Include. Grow." APEC is an intergovernmental group of 21 countries in the Asia Pacific region that promotes economic ties among its members. Around 40 per cent of the world's population lives here. The members of APEC contribute around 50 % of world trade, and they constitute around 60 per cent of the world's gross domestic product(GDP). The next Summit meeting will be hosted by South Korea in 2025, followed by China in 2026 and Vietnam in 2027.

216. PM Narendra Modi and his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni announced a ____-year strategic action plan outlining their vision for collaboration in a range of key sectors, including defence, trade, energy and space in November 2024.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और उनकी इतालवी समकक्ष जॉर्जिया मेलोनी ने नवंबर 2024 में रक्षा, व्यापार, ऊर्जा और अंतरिक्ष सहित कई प्रमुख क्षेत्रों में सहयोग के लिए अपने दृष्टिकोण को रेखांकित करते हुए ____-वर्षीय रणनीतिक कार्य योजना की घोषणा की।

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

Ans. d

Sol. Defence to space, India & Italy announce 5-year action plan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni announced a five-year strategic action plan outlining their vision for collaboration in a range of key sectors, including defence, trade, energy and space.

The two leaders unveiled the Joint Strategic Action Plan 2025-29 as they met on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

217. Who has been awarded the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development for 2023?

वर्ष 2023 के लिए शांति, निरस्तीकरण और विकास के लिए इंदिरा गांधी पुरस्कार किसे प्रदान किया गया है?

- (a) Elena Bashkirova and Ali Abu
- (b) Daniel Barenboim and Anne-Sophie Mutter
- (c) Daniel Barenboim and Martha Argerich
- (d) Martha Argerich and Ali Abu
- (e) Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu

Ans. e

Sol. Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad presented Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development for 2023 was awarded to Daniel Barenboim, a world-famous pianist and conductor, and Ali Abu Awwad, a Palestinian peace activist.

This prestigious award recognizes their remarkable efforts to promote peace and non-violence.

The awardees were selected by a distinguished jury headed by former Chief Justice of India T S Thakur.

Daniel Barenboim is an Argentine-born distinguished classical pianist and conductor, renowned for performing with and directing some of the leading orchestras in the world. Apart from his musical achievements, he is also known for his relentless endeavour in using music to foster harmony in West Asia.

Ali Abu Awwad is an eminent Palestinian peace activist who has been working tirelessly with the people of Palestine and Israel for a peaceful resolution of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

Recent Award

- **Green World Awards 2024 in London - Coal India Limited**

- **73rd Miss Universe (2024)** - Victoria Kjaer Theilvig (Denmark); Second-Chidimma Adetshina (Nigeria); Third - Maria Fernanda Beltran (Mexico)s
- **First Indian to win Miss Grand International 2024** - Rachel Gupta (from Jalandhar)
- **Fiji highest Civilian Award** - Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
- **Top central banker by the US-based Global Finance magazine** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (A+ rating)

218. World Children's Day is observed every year on 20 November to encourage global solidarity, awareness among children around the world, and advancements in children's welfare. What is the theme of World Children's Day 2024?

विश्व बाल दिवस हर साल 20 नवंबर को वैश्विक एकजुटता, दुनिया भर के बच्चों के बीच जागरूकता और बच्चों के कल्याण में प्रगति को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व बाल दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Listen to the Future. Stand Up for Children's Rights
- (b) For every child, every right
- (c) A Better Future for Every Child
- (d) Reimagining a better future for every child
- (e) Children of today, our keepers tomorrow

Ans. a

Sol. 20 November - World Children's Day

World Children's Day is observed every year on 20 November to encourage global solidarity, awareness among children around the world, and advancements in children's welfare.

Theme 2024 - Listen to the Future. Stand Up for Children's Rights.

This day, which was created by the UN in 1954, also marks the adoption of two important agreements: the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959).

219. Which of the following portal, developed by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC), was launched by Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C.R. Paatil, during the concluding ceremony of India Water Week 2024 to promote transparency, efficiency, and sustainability in groundwater regulation in November 2024?

नवंबर 2024 में भूजल विनियमन में पारदर्शिता, दक्षता और स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत जल सप्ताह 2024 के समापन समारोह के दौरान जल शक्ति मंत्री श्री सी.आर. पाटिल द्वारा राष्ट्रीय सूचना विज्ञान केंद्र (एनआईसी) के सहयोग से केंद्रीय भूजल प्राधिकरण (सीजीडब्ल्यूए) द्वारा विकसित नियमिति में से कौन सा पोर्टल लॉन्च किया गया था?

- (a) Bhu-Neer Portal
- (b) NeerSamadhan Platform
- (c) AquaGov System
- (d) Groundwater Portal
- (e) Jal-Suraksha Portal

Ans. a

Sol. HMJS launches “Bhu-Neer” Portal for ground water withdrawal permits

The Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, C.R. Paatil digitally launched the newly developed “Bhu-Neer” portal on 19th September 2024 during the concluding ceremony of India Water Week 2024.

The “Bhu-Neer” is an advanced portal developed by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

For improved groundwater regulation across the country. This portal will serve as a one-stop platform for managing and regulating groundwater resources, aimed at ensuring transparency, efficiency, and sustainability in groundwater usage.

“Bhu-Neer” is designed to provide comprehensive details regarding the legal framework governing groundwater extraction, and regulations at the state and national levels. Its centralized database will allow users to access critical information on groundwater compliance, policies, and sustainable practices.

The portal is developed with several user-friendly features to offer streamlined process flow to the project proponents seeking groundwater withdrawal permits. Having a simplified yet informative interface, and features like PAN PAN-based single Id system, NOC with QR code etc., “Bhu-Neer” marks a significant improvement over its previous version NOCAP.

220. Elets Technomedia to host the 18th Elets NBFC100 Tech Summit in which city?

एलेट्स टेक्नोमीडिया किस शहर में 18वें एलेट्स एनबीएफसी 100 टेक शिखर सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगा?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Elets Technomedia to host the 18th Elets NBFC100 Tech Summit in Mumbai
Elets Technomedia, in collaboration with The Banking & Finance Post Magazine, is hosting the 18th Elets NBFC100 Tech Summit. at ITC Maratha, Mumbai.

Presented by Acies and powered by Lenovo, this summit will drive dynamic discussions and showcase future-ready innovations in the NBFC sector.

As India's largest and longest-running NBFC congregation, the summit will unite over 100 leading NBFCs and top technology providers for an invaluable platform of knowledge exchange and collaboration.

The summit will also host stimulating Trialogue Chats and Fireside Chats, focussing on key trends such as omni-channel lending and the next generation of credit scoring.

221. Which organization has signed an MoU with H2Global Stiftung in November 2024 to promote Green Hydrogen initiatives, aiming to enhance India's position as a global export hub for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives?

किस संगठन ने ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन पहल को बढ़ावा देने के लिए नवंबर 2024 में H2Global Stiftung के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं, जिसका उद्देश्य ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन और इसके डेरिवेटिव के लिए वैश्विक निर्यात केंद्र के रूप में भारत की स्थिति को बढ़ाना है?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- (c) Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited

Ans. c

Sol. SECI signs MoU to promote Green Hydrogen initiatives

Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI), under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, signed a MoU with H2Global Stiftung to establish a collaborative framework to promote Green Hydrogen initiatives.

This aims to enhance knowledge exchange on market-based mechanisms and foster cooperation between India and importing countries, thereby contributing to the global advancement of the green hydrogen economy.

This collaboration offers India the opportunity to work on joint tender design concepts, particularly in structuring joint tenders that aligns with India's ambition to become export hub of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.

222. Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) and the International Kho Kho Federation have announced that the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup will take place in _____ country in 2025?

भारतीय खो-खो महासंघ (केकेएफआई) और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय खो-खो महासंघ ने घोषणा की है कि पहला खो-खो विश्व कप 2025 में _____ देश में होगा?

- (a) India
- (b) Japan
- (c) South Korea
- (d) USA
- (e) Bhutan

Ans. a

Sol. Kho Kho World Cup to Debut in India in 2025

Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) and the International Kho Kho Federation have announced that the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup will take place in India in 2025.

The event will witness the participation of 24 countries from 6 continents and will feature 16 men's and as many as women's teams.

Ahead of the World Cup, the KKFI plans to take the sport to 200 schools across 10 cities to promote the sport. The federation will also run a membership drive for the school students with the aim of registering at least 50 lakh players ahead of the mega tournament. The tournament will feature a week-long series of matches, with top-tier athletes from across the globe.

223. In November 2024, which global initiative, launched by Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva during the G20 meeting in Rio de Janeiro, focuses on

uniting countries, international organizations, and philanthropic institutions to address hunger and poverty?

नवंबर 2024 में, रियो डी जेनेरियो में जी20 बैठक के दौरान ब्राजील के राष्ट्रपति लुइज़ इनासियो लूला दा सिल्वा द्वारा शुरू की गई कौन सी वैश्विक पहल, भूख और गरीबी को दूर करने के लिए देशों, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगठनों और परोपकारी संस्थानों को एकजुट करने पर केंद्रित है?

- (a) Sustainable Development for Food Equity
- (b) Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty
- (c) Poverty and Nutrition Action Partnership
- (d) World Hunger Eradication Forum
- (e) International Food Security Initiative

Ans. b

Sol. Lula launches alliance to combat world hunger as Brazil hosts G20

The president of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, has opened the G20 meeting in Rio de Janeiro with the launch of an alliance to combat hunger, which he described as the "ultimate symbol of our collective tragedy".

Brazil holds the rotating presidency of the group and is hosting the meeting attended by all but two – Russia and Saudi Arabia – of the 19 member countries.

The Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty has a total of 148 signatories, including 82 countries, 26 international organisations, 9 financial institutions, and 31 philanthropic foundations and non-governmental org.

224. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman unveiled a specially minted _____ commemorative coin to mark the centenary of SBI's iconic Horniman Circle Branch.

वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने एसबीआई की प्रतिष्ठित हॉर्निमैन सर्किल शाखा की शताब्दी के अवसर पर विशेष रूप से तैयार _____ स्मारक सिक्के का अनावरण किया।

- (a) ₹100
- (b) ₹200
- (c) ₹300
- (d) ₹500
- (e) ₹1000

Ans. a

Sol. FM unveils specially minted ₹100 commemorative coin to mark centenary of SBI's Horniman Circle Branch

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday unveiled a specially minted ₹100 commemorative coin to mark the centenary of SBI's iconic Horniman Circle Branch.

Alongside the coin launch, she also unveiled the 5th edition of The Evolution of the State Bank of India, chronicling a transformative era in the bank's journey between 1981 and 1996.

From 100 branches at the time of the 1920 amalgamation to 22,640+ branches today, with plans to add 500 more in FY 2025, SBI continues to expand its reach.

The bank operates 63,000+ ATMs, engages 80,300 banking correspondents, and serves over 50 crore customers. Its digital prowess is demonstrated by 132 million and 287 million internet banking, YONO, and YONO Lite app.

SBI commands a 25% share in debit card spending, 22% in mobile banking transactions, and a 29% ATM footprint.

225. India won the 8th Women's Asian Champions Trophy by beating which team in the final?

भारत ने फाइनल में किस टीम को हराकर 8वीं महिला एशियाई चैंपियंस ट्रॉफी जीती?

- (a) China
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Japan
- (e) Sri Lanka

Ans. a

Sol. India beat China to lift their 3rd Women's Asian Champions Trophy

The defending champion Indian women's hockey team defeated the 2024 Paris Olympic silver medalist China to win the 8th Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024.

With this win, India has equalled South Korea's record of winning the Trophy three times. India has previously won the title in 2016 and 2023.

The final of the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 was played at the Rajgir Hockey Stadium in Bihar.

The 8th Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 was organised by the Asian Hockey Federation and hosted by Hockey India and the Bihar government from 11-20 November 2024.

Incidentally, India hosted the 7th Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023 at Ranchi, Jharkhand, which India won.

226. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh formally launched the first Indigenous antibiotic "Nafithromycin" for resistant infections. The antibiotic "Nafithromycin" has been developed with the support of _____.

केंद्रीय मंत्री डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने प्रतिरोधी संक्रमणों के लिए पहली स्वदेशी एंटीबायोटिक "नेफिथ्रोमाइसिन" को औपचारिक रूप से लॉन्च किया। एंटीबायोटिक "नेफिथ्रोमाइसिन" को _____ के सहयोग से विकसित किया गया है।

- (a) Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
- (b) Indian Institute Of Technology Delhi
- (c) All India Institute Of Medical Sciences Delhi
- (d) Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council
- (e) Maulana Azad Medical College

Ans. a

Sol. Dr. Jitendra Singh announces soft launch of India's First Indigenous Antibiotic, Nafithromycin, to Combat Drug Resistance

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh formally launched the first indigenous antibiotic "Nafithromycin" for resistant infections.

The antibiotic "Nafithromycin" has been developed with the support of "Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council" (BIRAC), a unit of the Department of Biotechnology and has been brought to market under the trade name "Miqnaf" by pharma company "Wolkardt". It is the country's first indigenously developed antibiotic aimed at tackling Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

This innovation is designed to treat Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia (CABP), a severe illness caused by drug-resistant bacteria, which disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, including children and the elderly as well as immune-compromised hosts like Patients with Diabetes, Cancers etc.

Nafithromycin marks a historic breakthrough as the first new antibiotic in its class to be developed globally in over 30 years.

The development of Nafithromycin represents 14 years of dedicated research and an investment of Rs. 500 crores, with clinical trials spanning the U.S., Europe, and India.

227. Guyana and Dominica have conferred their top awards on Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic and his exceptional contributions to the global community and efforts in strengthening bilateral ties with the two Caribbean nations. What is the capital of Guyana?

गुयाना और डोमिनिका ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी को कोविड-19 महामारी के दौरान उनके योगदान और वैश्विक समुदाय में उनके असाधारण योगदान तथा दो कैरेबियाई देशों के साथ द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को मजबूत करने के प्रयासों के लिए अपने शीर्ष पुरस्कारों से सम्मानित किया है। गुयाना की राजधानी क्या है?

- (a) Georgetown
- (b) Kigali
- (c) Kampala
- (d) Gitega
- (e) Kinshasa

Ans. a

Sol. Guyana, and Dominica confer top awards on PM Modi

Guyana and Dominica have conferred their top awards on Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic and his exceptional contributions to the global community and efforts in strengthening bilateral ties with the two Caribbean nations.

Modi was conferred 'The Order of Excellence' by Guyanese President Irfaan Ali.

In 2021, during the darkest days of the COVID-19 pandemic, your generous provision of 70,000 AstraZeneca vaccines became a lifeline for Dominica.

About Guyana

- **Capital** - Georgetown
- **Currency** - Guyanese Dollar
- **Prime Minister**- Mark Phillips
- **President**- Mohamed Irfaan Ali
- **Continent** - South Americ

228. Which country has been declared as the official partner country for the 25th edition of the famous Hornbill Festival of Nagaland along with Wales?

वेल्स के साथ-साथ नागालैंड के प्रसिद्ध हॉर्नबिल फेस्टिवल के 25वें संस्करण के लिए किस देश को आधिकारिक भागीदार देश घोषित किया गया है

- (a) Japan
- (b) South Korea
- (c) China

(d) Bhutan

(e) Vietnam

Ans. a

Sol. Japan and Wales to Partner with Nagaland for Hornbill Festival 2024

Japan has been announced as the official partner country for the 25th edition of Nagaland's renowned Hornbill Festival, alongside Wales.

The festival, scheduled from December 1-10 at Kisama near Kohima, will feature Japan's contribution in areas like cultural performances, capacity building, and workshops focusing on handicrafts and bamboo products, with renowned Japanese artists and experts leading these sessions.

The Hornbill Festival is an annual cultural event in Nagaland, celebrated from December 1 to 10 at Kisama Heritage Village near Kohima. Organized by the Government of Nagaland, it highlights the vibrant cultural heritage of the state.

229. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that Karimganj district in the state would be renamed to Sribhumi to honour _____.

असम के मुख्यमंत्री हिमंत बिस्वा सरमा ने घोषणा की कि _____ के सम्मान में राज्य के करीमगंज जिले का नाम बदलकर श्रीभूमि कर दिया जाएगा।

- (a) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee**
- (b) Subhas Chandra Bose**
- (c) Swami Vivekananda**
- (d) Rabindranath Tagore**
- (e) Mother Teres**

Ans. d

Sol. Assam government renames Karimganj district as Sribhumi

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that Karimganj district in the state would be renamed to Sribhumi to honour Rabindranath Tagore.

Over a 100 years ago, Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore had described modern day Karimganj District in Assam as 'Sribhumi' - the land of Maa Lakshmi.

About Assam

- **Formation - 26 January 1950**
- **Capital - Dispur**
- **Chief Minister - Himanta Biswa Sarma**
- **Governor - Gulab Chand Kataria**

230. Prasar Bharati, India's public broadcaster, has launched its own OTT platform, named _____.

भारत के सार्वजनिक प्रसारक प्रसार भारती ने _____ नाम से अपना खुद का OTT प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च किया है।

- (a) Waves**
- (b) Lehar**
- (c) Typhoid**
- (d) Namo**
- (e) Hind**

Ans. a

Sol. Prasar Bharati launches its own OTT platform 'Waves' at IFFI
Prasar Bharati, India's public broadcaster, on Wednesday launched its own OTT platform, 'Waves'.

The app, available on Android and iOS, aims to deliver diverse content under the tagline "Waves – Family Entertainment Ki Nayi Lehar."

The platform was launched by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant at the opening ceremony of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) where he called it a significant moment for the Indian entertainment industry.

'Waves' offers content in over 12 languages, including Hindi, English, Marathi, Tamil, and Assamese, across genres such as infotainment, gaming, education, and shopping. It features 65 live TV channels, video-on-demand, free-to-play games, and even online shopping in collaboration with ONDC.

'Waves' will screen new films and shows during IFFI 2024, including 'Roll No.52' by Nagarjuna and Amala Akkineni, 'Fauji 2.0' starring Gauhar Khan, and Guneet Monga Kapoor's 'Kicking Balls'. Other offerings include music shows, animations like 'Chota Bheem', and crime thrillers.

Live content includes 'Mann Ki Baat', Ayodhya's Prabhu Shriram Lalla Aarti, and international events like the US Premier League Cricket Tournament. Waves has also partnered with CDAC for a cyber-security awareness campaign.

Chairman of Prasar Bharati - Navneet Kumar Sehgal,

231. World Fisheries Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व मत्स्य पालन दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 21 November
- (b) 22 November
- (c) 20 November
- (d) 19 November
- (e) 23 November

Ans. a

Sol. 21 November - World Fisheries Day

World Fisheries Day is celebrated across the world on November 21 annually.

It aims to draw attention to overfishing, habitat destruction and other serious threats to the sustainability of marine and freshwater resources.

Theme 2024 - India's Blue Transformation: Strengthening Small-Scale and Sustainable Fisheries

The celebrations started in 1997 when "World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers" met at New Delhi leading to formation of "World Fisheries Forum" with representatives from 18 countries and signed a declaration advocating for a global mandate of sustainable fishing practices and policies.

232. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has taken several measures to combat the persistence issue of spam calls and SMS. Where is the headquarters of TRAI?

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण (ट्राई) ने स्पैम कॉल और एसएमएस की समस्या से निपटने के लिए कई कदम उठाए हैं। ट्राई का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) New Delhi

- (b) Gurugram**
- (c) Bengaluru**
- (d) Hyderabad**
- (e) Chennai**

Ans. a

Sol. TRAI takes strong action to combat spam calls in India, over 13,000 entities register for message traceability measure

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has taken several measures to combat the persistence issue of spam calls and SMS.

- i. Complaints against Spam Calls show downward trend due to Stringent Measure
- ii. Good Progress in implementation of Enhanced Message Traceability

To raise awareness about these measures and action to be taken by PEs and RTMs, webinars are organized under the aegis of TRAI.

The first webinar was conducted on 12th November 2024 in association with Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (RJIL) and was attended by over 1000 representatives from entities being regulated by RBI, SEBI, PFRDA and IRDAI

The second webinar was conducted in association with Vodafone Idea Ltd (VIL) on 19th November 2024 and was attended by over 800 representatives from Central and State Governments Departments and the entities being regulated by RBI, SEBI, PFRDA and IRDAI.

In this series, another webinar is scheduled for 25th November 2024 and shall be conducted in association with Tata Teleservices Ltd. (TTL). Invitations have been sent to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, other Central and State Governments Departments, the entities being regulated by RBI, SEBI, PFRDA and IRDAI; Nasscom, Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) and other organization.

As a result of these efforts, more than thirteen thousand PEs have already registered their chains with the respective Access Providers and further registration is in progress at a rapid pace. Access Providers have sent many warning notices to all Principal Entities (PEs) and Registered Telemarketers (RTMs) who have not yet implemented necessary changes. All PEs and TMs are advised to complete the declaration of chains on priority as any message that fails to adhere to the defined telemarketer chain will be rejected.

These efforts have led to the registration of over 13,000 Principal Entities with Access Providers, with further registrations progressing rapidly. Access Providers have issued warning notices to PEs and RTMs yet to comply with the new requirements, advising them to declare their message chains promptly. Any non-compliant messages will be rejected.

About Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

- Founded- 20 February 1997
- Headquarters- New Delhi
- Chairman - Anil Kumar Lahoti
- Jurisdiction- Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Government of India

233. India and which country have co-chaired the Annual Summit of LeadIT, which was held on the sidelines of UNFCCC COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan?

भारत और किस देश ने लीडआईटी के वार्षिक शिखर सम्मेलन की सह-अध्यक्षता की है, जो बाकू, अज़रबैजान में UNFCCC COP29 के दौरान आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) Norway
- (b) Sweden
- (c) Denmark
- (d) France
- (e) Italy

Ans. b

Sol. India and Sweden co-chair the Annual Summit of LeadIT, on the sidelines of UNFCCC COP29 at Baku

Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh, together with Swedish Minister for Climate and Environment, Romina Pourmokhtari, co-chaired the Annual Summit of the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT), held on the sidelines of COP29 to the UN Climate Change Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The LeadIT Summit brings together the country and company members to discuss the low-carbon industrial transition.

The objective is to support plans that align heavy industry with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The summit spotlighted the critical role of transforming sectors such as steel and cement.

234. National Philosophy Day is observed every year on the third _____ of November.

राष्ट्रीय दर्शन दिवस हर साल नवंबर के तीसरे _____ को मनाया जाता है।

- (a) Tuesday
- (b) Wednesday
- (c) Thursday
- (d) Friday
- (e) Monday

Ans. c

Sol. 21 November 2024 - World Philosophy Day

National Philosophy Day is observed every year on the third Thursday of November, this year was observed on 21 November.

The day promotes philosophical discourse and critical thinking, encouraging dialogue on global issues. It aims to foster intercultural understanding, promote the teaching of philosophy, and highlight its relevance in addressing contemporary challenges like social justice, ethics, and governance.

235. Recently, which type of microbe is cell wall-lacking Mollicutes bacteria has been found to cause a peculiar disease in sesame crops in Midnapore, West Bengal, leading to floral disfigurement and a vegetative appearance, primarily transmitted through phloem-feeding insects such as leafhoppers and plant-hoppers?

हाल ही में, किस प्रकार का सूक्ष्म जीव कोशिका भित्ति रहित मॉलिक्यूट्स बैक्टीरिया पश्चिम बंगाल के मिदनापुर में तिल की फसलों में एक अजीबोगरीब बीमारी का कारण बनता पाया गया है, जिससे पुष्प विकृति और वनस्पति उपस्थिति होती है, जो मुख्य रूप से लीफहॉपर और प्लांट-हॉपर जैसे फ्लोएम-फीडिंग कीटों के माध्यम से फैलती है?

- (a) *Phytoplasma phoenicum*
- (b) *Acholeplasmatales*
- (c) *Euscelidius variegatus*
- (d) *Phytoplasma asteris*
- (e) *Candidatus Phytoplasma*

Ans. e

Sol. New Microbe reverting sesame flowers to vegetative state identified
Researchers have identified a new microbe responsible for a peculiar disease that has been affecting the sesame fields of Midnapore in West Bengal.

Sesame, the Queen of Oil, is a primordial oilseed crop since the remnants of sesame seeds were discovered at Harappa and Mohenjodaro. Sesame oil is excellent from a medicinal point of view. It contains antioxidants, and it is perfect for heart patients. Unfortunately, we do not use it frequently as the principal edible oil. The Indian sesame varieties need improvement so that their benefits can be harnessed.

The microbe is a cell wall lacking Mollicutes bacteria, called *Candidatus Phytoplasma*. The transmission of these pathogens takes place primarily through phloem feeder insects (leafhoppers, plant-hoppers, psyllids, and dodders), which are known to infect many commercially valuable crops like *Catharanthus*, tobacco, maize, and grapevine. The manifestations of the disease are disfigurement and virescence of the floral parts, giving a leafy appearance.

236. Which ministry has launched India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) data to boost the country's national security?

किस मंत्रालय ने देश की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत का पहला आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) डेटा लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (b) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- (c) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- (d) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- (e) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Ans. a

Sol. India's 1st AI data bank to boost national security launched

The Ministry of Science and Technology has launched India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) data bank that is aimed at propelling innovation and boosting the country's national security.

The initiative will provide researchers, startups, and developers access to high-quality, diverse datasets essential for creating scalable and inclusive AI solutions.

It was launched by Minister of Science and Technology Minister (Independent Charge) Jitendra Singh at the 7th Edition of the ASSOCHAM AI Leadership Meet 2024.

The event, themed “AI for India: Advancing India’s AI Development – Innovation, Ethics, and Governance”, showcased India’s strategic roadmap for harnessing the transformative potential of AI.

237. Indian women's hockey team has defeated which country at Rajgir Hockey Stadium to win the title of Bihar Women's Asian Champions Trophy Rajgir 2024?

भारतीय महिला हॉकी टीम ने राजगीर हॉकी स्टेडियम में किस देश को हराकर बिहार महिला एशियाई चैम्पियंस ट्रॉफी राजगीर 2024 का खिताब जीता है?

- (a) China
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Japan
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) Nepal

Ans. a

Sol. India crowned champions of Bihar Asian Champions Trophy Rajgir 2024 with 1-0 victory over China

The Indian Women’s Hockey Team were crowned champions of the Bihar Women’s Asian Champions Trophy Rajgir 2024 at the Rajgir Hockey Stadium, following a 1-0 victory over China in the final.

The game saw both teams trade blows in the first half, but India increased the intensity in the second half. A goal from Deepika (31') ensured India defended their Asian Champions Trophy title.

Hockey India announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh each for all players and Rs 1.5 lakh each for all support staff following the Indian Women’s Hockey Team’s triumphant victory in the Bihar Women’s Asian Champions Trophy Rajgir 2024.

In addition, the Asian Hockey Federation announced a reward for podium finishers for the first time in the competition’s history. India will receive a substantial USD 10,000, while China and Japan will be awarded USD 7,000 and USD 5,000, respectively.

238. Who has been elected as the president of the International Mind Sports Association (IMSA), a global body for the governance and promotion of mind sports?

माइंड स्पोर्ट्स के प्रशासन और संवर्धन के लिए एक वैश्विक निकाय, इंटरनेशनल माइंड स्पोर्ट्स एसोसिएशन (IMSA) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Arvinder Singh Sahney
- (b) Nandan Kumar Jha
- (c) K. Sanjay Murthy
- (d) Ashutosh Gowariker
- (e) Jan Zelezny

Ans. b

Sol. Nandan Kumar Jha named president of the International Mind Sports Association India's Nandan Kumar Jha has been elected as the president of the International Mind Sports Association (IMSA), a global body for the governance and promotion of mind sports.

The IMSA, which has over 200 member countries, works with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other affiliate global sports federations to integrate mind sports into mainstream global sports.

Recent Appointment

- **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** - K. Sanjay Murthy (replace Girish Chandra Murmu)
- **Chairperson of International Jury for IFFI 2024** - Ashutosh Gowariker
- **Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation** - Arvinder Singh Sahney (replace V.Satish Kumar)
- **Coach of Neeraj Chopra** - Jan Zelezny (Czech republic)
- **51st Chief Justice of India** - Justice Sanjiv Khanna (replace Justice DY Chandrachud).

239. India ranked 10th on a list of over 60 countries assessed for efforts to fight climate change despite dropping two spots compared to last year, thanks to its low per capita emissions and rapid deployment of renewables. Which of the following organizations published this report?

जलवायु परिवर्तन से लड़ने के प्रयासों के लिए मूल्यांकन किए गए 60 से अधिक देशों की सूची में भारत 10वें स्थान पर है, जबकि पिछले साल की तुलना में यह दो पायदान नीचे आया है। इसका श्रेय भारत के प्रति व्यक्ति उत्सर्जन में कमी और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा के तेजी से उपयोग को जाता है। निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन ने यह रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित की?

- (a) Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), Asia and Pacific Region
- (b) Arab Forum for Environment and Development
- (c) South Durban Community Environmental Alliance
- (d) New Climate Institute, and Climate Action Network International
- (e) Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN), International

Ans. d

Sol. India drops 2 places but remains among top 10 climate performers: Report India ranked 10th on a list of over 60 countries assessed for efforts to fight climate change despite dropping two spots compared to last year, thanks to its low per capita emissions and rapid deployment of renewables.

The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI 2025) report, released at the annual UN climate conference in Baku, leaves the first three places empty followed by Denmark (fourth place) and the Netherlands while the largest two emitters, China and the U.S., remain very low at 55th and 57th place, respectively.

Published by think tanks Germanwatch, New Climate Institute, and Climate Action Network International, the CCPI tracks the progress of the world's largest emitters in terms of emissions, renewables, and climate policy.

The 63 countries, along with the European Union, assessed in the CCPI are responsible for 90% of global emissions. India ranks 10th in this year's CCPI, remaining among the highest performers.

India's per capita emissions stand at 2.9 tons of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e), far below the global average of 6.6 tCO₂e. The country, the world's third-largest greenhouse gas emitter and the fastest growing major economy, has pledged to reach net zero emissions

(balancing emissions with removals) by 2070 and aims to achieve 500 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity by 2030, Indian official data shows.

China, the world's biggest emitter, ranks 55th, falling to a very low level. Despite promising plans, trends, and measures, the largest economy in Asia remains heavily dependent on coal and lacks sufficient climate targets.

The U.S., the second-largest emitter, remains in 57th place among the very low performers.

The four lowest-ranked countries in the CCPI are Iran (67th), Saudi Arabia (66th), the United Arab Emirates (65th), and Russia (64th), all four among the world's largest oil and gas producers.

240. Recently, which country began its first nationwide population census in 40 years, a step aimed at modernizing data collection and planning in a country long impacted by conflict and political divisions?

हाल ही में, किस देश ने 40 वर्षों में अपनी पहली राष्ट्रव्यापी जनसंख्या जनगणना शुरू की, जो संघर्ष और राजनीतिक विभाजन से लंबे समय से प्रभावित देश में डेटा संग्रह और योजना को आधुनिक बनाने के उद्देश्य से उठाया गया कदम है?

- (a) Iran
- (b) Iraq
- (c) Oman
- (d) Afghanistan
- (e) Somalia

Ans. a

Sol. Iraq conducts first national census in nearly 40 years

Iraq began its first nationwide population census in decades, a step aimed at modernizing data collection and planning in a country long impacted by conflict and political divisions.

The act of counting the population is also contentious. The census is expected to have profound implications for Iraq's resource distribution, budget allocations, and development planning.

The last nationwide census in Iraq was held in 1987. Another one held in 1997 excluded the Kurdish region.

The new census "charts a developmental map for the future and sends a message of stability," Planning Minister Mohammed Tamim said in a televised address.

The census will be the first to employ advanced technologies for gathering and analyzing data, providing a comprehensive picture of Iraq's demographic, social, and economic landscape, officials say.

Some 120,000 census workers will survey households across the country, covering approximately 160 housing units each over two days.

About Iran

- **Capital** - Tehran
- **Currency** - Rial
- **President** - Masoud Pezeshkian
- **Supreme Leader** - Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei

241. ISRO has signed an Implementation Agreement (IA) with which space agency to strengthen cooperation on human spaceflight activities, including crew and crew module recovery for the Gaganyaan mission, ensuring support for search and rescue operations in November 2024?

इसरो ने नवंबर 2024 में खोज और बचाव कार्यों के लिए समर्थन सुनिश्चित करने, गगनयान मिशन के लिए चालक दल और चालक दल मॉड्यूल रिकवरी सहित मानव अंतरिक्ष उड़ान गतिविधियों पर सहयोग को मजबूत करने के लिए किस अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी के साथ एक कार्यान्वयन समझौते (आईए) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) European Space Agency
- (b) NASA
- (c) Canadian Space Agency
- (d) Australian Space Agency
- (e) Roscosmos

Ans. d

Sol. ISRO, Australian space agency sign cooperation pact for human space flight Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed an Implementation Agreement (IA) with the Australian Space Agency (ASA) for further strengthening of cooperation in space activities between the two countries.

The IA enables cooperation between both space agencies on crew and crew module recovery for Gaganyaan missions, the country's first crewed spaceflight program.

India and Australia are enduring strategic partners and both space agencies are working closely and are committed to explore current and future collaboration activities.

The IA enables the Australian authorities to work with Indian authorities to ensure support for search and rescue of crew and recovery of crew module as part of a contingency plan for ascent phase that aborts near Australian waters.

242. Which country has recently conferred an Honourary rank of General to the Indian Army chief, General Upendra Dwivedi?

किस देश ने हाल ही में भारतीय सेना प्रमुख जनरल उपेंद्र द्विवेदी को जनरल की मानद रैंक प्रदान की है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Gen. Upendra Dwivedi Conferred with the Nepali Army's General rank

The Indian Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Upendra Dwivedi, was conferred with the honourary rank of the General of the Nepali Army.

General Upendra Dwivedi is on an official visit to Nepal from 20 to 24 November 2024 at the invitation of his Nepali counterpart, General Ashok Raj Sigdel.

General Upendra Dwivedi was conferred the rank of honourary General of the Nepali Army by the President of Nepal, Ramchandra Paudel, at a special ceremony at the President's House in Kathmandu.

India and Nepal have a long tradition of honouring each other's country's chief of the army with this rank. This tradition was continued after India's independence in 1947. A tripartite agreement was signed between India, the British government, and the Nepali government in 1947.

243. **Where was the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Plus meeting held?**

11वीं आसियान रक्षा मंत्रियों की प्लस बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Rajnath Singh attends the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Plus Meeting

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has represented India at the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Plus Forum meeting in the Lao People's Democratic Republic's capital, Vientiane.

Lao PDR, the Chair of the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), is hosting the 18th ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting and the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Plus Meeting in Vientiane.

During his visit to Vientiane, Rajnath Singh also held a bilateral meeting with the Defence Minister of Lao PDR, General Chansamone Chanyalath, Chinese Defence Minister Admiral Dong Jun and Malaysian Defence Minister Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Bin Nordin, on the sidelines of the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Plus Meeting. India has a close partnership with ASEAN. India was made a sectoral partner in 1992 and the relationship between the two was raised to the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

244. **Which city in India hosted the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Bocce & Bowling Competition 2024?**

भारत के किस शहर ने विशेष ओलंपिक एशिया पैसिफिक बोके और बॉलिंग प्रतियोगिता 2024 की मेजबानी की?

- (a) Chennai
- (b) Surat
- (c) Indore
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Noida

Ans. d

Sol. India hosted Special Olympics Asia Pacific Bocce & Bowling Competition in New Delhi

For the first time, India hosted the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Bocce & Bowling Competition at the Thyagaraj Sports Complex in New Delhi.

The event is open to athletes from the Asia-Pacific with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This is the first time a competitive bowling event has been held in India. Eighty-one athletes from 12 countries of the Asia-Pacific region participated in the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Bocce & Bowling Competition

The Special Olympics Asia Pacific Bocce & Bowling Competition was inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar.

245. Tata Power has signed a MoU with which organization for financing clean energy projects worth \$4.25 billion in India?

टाटा पावर ने भारत में 4.25 बिलियन डॉलर की स्वच्छ ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के वित्तपोषण के लिए किस संगठन के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) ADB
- (b) WB
- (c) NHB
- (d) IMF
- (e) Exim Bank

Ans. a

Sol. Tata Power ties up with ADB for \$4.25 bn to finance clean energy projects
Tata Power has signed a MoU with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for financing clean energy projects worth \$4.25 billion in India.

The MoU outlines the evaluation of financing for key ongoing projects, such as the 966 MW solar-wind hybrid project, pumped hydro storage project, and other projects in the pipeline related to energy transition, decarbonization, and battery storage.

It also includes ongoing financing for capital expenditures (capex) to strengthen the distribution networks managed by Tata Power.

This agreement coincides with the ongoing climate conference (COP29) at Baku, Azerbaijan, aimed at enhancing India's power infrastructure and promoting renewable and clean energy.

This partnership is pivotal as India accelerates its journey toward achieving its renewable energy target of 500 GW by 2030. The projects under evaluation, such as the large-scale solar-wind hybrid systems and advanced hydro storage solutions, signify an investment in the future of India's clean energy infrastructure.

246. Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched the VISION Portal to promote skill development among underprivileged children. Identify which option is not correct in this regard.

डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह ने वंचित बच्चों में कौशल विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विज्ञन पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है। इस संबंध में कौन सा विकल्प सही नहीं है, इसकी पहचान करें।

- (a) VISION stands for Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network portal.
- (b) The Gurugram, Haryana-based non-profit organisation Utsav Foundation developed the VISION.
- (c) The Scheme aims to develop problem-solving abilities among the youth by bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical experience.
- (d) India has the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world. In 2014, there were 350 start-ups, which has grown to 1.67 lakh at present.
- (e) The Startup India programme is being implemented by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Ans. e

Sol. Dr. Jitendra Singh Launches VISION Portal, for nurturing skill development in underprivileged children

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, has inaugurated the VISION("Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network") Portal in New Delhi.

The Portal aims to empower and uplift youth from the underprivileged section of the country through education, skill development and sustainable livelihood.

The Gurugram, Haryana-based non-profit organisation Utsav Foundation developed the VISION(Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network) Portal.

The Utsav Foundation works to empower the youth by providing them with the necessary skills and resources through internship and skill development.

The Scheme aims to develop problem-solving abilities among the youth by bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that India has the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world. In 2014, there were 350 start-ups, which has grown to 1.67 lakh at present.

On 16 January 2016, the government of India launched the Startup India programme.

The main aim of the start-up initiative is to build a strong startup ecosystem in the country to nurture innovation and startups.

Under the Startup India programme, funds are made available to startups of disadvantaged populations like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Women through banks and other financial institutions.

The Startup India programme is being implemented by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

247. PM Narendra Modi and the PM of Grenada, H.E. Mr. Dickon Mitchell, the current CARICOM Chair, chaired the 2nd India-CARICOM Summit in Georgetown. Which year was the first India-CARICOM summit held?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और ग्रेनेडा के प्रधानमंत्री महामहिम श्री डिकॉन मिशेल, जो वर्तमान CARICOM अध्यक्ष हैं, ने जॉर्जटाउन में दूसरे भारत-CARICOM शिखर सम्मेलन की अध्यक्षता की। पहला भारत-CARICOM शिखर सम्मेलन किस वर्ष आयोजित किया गया था?

- (a) 2018
- (b) 2019
- (c) 2022
- (d) 2023
- (e) 2021

Ans. b

Sol. PM Modi meets caribbean leaders at India-CARICOM Summit To Strengthen Ties
The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi chaired the 2nd India-CARICOM Summit in Georgetown, Guyana, alongside the Prime Minister of Grenada, the current CARICOM Chair.

The first India-CARICOM Summit was held in 2019 in New York. To further build on India's close development partnership and strong people to people ties with the region, Prime Minister offered assistance to CARICOM countries in seven key areas.

These areas fit well with the CARICOM acronym and amplify the close bonds of friendship between India and the group. They are:

- C: Capacity Building
- A: Agriculture and Food Security
- R: Renewable Energy and Climate Change
- I: Innovation, Technology and Trade
- C: Cricket and Culture
- O: Ocean Economy and Maritime Security
- M: Medicine and Healthcare

About CARICOM

- CARICOM is a grouping of 21 countries: 15 Member States and 6 Associate Members including both island states and mainland territories like Suriname and Guyana.
- Founded - 1973 with the signing of the Treaty of Chaguaramas by four founding members of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

248. Which state of India will host the Khelo India Youth Games 2025 in April 2025?

भारत का कौन सा राज्य अप्रैल 2025 में खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स 2025 की मेज़बानी करेगा?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Bihar to host Khelo India Youth Games and Para Games in April 2025

Bihar will host the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) and Khelo India Para Games (KIPG) in 2025.

KIYG is a national-level, multi-disciplinary sports competition for school and college students in India. It aims to promote sports culture and identify sporting talent at the grassroots level.

The games are held annually in January or February and are part of the government's Khelo India initiative.

For the first time and in the lines of the Summer Olympics, the Khelo India Para Games will also be held in Bihar.

The first edition of the Para Games was held in Delhi last year. Previously the Khelo India Youth Games 2023 were held in Tamil Nadu in January this year.

249. Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan, along with Minister of Labour and Employment and Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched a report titled Jobs at Your Doorstep: A Jobs Diagnostics for Young People in how many States, at an event in New Delhi?

केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री धर्मेंद्र प्रधान ने श्रम एवं रोजगार तथा युवा मामले एवं खेल मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया के साथ मिलकर नई दिल्ली में आयोजित एक कार्यक्रम में 'आपके द्वार पर नौकरियां: कितने राज्यों में युवाओं के लिए नौकरियों का निदान' शीर्षक से एक रिपोर्ट लॉन्च की?

- (a) 4

- (b) 5
- (c) 7
- (d) 6
- (e) 22

Ans. d

Sol. Centre launches World Bank's 'Jobs at your doorstep' report

Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, along with Minister of Labour and Employment and Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched a report titled Jobs at Your Doorstep: A Jobs Diagnostics for Young People in the Six States, at an event in New Delhi.

World Bank assists the Ministry of Education with its program called Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) covering six states namely Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan (collectively the STARS states) STARS Scheme has a national component under which key reforms are shared and disseminated for implementation.

This report underscores the significant benefits of embedding skill-based education from grades 9-12 to prepare students for diverse career paths relying on a bottom-up approach, going deep in districts of the six states.

250. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and _____ signed a MoU for establishing a framework to promote the use of local currencies viz., the Indian Rupee (INR) and the Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR) for cross-border transactions.

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) और _____ ने सीमा पार लेनदेन के लिए स्थानीय मुद्राओं जैसे भारतीय रुपया (INR) और मालदीवियन रूफिया (MVR) के उपयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक रूपरेखा स्थापित करने के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

- (a) Maldives Monetary Authority
- (b) Maldives Finance Forum
- (c) Maldives Fund Management Corporation Limited
- (d) Maldives Investments Trading Corporation
- (e) Maldives Center for Islamic Finance

Ans. a

Sol. RBI, Maldives Monetary Authority sign pact to promote use of local currencies

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) signed a MoU for establishing a framework to promote the use of local currencies viz., the Indian Rupee (INR) and the Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR) for cross-border transactions.

The MoU was signed by the Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Shaktikanta Das and the Governor, Maldives Monetary Authority, Mr. Ahmed Munawar.

The MoU encourages the use of INR and MVR in current account transactions, permissible capital account transactions and any other economic and financial transactions as agreed upon by both countries.

This framework would enable exporters and importers to invoice and settle in their respective domestic currencies, which in turn would enable the development of trading in INR-MVR pair in foreign exchange market. Use of local currencies would optimise costs and settlement time for transactions.

251. World Television Day is celebrated annually on November 21 to highlight television's role as a key medium of communication and its impact on global awareness, decision-making, and education. What is the theme of World Television Day 2024?

विश्व टेलीविजन दिवस हर साल 21 नवंबर को मनाया जाता है, ताकि संचार के एक प्रमुख माध्यम के रूप में टेलीविजन की भूमिका और वैश्विक जागरूकता, निर्णय लेने और शिक्षा पर इसके प्रभाव को उजागर किया जा सके। विश्व टेलीविजन दिवस 2024 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) AI
- (b) Reliability
- (c) Accessibility
- (d) Waves
- (e) Cinema@2024

Ans. c

Sol. 21 November - World Television Day

World Television Day is celebrated annually on November 21 to highlight television's role as a key medium of communication and its impact on global awareness, decision-making, and education.

Theme 2024 - Accessibility

The United Nations established World Television Day in 1996 following the first World Television Forum, which recognised television's growing influence on society. The UN declared this day to emphasise its importance as a tool for communication and global connectivity.

Television arrived in India in 1959, initially broadcasting educational programs. By 1982, the introduction of colour broadcasting and satellite networks brought TV closer to the masses, laying the foundation for today's diverse media landscape.

252. Which bank has got approval from the Reserve Bank to enter the insurance business through a joint venture with Generali group under FGIICL and FGILICL, in November 2024?

किस बैंक को नवंबर 2024 में FGIICL और FGILICL के तहत जनरली समूह के साथ एक संयुक्त उद्यम के माध्यम से बीमा कारोबार में प्रवेश करने के लिए रिजर्व बैंक से मंजूरी मिल गई है?

- (a) Union Bank of India
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) Indian Bank
- (d) Central Bank of India
- (e) UCO Bank

Ans. d

Sol. RBI nod for Central Bank of India's insurance foray in JV with Future Generali

The Central Bank of India has received Reserve Bank of India approval for its proposed foray into life and non-life insurance business through a joint venture with the Generali group.

The RBI approved the bank's entry in the insurance business, through a joint venture with the Generali group under Future Generali India Insurance Company and Future Generali India Life Insurance Company, subject to continuous compliance of conditions stipulated by it and approval of sectoral regulator IRDAI.

This follows the Committee of Creditors for sale of Category 1 assets of Future Enterprises stake in FGILICL, and FGILICL declaring the State-owned lender successful bidder in August. In October, the Competition Commission of India had approved the proposed combination.

253. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has given a go-ahead to Hinduja Group firm IIHL for acquisition of debt-ridden Reliance Capital Ltd (RCAP). A citizen or permanent resident of which among the following country required to pursue investment through the government approval route, if they are the beneficial owner of an investment in India?

उद्योग एवं आंतरिक व्यापार संवर्धन विभाग (DPIIT) ने कर्ज में छूटी रिलायंस कैपिटल लिमिटेड (RCAP) के अधिग्रहण के लिए हिंदुजा समूह की कंपनी IIHL को मंजूरी दे दी है। निम्नलिखित में से किस देश के नागरिक या स्थायी निवासी को भारत में निवेश के लाभकारी स्वामी होने पर सरकारी अनुमोदन मार्ग से निवेश करना आवश्यक है?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Vietnam
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) Laos
- (e) Nepal

Ans. e

Sol. DPIIT gives nod to Hinduja Group firm IIHL for acquisition of RCAP

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has given a go-ahead to Hinduja Group firm IIHL for acquisition of debt-ridden Reliance Capital Ltd (RCAP).

DPIIT approval was required as some of the shareholders of IndusInd International Holdings Ltd (IIHL) are residents of Hong Kong, a special administrative region controlled by China.

According to Press Note 3, if an entity from a nation sharing a land border with India (China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, and Afghanistan), or if a citizen or permanent resident of any such country is the beneficial owner of an investment in India, they are required to pursue investment through the government approval route. The approval was crucial as the Hinduja Group should close the transaction by the extended deadline of January 31, 2025. Failure to meet the deadline would require the group to return Rs 3,000 crore raised from high-net-worth individuals (HNIs), ultra-HNIs, and family offices for the deal.

254. World Hello Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व हैलो दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 20 November
- (b) 21 November
- (c) 22 November
- (d) 23 November
- (e) 24 November

Ans. b

Sol. 21 November- World Hello Day

World Hello Day is observed every year on 21 November.

World Hello Day is an opportunity to promote awareness that conflicts should be resolved through communication rather than the use of force.

Theme 2024 - Greeting for Peace

World Hello Day was founded by Michael McCormack, a Harvard University graduate, and Brian McCormack, an Arizona State University Ph.D. graduate, in 1973 in response to the Yom Kippur War between Egypt and Israel.

To encourage participation in the first World Hello Day, the McCormack brothers wrote 1,360 letters in seven different languages to world leaders across the globe, urging them to resolve disputes through communication rather than force.

Since that time, 180 nations have celebrated World Hello Day around the world. This day provides an opportunity for individuals to express their concern for world peace.

255. India has signed an agreement with which among the following country through which both countries air forces and conduct air-to-air refueling if they entered in their respective airspace, in November 2024?

भारत ने निम्नलिखित में से किस देश के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं जिसके माध्यम से नवंबर 2024 में दोनों देश अपनी-अपनी हवाई सीमा में प्रवेश करने पर वायु सेना और हवा से हवा में ईंधन भरने का संचालन करेंगे?

- (a) USA
- (b) Japan
- (c) France
- (d) Australia
- (e) Israel

Ans. d

Sol. India, Australia sign air-to-air refuelling agreement for defence
Australia and India have achieved a significant milestone in their defence relationship by signing an arrangement to facilitate air-to-air refuelling between the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and the Indian Armed Forces.

This agreement marks a new chapter in enhancing the operational capabilities and interoperability of both nations in the Indo-Pacific region.

The arrangement allows RAAF's KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport to refuel Indian Armed Forces aircraft, broadening their collaborative scope in joint operations.

Australia's Deputy Chief of Air Force, Air Vice-Marshal Harvey Reynolds, signed the arrangement in New Delhi during the Australia-India Air Staff Talks.

256. Who has been appointed as the President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for 2024-25?

2024-25 के लिए फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन चैंबर्स ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री (FICCI) का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Arvinder Singh Sahney
- (b) Ashutosh Gowariker
- (c) Harsha Vardhan Agarwal
- (d) K. Sanjay Murthy
- (e) Nandan Kumar Jha

Ans. c

Sol. Harsha Vardhan Agarwal of Emami appointed FICCI President Managing Director and Vice Chairman of Emami Group, Harsha Vardhan Agarwal, assumed the office of the President of the business lobby group, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for 2024-25.

Harsha Vardhan Agarwal succeeded Anish Shah.

Senior Vice President of FICCI - Anant Goenka who is the Vice Chairman of the RPG Group, which has diversified business interest in the infrastructure, tyre, information technology (IT), pharma, and speciality sectors.

Vice -President of FICCI - Vijay Sankar who is the Chairman of the Sanmar Group, headquartered in Chennai. The diversified Sanmar has business interest in India and abroad with presence in engineering technologies, chemicals, and shipping.

Recent Appointment

- **President of the International Mind Sports Association** - Nandan Kumar Jha (India)
- **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** - K. Sanjay Murthy (replace Girish Chandra Murmu)
- **Chairperson of International Jury for IFFI 2024** - Ashutosh Gowariker
- **Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation** - Arvinder Singh Sahney (replace V. Satish Kumar)
- **Coach of Neeraj Chopra** - Jan Zelezny (Czech Republic)

257. Who organised the High-Level Policy Conference of Central Banks from the Global South in Mumbai?

मुंबई में ग्लोबल साउथ से केंद्रीय बैंकों के उच्च स्तरीय नीति सम्मेलन का आयोजन किसने किया?

- (a) RBI
- (b) NABARD
- (c) SEBI
- (d) SIDBI
- (e) Finance Ministry

Ans. a

Sol. RBI's High-Level Policy Conference of Central Banks from Global South The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) organised a two-day "High-Level Policy Conference of Central Banks from the Global South" in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Conference was part of a series of international conferences organised by the Reserve Bank of India to celebrate the 90th year of its foundation under its flagship programme, RBI@90.

This was the third international conference to be organised by the Reserve Bank of India under its RBI@90 celebration.

The first international conference to be organised by the RBI was the "Global Conference on 'Digital Public Infrastructure and Emerging Technologies' in August 2024 in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

The theme of the High-Level Policy Conference of Central Banks from the Global South was "Building Synergies" across the central banking fraternity of the Global South".

The second international conference was organised in New Delhi in October 2024 under the theme High-Level Conference on 'Central Banking at Crossroads.'

The Reserve Bank of India was established on 1 April 1935 under the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934. The RBI's headquarters is in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

258. Which state was given the Best Marine State award at the 2024 World Fisheries Day?

2024 विश्व मत्स्य दिवस पर किस राज्य को सर्वश्रेष्ठ समुद्री राज्य का पुरस्कार दिया गया?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) West Bengal

Ans. a

Sol. Kerala receives the Best Marine State award at World Fisheries Day 2024

Kerala was honoured with the Best Marine State award for its contribution to the country's fisheries and aquaculture sector growth.

On the occasion of World Fisheries Day 2024, the Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying honoured many states, districts, and individuals for their contribution in a ceremony organised in New Delhi.

2024 Award winners list

Best State/Union Territory Category

- Best Marine State- Kerala
- Best Inland State- Telangana
- Best Himalayan and Northeastern State- Uttarakhand
- Best Union Territory - Jammu and Kashmir

Best District Award

- Best Marine District- Kollam, Kerala
- Best Inland District- Kanker, Chhattisgarh
- Best Himalayan and Northeastern District-Darrang, Assam
- Best Union Territory - Kulgam , Jammu and Kashmir.

259. The 6th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee and related meetings to discuss the review of AITIGA were held in which city?

छठी आसियान-भारत वस्तु व्यापार समझौता (एआईटीआईजीए) संयुक्त समिति और एआईटीआईजीए की समीक्षा पर चर्चा करने के लिए संबंधित बैठकें किस शहर में आयोजित की गईं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. 6th meeting of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement Joint Committee held in New Delhi

The 6th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee and related meetings for discussions on the review of the AITIGA were held in Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi.

There are 8 Sub-Committees under the AITIGA Joint Committee to negotiate aspects related to market access, rules of origin, SPS measures, standards and technical regulations, customs procedures, economic and technical cooperation, trade remedies, and legal and institutional provisions.

ASEAN is one of India's major trade partners, with an about 11% share in India's global trade. Bilateral trade in 2023-24 was USD 121 Bn and reached USD 73 Bn during April-October 2024, with a 5.2% growth. The review of AITIGA will be a step forward in enhancing trade with the ASEAN region in a sustainable manner.

260. _____ has directed the EPFO to ensure the Universal Account Number (UAN) of employees is active to avail the benefits of the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme.

_____ ने ईपीएफओ को निर्देश दिया है कि वह यह सुनिश्चित करे कि रोजगार से जुड़ी प्रोत्साहन (ईएलआई) योजना का लाभ उठाने के लिए कर्मचारियों का यूनिवर्सल अकाउंट नंबर (यूएएन) सक्रिय हो।

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of Labour & Employment
- (c) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- (d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (e) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Ans. b

Sol. Govt directs EPFO to ensure UAN activation for employees through Aadhaar-based OTP

The Ministry of Labour & Employment has directed the EPFO to ensure the Universal Account Number (UAN) of employees is active to avail the benefits of the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme.

To ensure that the maximum number of employers and employees benefit from the ELI Scheme, it has directed EPFO to work in a campaign mode with employers and ensure activation of UAN of employees.

UAN activation provides employees with seamless access to EPFO's comprehensive online services, enabling them to efficiently manage their Provident Fund (PF) accounts, view and download PF passbooks, submit online claims for withdrawals, advances, or transfers, update personal details, and track claims in real-time.

This allows employees 24/7 access to EPFO services from the comfort of their homes, eliminating the need for physical visits to EPFO offices.

In the first stage, employers are required to complete the process of UAN activation through Aadhaar-based OTP for all their employees joining in the current financial year by 30th November 2024, starting with the latest joinees.

261. In November 2024, which bank introduced a customized vehicle loan product for Uber's fleet partners to support the growth of the ride-hailing industry?

नवंबर 2024 में, किस बैंक ने राइड-हेलिंग उद्योग के विकास का समर्थन करने के लिए उबर के बेड़े के भागीदारों के लिए एक अनुकूलित वाहन ऋण उत्पाद पेश किया?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Union Bank of India
- (c) Canara Bank
- (d) Indian Bank
- (e) Axis Bank

Ans. a

Sol. SBI launches low-cost tailored vehicle loan for Uber's fleet partners

State Bank of India has introduced a customised vehicle loan product for Uber's fleet partners to support the growth of the ride-hailing industry.

This loan enables low-cost, tailored financing solutions as well as hassle free loan disbursement to Uber's fleet partners.

The partnership between SBI and Uber aims to leverage SBI's extensive financial services network and Uber's technology to ensure that the fleet partners effectively expand their fleet and scale-up their operations. SBI accounts for 19.2 per cent market share of auto loans in the country.

262. The 2024 Network Readiness Index (NRI), published by the Portulans Institute and Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford, has ranked the United States as the world leader in network readiness for the third consecutive year. What is the rank of India in this Index?

पोर्टुलन्स इंस्टीट्यूट और यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ ऑक्सफोर्ड के सैद बिजनेस स्कूल द्वारा प्रकाशित 2024 नेटवर्क रेडीनेस इंडेक्स (NRI) ने लगातार तीसरे साल नेटवर्क रेडीनेस में अमेरिका को दुनिया में अग्रणी स्थान दिया है। इस इंडेक्स में भारत का स्थान क्या है?

- (a) 5th
- (b) 15th
- (c) 26th
- (d) 49th
- (e) 71st

Ans. d

Sol. United States leads global Network Readiness Index 2024; India ranks 49th

The 2024 Network Readiness Index (NRI), published by the Portulans Institute and Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford, has ranked the United States as the world leader in network readiness for the third consecutive year.

The report highlights the US's dominance in artificial intelligence (AI) development, digital business transformation, and technology adoption.

Singapore has retained the second position, while South Korea has risen to fifth, making them the only Asian countries in the top 10. The rankings underscore Europe's dominance, with Finland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom occupying prominent positions.

India is ranked 49th globally, maintaining its position as a rising digital powerhouse. Among lower-middle-income countries, India is second only to Vietnam (45th).

The NRI 2024 reveals a complex global digital landscape where significant disparities exist between regions and development levels. At the top of the rankings, the United States leads with exceptional performance across technology adoption and innovation

metrics, particularly excelling in areas like AI development and digital business transformation.

Recent index

- **Henley Passport Index 2024 (Oct 2024)**: India at 83rd; topped by Singapore
- **World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2024** - India at 79th; topped by Denmark
- **First Global Nature Conservation Index 2024** - India ranks 176th with a score of 45.5 out of 100; Luxembourg ranked 1st with a score of 70.8
- **Global Innovation Index 2024** - India at 39th; topped by Switzerland
- **Asia Power Index** - 1st USA; 2nd China; 3rd India; 4th Japan; 5th Australia

263. In November 2024, Writer Ashok Gopal won the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize for his biography _____.

नवंबर 2024 में, लेखक अशोक गोपाल ने अपनी जीवनी _____ के लिए कमलादेवी चट्टोपाध्याय एनआईएफ पुस्तक पुरस्कार जीता।

(a) Sheikh Abdullah: The Caged Lion of Kashmir
 (b) Fire on the Ganges: Life Among the Dead in Banaras
 (c) How Prime Ministers Decide
 (d) A Part Apart: The Life and Thought of B R Ambedkar
 (e) H-Pop: The Secretive World of Hindutva Pop Stars

Ans. d

Sol. Author Ashok Gopal wins Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF book prize for BR Ambedkar's biography

Writer Ashok Gopal has won the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize for his biography "A Part Apart: The Life and Thought of B R Ambedkar", from the New India Foundation.

Published by Navayana, the book delivers a vivid account of Ambedkar's life journey from facing systemic oppression to shaping India's constitution as an advocate for marginalised communities.

The winning author has been presented with the award, which includes a cash prize of Rs 15 lakhs, a trophy, and a citation.

Other books in the shortlist included "How Prime Ministers Decide" by Neerja Choudhry, "Fire on the Ganges: Life Among the Dead in Banaras" by Radhika Iyengar, "H-Pop: The Secretive World of Hindutva Pop Stars" by Kunal Purohit, and "Sheikh Abdullah: The Caged Lion of Kashmir" by Chitralekha Zutshi.

Recent Award

- **Indira Gandhi Prize for 2023** - Daniel Barenboim, and Ali Abu Awwad (for Peace, Disarmament, and Development)
- **Green World Awards 2024 in London** - Coal India Limited
- **73rd Miss Universe (2024)** - Victoria Kjaer Theilvig (Denmark); Second-Chidimma Adetshina (Nigeria); Third - Maria Fernanda Beltran (Mexico)
- **First Indian to win Miss Grand International 2024** - Rachel Gupta (from Jalandhar)

- Fiji highest Civilian Award - Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

264. The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) announced that Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI), a part of Japan's Sony Group Corporation, had bagged the media rights for all ACC tournaments from 2024 to ____.

एशियाई क्रिकेट परिषद (एसीसी) ने घोषणा की कि जापान के सोनी ग्रुप कॉर्पोरेशन के एक हिस्से सोनी पिक्चर्स नेटवर्क्स इंडिया (एसपीएनआई) ने 2024 से ____ तक सभी एसीसी टूर्नामेंटों के मीडिया अधिकार हासिल कर लिए हैं।

- 2026
- 2027
- 2028
- 2030
- 2031

Ans. e

Sol. Sony bags Asian Cricket Council media rights till 2031 for \$170 mn

The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) announced that Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI), a part of Japan's Sony Group Corporation, had bagged the media rights for all ACC tournaments from 2024 to 2031.

The deal includes broadcasting and digital rights for all ACC tournaments over the next eight years. Star India had the media rights till 2023.

The deal encompasses all editions of men's and women's Asia Cups, men's and women's Under-19 Asia Cups, and the men's and women's Emerging Teams Asia Cups. It marks over a 70 per cent increase from the previous media rights cycle and highlights the growing global stature and appetite for ACC Asia Cup tournaments.

265. In November 2024, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed Rs 64 lakh monetary penalties on which bank for its failure to obtain an annual declaration in Form B from one of its major shareholders within the stipulated time frame of one month after the close of the financial year ending on March 31, 2018, March 31, 2019, and March 31, 2020?

नवंबर 2024 में, भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) ने 31 मार्च, 2018, 31 मार्च, 2019 और 31 मार्च, 2020 को समाप्त होने वाले वित्तीय वर्ष की समाप्ति के एक महीने बाद की निर्धारित समय सीमा के भीतर अपने एक प्रमुख शेयरधारक से फ़ॉर्म B में वार्षिक घोषणा प्राप्त करने में विफल रहने के लिए किस बैंक पर 64 लाख रुपये का मौद्रिक जुर्माना लगाया है?

- ICICI Bank
- Yes Bank
- RBL Bank
- Axis Bank
- Canara Bank

Ans. c

Sol. RBI slaps monetary penalties on RBL Bank, Union Bank, and Bajaj Finance

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed monetary penalties on RBL Bank, Union Bank, and Bajaj Finance due to violation of certain norms.

RBL Bank has been fined Rs 64,00,000 for its failure to obtain an annual declaration in Form B from one of its major shareholders within the stipulated time frame of one

month after the close of the financial year ending on March 31, 2018, March 31, 2019, and March 31, 2020.

Further, Union Bank of India has incurred a penalty of Rs 1 crore for its failure to comply with specific directions. The bank had sanctioned a term loan to a corporation without conducting necessary due diligence on the viability and bankability of the projects.

A penalty worth Rs 8,50,000 was imposed on Bajaj Finance. The penalty was levied due to the company's non-compliance with the 'Monitoring of Frauds in NBFCs Directions, 2016,' a set of guidelines issued by the RBI.

Recent Penalties imposed on Banks by RBI

- HDFC Bank (1 crore) - for non-compliance with regulations
- Axis Bank (1.91 crore) - for non-compliance with regulations
- Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd (3.5 lakh) - for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company'
- Godrej Housing (5 lakh)- for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company'
- Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd. -(5 lakh)- for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions on 'non-banking financial company'
- UCO Bank (2.68 crore)- for contravention of certain provisions, including on opening of current accounts, interest rate on deposits and frauds classification

266. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the transaction limit for UPI 123Pay from Rs 5,000 to _____ allowing users to make higher-value digital payments via feature phones.

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने UPI 123Pay के लिए लेनदेन सीमा 5,000 रुपये से बढ़ाकर _____ कर दी है, जिससे उपयोगकर्ता फीचर फोन के माध्यम से उच्च-मूल्य वाले डिजिटल भुगतान कर सकेंगे।

(a) Rs 8,000
 (b) Rs 10,000
 (c) Rs 13,000
 (d) Rs 15,000
 (e) Rs 20,000



Ans. b

Sol. UPI 123Pay transaction limit doubles to Rs 10,000 for feature phone users

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the transaction limit for UPI 123Pay from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000, allowing users to make higher-value digital payments via feature phones.

UPI 123Pay is a service designed for people who do not have internet access on their mobile phones, offering a way to make digital payments through methods such as:

IVR (Interactive Voice Response): Users interact with a voice-based system to carry out transactions.

Missed Calls: A feature where users can make payments by dialing specific numbers and hanging up, triggering a payment process.

OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) Apps: Special apps installed on feature phones that allow users to make payments.

Sound Technology: Using sound waves to securely transfer payment information between devices

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), which manages UPI, has instructed banks and service providers to implement this change. Although the rule is effective immediately, full compliance with the new limit must be completed by January 1, 2025

267. Which company has signed an agreement with Bengaluru Airport City Limited (BACL), a subsidiary of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), to establish a facility for Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (AME)?

किस कंपनी ने विमान रखरखाव इंजीनियरिंग (AME) के लिए एक सुविधा स्थापित करने के लिए बैंगलुरु इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट लिमिटेड (BIAL) की सहायक कंपनी बैंगलुरु एयरपोर्ट सिटी लिमिटेड (BACL) के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Air India
- (b) Vistara
- (c) Indigo
- (d) Akasha
- (e) Both a and c

Ans. a

Sol. Air India to set up basic maintenance training organisation in Bengaluru Airport City

Tata-owned Air India has signed an agreement with Bengaluru Airport City Limited (BACL), a subsidiary of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), to establish a facility for Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (AME).

The 86,000-square-foot campus, located at Bengaluru Airport City, is scheduled to become operational by mid-2026.

The Basic Maintenance Training Organisation will establish a pipeline of skilled engineers trained to Air India standards from the outset.

The agreement is part of Air India's plans to set up a basic maintenance training organisation (BMTO) to offer an integrated aircraft maintenance engineering (AME) program certified by the Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

268. Which company has unveiled Gauss 2, the second generation of its generative artificial intelligence (AI) model, at an annual tech conference?

किस कंपनी ने वार्षिक तकनीकी सम्मेलन में अपने जनरेटिव आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) मॉडल की दूसरी पीढ़ी, गॉस 2 का अनावरण किया है?

- (a) Samsung
- (b) Google
- (c) Microsoft
- (d) Meta
- (e) Xiaomi

Ans. a

Sol. Samsung introduces its second-gen AI model 'Gauss2'

Samsung Electronics unveiled Gauss 2, the second generation of its generative artificial intelligence (AI) model, at an annual tech conference.

Samsung Gauss, first introduced last year, is aimed at enhancing the work efficiency of workers by facilitating tasks, such as composing emails, summarising documents and translating content.

The second-generation version offers improved performance and efficiency in simultaneously handling various data types as a multimodal model integrating language, code and images.

It is available in three distinct models catered to different purposes -- Compact, Balanced and Supreme. Samsung Gauss 2 supports nine to 14 languages, as well as various programming languages, depending on the model. The tech giant said Samsung Gauss is already being used in various tasks for the company's employees, leveraging its customisable development capabilities.

269. **Harjit Singh Bedi passed away recently at the of 78. Who was he?**

हरजीत सिंह बेदी का हाल ही में 78 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Politician
- (b) Former Supreme Court Judge
- (c) Historian
- (d) Former Chief of ISRO
- (e) Former Chief of DRDO

Ans. b

Sol. Former SC judge H S Bedi dies at 78

Former Supreme Court judge Harjit Singh Bedi passed away at the 78.

Born on September 5, 1946, Justice Bedi was the son of Justice Tikka Jagjit Singh Bedi, a judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. He studied at Bishop Cotton School, Shimla, completing his Senior Cambridge in 1962.

Justice Bedi began his legal career on July 17, 1972, enrolling with the Bar Council of Punjab & Haryana. He was a part-time law lecturer from 1974 to 1983 and served as Deputy Advocate General of Punjab from 1983 to 1987. He was designated Senior Advocate in 1987 and worked as Additional Advocate General until 1989 before becoming Punjab's Advocate General in 1990.

He was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court on March 15, 1991, becoming a permanent judge on July 8, 1992. In 2006, he became Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court and was elevated to the Supreme Court on January 12, 2007. He retired on September 5, 2011.

In 2012, Justice Bedi was appointed Chairman of the Monitoring Authority by the Supreme Court to examine cases of alleged fake encounters in Gujarat. In his report, he recommended further probes into three of the 17 cases he reviewed.

270. **Who has been honoured with the FABA Lifetime Achievement Award for 2024?**

2024 के लिए FABA लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट अवार्ड से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Raghuram Rajan
- (b) Anshula Kan
- (c) Gita Gopinath

(d) Dr. Soumya Swaminathan

(e) Arvind Subramanian

Ans. d

Sol. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan Honored with FABA Lifetime Achievement Award

The Federation of Asian Biotech Associations (FABA) has announced Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, former Chief Scientist at the World Health Organization (WHO) and Principal Adviser to the National TB Elimination Programme, as the recipient of its esteemed Lifetime Achievement Award for 2024.

The honour will be presented at the University of Hyderabad's School of Life Sciences. Dr. Swaminathan's distinguished career is marked by her exceptional contributions to global health, particularly in tuberculosis (TB) research and her pivotal role in the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Swaminathan's recognition by FABA is a testament to her unwavering dedication to addressing critical health challenges through research, innovation, and compassionate leadership.

Recent Award

- Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize** - Ashok Gopal (for *A Part Apart: The Life and Thought of B R Ambedkar*)
- Indira Gandhi Prize for 2023** - Daniel Barenboim, and Ali Abu Awwad (for Peace, Disarmament, and Development)
- Green World Awards 2024 in London** - Coal India Limited
- 73rd Miss Universe (2024)** - Victoria Kjaer Theilvig (Denmark); Second-Chidimma Adetshina (Nigeria); Third - Maria Fernanda Beltran (Mexico)
- First Indian to win Miss Grand International 2024** - Rachel Gupta (from Jalandhar)

271. Samsung R&D Institute, Noida (SRI-Noida) has signed MoU with which IIT to pursue frontier research in Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital health and other emerging technologies over the next five years?

सैमसंग आरएंडडी इंस्टीट्यूट, नोएडा (एसआरआई-नोएडा) ने अगले पांच वर्षों में आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई), डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य और अन्य उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों में अग्रणी अनुसंधान के लिए किस आईआईटी के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) IIT Dhanbad

(b) IIT Delhi

(c) IIT Kanpur

(d) IIT Bombay

(e) IIT Madras

Ans. d

Sol. Samsung R&D Institute, Noida partners with IIT Bombay to Advance AI and Digital Health Research

In a significant step towards industry-academia collaboration, Samsung R&D Institute, Noida (SRI-Noida) has signed an MoU with the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay).

The partnership aims to pioneer groundbreaking research in artificial intelligence (AI), digital health, and other emerging technologies over the next five years.

This collaboration seeks to bridge the gap between academic research and industry practices, providing IIT Bombay students with practical experience and insights into cutting-edge technologies. It also enables Samsung engineers to receive specialized training and certifications in emerging fields, delivered by IIT Bombay faculty.

272. In November 2024, the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) has recommended Binod Kumar for the post of Managing Director of which bank?

नवंबर 2024 में, वित्तीय सेवा संस्थान ब्यूरो (FSIB) ने बिनोद कुमार को किस बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक के पद के लिए सिफारिश की है?

- (a) Indian Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) UCO Bank
- (e) Union Bank of India

Ans. a

Sol. FSIB recommends Binod Kumar for the post of MD and CEO of Indian Bank. The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommended Binod Kumar for the post of Managing Director of Chennai-based Indian Bank.

Kumar, who is serving as Executive Director of Punjab National Bank, will replace S L Jain on his superannuation next month.

Earlier in April, the bureau had selected Asheesh Pandey for the position but the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had raised some reservation over his name. Therefore, the bureau held a fresh interview to choose a new person in place of Pandey.

The final decision on the FSIB recommendation would be taken by the appointments committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

About Indian Bank

- **Founded** – 15 August 1907
- **Headquarters** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- **MD & CEO** - Shanti Lal Jain
- **Tagline** - Your Own Bank

273. Countries at the COP29 summit in Baku adopted a _____ a year global finance target to help poorer nations cope with impacts of climate change.

बाकू में COP29 शिखर सम्मेलन में देशों ने जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों से निपटने में गरीब देशों की मदद के लिए प्रति वर्ष _____ के वैश्विक वित्त लक्ष्य को अपनाया।

- (a) USD 100 billion
- (b) USD 200 billion
- (c) USD 300 billion
- (d) USD 400 billion
- (e) USD 500 billion

Ans. c

Sol. World agrees on USD 300 billion climate aid for developing nations

Countries at the COP29 summit in Baku adopted a \$300 billion a year global finance target to help poorer nations cope with impacts of climate change. The agreement, clinched in overtime at the two-week conference in Azerbaijan's capital, was meant to provide momentum for international efforts to curb global warming in a year destined to be the hottest on record.

The agreement would provide \$300 billion annually by 2035, boosting rich countries' previous commitment to provide \$100 billion per year in climate finance by 2020. That earlier goal was met two years late, in 2022, and expires in 2025.

The deal also lays the groundwork for next year's climate summit, to be held in the Amazon rainforest of Brazil, where countries are meant to map out the next decade of climate action.

The summit cut to the heart of the debate over financial responsibility of industrialised countries - whose historic use of fossil fuels has caused the bulk of greenhouse gas emissions - to compensate others for worsening damage from climate change.

274. Union Minister of Rural Development and Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched the third edition of Nayi Chetna – Pahal Badlaav Ki, a national campaign against gender-based violence in Rang Bhawan Auditorium, New Delhi. What is the slogan of this campaign?

केंद्रीय ग्रामीण विकास और कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने नई दिल्ली के रंग भवन सभागार में लैंगिक हिंसा के खिलाफ राष्ट्रीय अभियान नई चेतना – पहल बदलाव की के तीसरे संस्करण की शुरुआत की। इस अभियान का नारा क्या है?

- (a) Naya Yuug Naya Nari
- (b) Ek Awaaz Hinsa ke Khilaaf
- (c) Ek Nari Sab Par Bhari
- (d) Ek Saath, Ek Awaaz, Hinsa Ke Khilaaf
- (e) Pahal Badlav ki

Ans. d

Sol. Shivraj S Chouhan launched Nayi Chetna 3.0 – Pahal Badlaav Ki Campaign against Gender-Based Violence

Union Minister of Rural Development and Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched the third edition of Nayi Chetna – Pahal Badlaav Ki, a national campaign against gender-based violence in Rang Bhawan Auditorium, New Delhi.

The month-long campaign, organized by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) under the aegis of the Ministry of Rural Development, will run across all Indian States and Union Territories until 23rd December 2024.

The campaign is a collaborative effort in the spirit of “whole of government” approach and will witness participation of 9 Ministries/Departments namely Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Department of Justice.

The Nayi Chetna campaign aims to amplify awareness and drive informed action against gender-based violence through grassroots initiatives.

Since its inception, Nayi Chetna has mobilized millions nationwide, fostering a significant movement for gender equality and women's empowerment. The first edition reached 3.5 crore people, supported by multiple line ministries, while Nayi Chetna 2.0 engaged 5.5 crore participants across 31 States and Union Territories, with over 9 lakh awareness activities on gender-based violence conducted nationwide.

The objectives of Nayi Chetna 3.0 include raising awareness of all forms of gender-based violence, encouraging communities to speak out and demand action, providing access to support systems for timely assistance and empowering local institutions to act decisively against violence. The campaign's slogan, "Ek Saath, Ek Awaaz, Hinsa Ke Khilaaf," embodies the call for collective action through convergence efforts, adopting a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach.

275. Who inaugurated the ICA Global Cooperative Conference at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi in November 2024?

नवंबर 2024 में नई दिल्ली के भारत मंडपम में ICA वैश्विक सहकारी सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- (d) Droupadi Murmu
- (e) Narendra Modi

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated Global Cooperative Conference in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the ICA Global Cooperative Conference at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

For the first time, in 130 years long history of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), the Global Cooperative Conference and General Assembly was organized in India. On the occasion, Mr. Modi launched a commemorative stamp on the International Year of Cooperatives 2025.

The Global Conference was hosted by Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, in collaboration with ICA and the Government of India, and Indian Cooperatives AMUL and KRIBHCO.

The International Cooperative Alliance was founded in 1895. It represents thirty lakh cooperative enterprises worldwide and has more than one billion cooperative members.

276. In November 2024, India's first Constitution Museum was inaugurated at which university by Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla?

नवंबर 2024 में, भारत के पहले संविधान संग्रहालय का उद्घाटन कानून मंत्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल और लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला द्वारा किस विश्वविद्यालय में किया गया?

- (a) Delhi University
- (b) Amity University Noida
- (c) National Law University, Delhi
- (d) O P Jindal Global University
- (e) NALSAR University of Law

Ans. d

Sol. India's first Constitution Museum inaugurated at OP Jindal University
India's first Constitution Museum was inaugurated at the O P Jindal Global University by Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. This museum will acquaint present and coming generations with our constitution, how it was framed and what discussions and debates took place then. Notably, the museum is designed to provide a deep and engaging exploration of the Constitution's essential elements and key provisions for the citizens to know demonstrating how its values and ideals have shaped the nation. The visitor can immerse themselves in the sights and sounds of pre-independence India, through 360-degree visual spectacle. Through cutting-edge technology and multimedia storytelling, the exhibit unfolds the chronological tapestry of events leading to the drafting of the Indian Constitution.

277. Recently, the writer Upamanyu Chatterjee has been awarded which award for his book "Lorenzo Searches for the Meaning of Life"?

हाल ही में लेखक उपमन्यु चटर्जी को उनकी पुस्तक "लोरेंजो सर्चेस फॉर द मीनिंग ऑफ लाइफ" के लिए कौन सा पुरस्कार दिया गया है?

- (a) JCB Prize
- (b) Sahitya Akademi Award
- (c) Jnanpith Award
- (d) Saraswati Samman
- (e) Vyas Samman

Ans. a

Sol. Upamanyu wins JCB Prize 2024 for 'Lorenzo Searches for the Meaning of Life'
Writer Upamanyu Chatterjee has won the JCB Prize for Literature for his book "Lorenzo Searches for the Meaning of Life".

Chatterjee's book, published by Speaking Tiger, follows the story of a young Italian man who starts leading a life of spirituality after an accident only to discover the banalities of the path.

Chatterjee received a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh along with a trophy sculpted by Delhi artist duo, Thukral and Tagra, titled 'Mirror Melting'.

The prize, established in 2018, is presented to a distinguished work of fiction by an Indian author.

In 2023, "Firebird" by Perumal Murugan, translated from the Malayalam by Janani Kannan won the prestigious award.

278. Which Indian personality was honored with the Dr Martin Luther King Jr Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment in November 2024?

नवंबर 2024 में किस भारतीय व्यक्तित्व को अल्पसंख्यक उत्थान के लिए डॉ मार्टिन लूथर किंग जूनियर वैश्विक शांति पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया?

- (a) Ratan Tata
- (b) Sonam Wangchuck
- (c) Rahul Gandhi
- (d) Rajinikanth

(e) Narendra Modi

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi honoured with Global Peace Award For Indian-American Minority Welfare
The Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM), a newly formed non-governmental organisation, was launched at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, Maryland.

The initiative aims to unite and promote the welfare of minority communities within the Indian American community in the United States.

During the event, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the Dr Martin Luther King Jr Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment. The award was jointly presented by Washington Adventist University and AIAM, recognising his efforts towards inclusive development and minority welfare.

Renowned Sikh philanthropist Jasdeep Singh was appointed as the Founder and Chairman of AIAM, supported by a seven-member Board of Directors representing diverse Indian minority communities.

These members include Baljinder Singh and Dr Sukhpal Dhanoa (Sikhs), Pawan Bezwada and Elisha Pulivarti (Christians), Dipak Thakker (Hindu), Juned Qazi (Muslim), and Nissim Reuben (Indian Jewish).

279. A potential cyclone named 'Fengal' is forming in the Bay of Bengal, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The cyclone name Fengal is suggested by which country?

भारतीय मौसम विभाग (IMD) के अनुसार बंगाल की खाड़ी में 'फेंगल' नामक संभावित चक्रवात बन रहा है। चक्रवात का नाम फेंगल किस देश ने सुझाया है?

- (a) Oman
- (b) India
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Saudi Arabia
- (e) Sri Lanka

Ans. d

Sol. Cyclone 'Fengal': Low-pressure area developed on Bay of Bengal

A potential cyclone named 'Fengal,' suggested by Saudi Arabia, is forming in the Bay of Bengal, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

It will move towards Tamil Nadu and further towards Sri Lanka. However, in most likeliness, it will weaken before crossing the land.

This probable cyclone 'Fengal' will have no impact on Odisha as were weather forecasts.

This comes on the heels of Cyclone Dana, which severely impacted Odisha in October 2024.

280. In November 2024, which bank has become a signatory to the globally recognised Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)?

नवंबर 2024 में, कौन सा बैंक कार्बन अकाउंटिंग फाइनेंशियल्स (पीसीएफ) के लिए विश्व स्तर पर मान्यता प्राप्त भागीदारी का हस्ताक्षरकर्ता बन गया है

- (a) Indian Bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank

(d) UCO Bank

(e) Union Bank of India

Ans. c

Sol. PNB becomes a PCAF signatory, strengthening its commitment to climate responsibility

Punjab National Bank (PNB), the country's second largest public sector bank, has become a signatory to the globally recognised Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF).

This move reinforces PNB's commitment to transparency and proactive climate action, by adopting internationally benchmarked standards for measuring and disclosing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with its lending and investment activities. In the financial year 2023-24, PNB disclosed its financed emissions in the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) using the PCAF Standard, a globally accepted methodology.

PNB's decision to join PCAF aligns with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) draft framework on climate-related financial risk disclosures, which requires banks to begin reporting on governance, strategy, and risk management for climate-related financial risks and opportunities from FY 2025-26 onwards, and on metrics and targets related to these risks and opportunities from FY 2027-28 onwards.

281. Rishabh Pant made history as the most expensive player in IPL auction history during the 2025 mega auction held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The Indian wicketkeeper-batter was signed by which team for an astonishing ₹27 crore?

सऊदी अरब के जेद्दा में आयोजित 2025 में ग्रीन नीलामी के दौरान ऋषभ पंत ने आईपीएल नीलामी के इतिहास में सबसे महंगे खिलाड़ी के रूप में इतिहास रच दिया। भारतीय विकेटकीपर-बल्लेबाज को किस टीम ने ₹27 करोड़ की शानदार कीमत पर खरीदा?

- (a) Lucknow Super Giants**
- (b) Royal Challengers Bengaluru**
- (c) Rajasthan Royals**
- (d) Kolkata Knight Riders**
- (e) Chennai Super Kings**

Ans. a

Sol. Rishabh Pant becomes most expensive player in IPL auction history, joins LSG for Rs. 27 crore

Rishabh Pant made history as the most expensive player in IPL auction history during the 2025 mega auction held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The Indian wicketkeeper-batter was signed by the Lucknow Super Giants for an astonishing ₹27 crore.

Earlier, the Delhi Capitals exercised its RTM (Right to Match) card at ₹20.75 crore to retain Pant, but Lucknow responded by raising the bid to Rs 27 crore, forcing DC to withdraw.

With this record-breaking signing, Pant surpassed the mark set moments earlier by Shreyas Iyer, who was picked up by the Punjab Kings for ₹26.75 crore.

282. Fibonacci Day is observed every year on 23 November. November 23rd is a date that is brilliant yet curiously underappreciated. Because 11/23 neatly

matches the first four numbers of the famous Fibonacci sequence: 1, 1, 2, 3. According to the Fibonacci sequence, what will be the next term of 21, 34, 55, 89, 144 sequence?

फिबोनाची दिवस हर साल 23 नवंबर को मनाया जाता है। 23 नवंबर एक ऐसी तारीख है जो शानदार है, लेकिन उत्सुकता से कम आंकी जाती है। क्योंकि $11/23$ प्रसिद्ध फिबोनाची अनुक्रम की पहली चार संख्याओं से अच्छी तरह मेल खाता है: 1, 1, 2, 3. फिबोनाची अनुक्रम के अनुसार, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144 अनुक्रम का अगला पद क्या होगा?

- (a) 13
- (b) 233
- (c) 377
- (d) 521
- (e) 288

Ans. b

Sol. 23 November - Fibonacci Day

Fibonacci Day is observed every year on 23 November.

November 23rd is a date that is brilliant yet curiously underappreciated. Because $11/23$ neatly matches the first four numbers of the famous Fibonacci sequence: 1, 1, 2, 3.

On November 23rd, we celebrate Fibonacci Day (a quirky nod to the genius of Leonardo of Pisa, better known as Fibonacci and his famous number sequence). This series, where each number is the sum of the two before it (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, and so on) has over centuries shaped the world of art, architecture and design.

283. National Cashew Day is observed annually on which day?

राष्ट्रीय काजू दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 21 November
- (b) 22 November
- (c) 23 November
- (d) 24 November
- (e) 25 November

Ans. c

Sol. 23 November- National Cashew Day

National Cashew Day is observed on November 23 annually.

The term "cashew" is derived from the Portuguese word "caju" which is derived from the Tupian word "acajú," referring to the fruit of the cashew tree.

When cashews were first discovered in Brazil in 1558, Europeans reportedly thought they were inedible because they contained anacardic acid, which irritates skin. However, after studying the Tupi-Indians, the Portuguese learned how to roast the seeds to get rid of the irritants and became aware of how great cashews tasted. They made wine out of the fruit's flesh as well.

284. Which day is World Conjoined Twins Day observed?

विश्व संयुक्त जुड़वां दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 22 November
- (b) 23 November
- (c) 24 November

(d) 25 November

(e) 26 November

Ans. c

Sol. 24 November - World Conjoined Twins Day

Recognizing that the case of conjoined twins is a rare condition where the estimated incidence can be 1 in 50,000 births, the General Assembly decided to proclaim 24 November as World Conjoined Twins Day.

The Assembly emphasized the need to address the condition of conjoined twins, by raising awareness of their cases at all levels and through a life-course approach, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, as well as by advocating for their well-being and social inclusion, while taking into account relevant agreed international standards.

285. In November 2024, which international treaty did India commit to by signing the Final Act, introducing provisions such as relaxed time limits for design applicants, simplified procedures for recording assignments, and the ability to file multiple designs in a single application, thereby aligning with initiatives like the Startup India program and the SIPP scheme?

नवंबर 2024 में, भारत ने अंतिम अधिनियम पर हस्ताक्षर करके किस अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संधि के लिए प्रतिबद्धता जताई, जिसमें डिजाइन आवेदकों के लिए समय सीमा में छूट, असाइनमेंट रिकॉर्ड करने की सरल प्रक्रिया और एक ही आवेदन में कई डिजाइन दाखिल करने की क्षमता जैसे प्रावधान शामिल हैं, जिससे स्टार्टअप इंडिया कार्यक्रम और एसआईपीपी योजना जैसी पहलों के साथ तालमेल बिठाया जा सके?

(a) India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement

(b) India-South Korea CEPA

(c) Riyadh Design Law Treaty

(d) India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit

(e) Agreement on SAFTA

Ans. c

Sol. India signs the Final Act of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty

India has signed the final act of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty (DLT), reaffirming its commitment to fostering inclusive growth and ensuring equitable access to intellectual property protection.

The DLT seeks to harmonise the procedural frameworks for industrial design protection, improving the efficiency and accessibility of registration processes across multiple jurisdictions.

After nearly two decades of negotiations, the member states of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) adopted the landmark Design Law Treaty during a diplomatic conference in Riyadh.

According to the WIPO, the current draft text with the working title Design Law Treaty would make it significantly easier for designers, especially smaller-scale designers and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), to register their work.

286. Consider the following points about the disaster mitigation, and capacity-building projects that the Union Government recently approved. Identify the CORRECT statement(s) regarding this-

(i) A high-level committee, headed by Union HM Amit Shah, approved ₹1,000 crore for various disaster mitigation and capacity-building projects in 10 states.
(ii) The committee also approved another project for training and capacity building of civil defence volunteers in all States and Union territories at a total outlay of ₹115.67 crore.

- (a) only i
- (b) only ii
- (c) both i and ii
- (d) neither i nor ii

Ans. b

Sol. Centre approves ₹1,115 crore to states for disaster mitigation, capacity-building projects

A high-level committee, headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, has approved ₹1,000 crore for various disaster mitigation and capacity-building projects in 15 states. The committee also approved another project for training and capacity building of civil defence volunteers in all States and Union territories at a total outlay of ₹115.67 crore. A sum of ₹139 crore each was approved for Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, ₹100 crore for Maharashtra, ₹72 crore each for Karnataka and Kerala, ₹50 crore each for Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, and ₹378 crore for the eight Northeastern states — Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.

The committee, comprising Union ministers for finance and agriculture and the vice chairman of the NITI Aayog as members, considered the proposal to mitigate landslide risk in 15 states for funding from the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF).

Earlier, the committee approved Urban Flood Risk Mitigation Projects in seven cities at a total outlay of ₹3075.65 crore and Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) risk management projects in four states at a total outlay of ₹150 crore from the NDMF.

Under the Modi government, more than ₹21,476 crore has already been released to the states during this year. This includes ₹14,878.40 crore from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to 26 states, ₹4,637.66 crore from the NDRF to 15 states, ₹1,385.45 crore from the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) to 11 states and ₹574.93 crore from NDMF to six states.

287. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the continuation of its flagship initiative, the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), under the aegis of NITI Aayog. The initiative has an enhanced scope of work and an allocated budget of Rs.2,750 crore for the period until _____.

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय कैबिनेट ने नीति आयोग के तत्वावधान में अपनी प्रमुख पहल, अटल इनोवेशन मिशन (एआईएम) को जारी रखने की मंजूरी दे दी है। इस पहल के कार्यक्षेत्र में वृद्धि की गई है और _____ तक की अवधि के लिए 2,750 करोड़ रुपये का बजट आवंटित किया गया है।

- (a) 1 March 2026
- (b) 1 March 2027
- (c) 1 March 2028
- (d) 1 March 2029
- (e) 1 March 2030

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves continuation of the Atal Innovation Mission

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the continuation of its flagship initiative, the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), under the aegis of NITI Aayog, with an enhanced scope of work and an allocated budget of Rs.2,750 crore for the period till March 31, 2028.

AIM 2.0 is a step towards Viksit Bharat that aims to expand, strengthen, and deepen India's already vibrant innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

The approval underscores the government's commitment to fostering a robust innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in India. With India at rank 39 on the Global Innovation Index and home to the world's third-largest start-up ecosystem, the next phase of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM 2.0) is expected to further enhance India's global competitiveness.

The continuation of AIM will directly contribute to creating better jobs, innovative products, and high-impact services across sectors. While building on the accomplishments of AIM 1.0, such as Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) and Atal Incubation Centers (AIC), AIM 2.0 marks a qualitative shift in the mission's approach.

Whereas AIM 1.0 involved implementing programs that built new innovation infrastructure to strengthen India's then nascent ecosystem, AIM 2.0 involves piloting new initiatives designed to fill gaps in the ecosystem and scaling successes through central and state governments, industry, academia and community.

AIM 2.0 is designed to strengthen India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in three ways: (a) by increasing input (i.e., ushering more innovators and entrepreneurs), (b) by improving the success rate or 'throughput' (i.e., helping more startups succeed) and (c) by improving the quality of 'output' (i.e., producing better jobs, products and services)

288. Consider the following points about the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme that was recently approved by the Union government-

(i) ONOS aims to provide nationwide access to scholarly research articles and journal publications for government higher education institutions (HEIs) and central R&D labs.

(ii) ONOS will be implemented through a unified portal managed by the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

(iii) The scheme allocates Rs. 6,000 crore for the calendar years 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028.

(iv) ANRF will periodically review the usage of ONOS and publications by Indian authors from participating institutions.

How many of the given statement (s) is/are INCORRECT?

(a) only one

(b) only two

(c) only three

(d) all are correct

(e) all are incorrect

Ans. b

Sol. Cabinet approves One Nation One Subscription (ONOS).

The Union Cabinet has approved the 'One Nation One Subscription' (ONOS) initiative for centralised access to research articles and journal publications for government higher education institutions and research and development (R&D) laboratories of the central government.

The central government has allocated ₹6,000 crore for ONOS until 2027. All higher education institutions under central or State governments and R&D institutions of central government can avail the benefits of the initiative through a national subscription.

What is ONOS?

- ONOS is a plan to consolidate researchers' subscriptions to prominent academic journals and other similar publications.
- Once in place, the ONOS initiative will provide access to journal articles to all individuals in India for one "centrally negotiated payment". The ONOS will replace individual institutional journal subscriptions.
- Subscriptions to scientific journals are a costly affair. According to research conducted by S. Chakraborty of the National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi, and other researchers and published in Current Science in April 2020, India spent around ₹1,500 crore on subscriptions for electronic and print journals in 2018. Institutions also spent around ₹30-50 crore on access to SCOPUS and Web of Science, which are popular citation databases.
- In a response to a query raised in the Lok Sabha in August 2023, Subhas Sarkar, then Minister of State for the Education Ministry, said the Indian government spent around ₹995 crore on journal subscriptions in 2022.
- This included "the spending by the ten library consortia funded by different ministries/departments and self-subscriptions by individual government academic and R&D institutions". Overall, the total expenditure for 2019-2022 was estimated to be around ₹2,985 crore.
- One Nation One Subscription will build on and further enhance the scope and reach of the range of initiatives undertaken by the Government of India over the past decade in the domains of education, for maximizing access to quality higher education for the youth of India.
- The Department of Higher Education will have a unified portal "One Nation One Subscription" through which the institutions will be able to access the journals. The ANRF will periodically review the usage of One Nation One Subscription and publications of Indian authors of these institutions.
- The DHE and other Ministries having HEIs and R&D Institutions under their management shall be proactively conducting Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns among students, faculty and researchers of these institutions about availability and method of access to One Nation One Subscription, resulting in improved usage of the facility across the country.

Challenges of implementation

The ONOS core committee notified two more blocs for the transition to ONOS: the planning and execution committee (PEC) and the cost negotiation committee (CNC).

- The PEC includes library consortia coordinators and representatives from government academic and R&D institutions. The main responsibility of this committee is to prepare a strategy to implement ONOS.
- The CNC is responsible to finalise membership terms and conditions and pricing details for the subscription. Its members are from the negotiation committees of the existing library consortia.

289. Which organisation has signed an MoU with the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI) during its Silver Jubilee celebration to recognise temporary site testing laboratories and enhance quality assurance in civil engineering projects, aiming to improve construction standards across India, in November 2024?

किस संगठन ने नवंबर 2024 में भारत भर में निर्माण मानकों में सुधार करने के उद्देश्य से अस्थायी साइट परीक्षण प्रयोगशालाओं को मान्यता देने और सिविल इंजीनियरिंग परियोजनाओं में गुणवत्ता आश्वासन बढ़ाने के लिए अपने रजत जयंती समारोह के दौरान भारतीय रियल एस्टेट डेवलपर्स संघों के परिसंघ (क्रेडाई) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
 (b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
 (c) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority
 (d) National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories
 (e) Bureau of Indian Standards

Ans. d

Sol. NABL under QCI signs MoU with CREDAI to enhance quality assurance for temporary site testing laboratories

The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), a constituent board of the Quality Council of India (QCI), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI) during CREDAI's Silver Jubilee celebration on November 25, 2024, in New Delhi.

The aim of this MoU is to enhance the quality and reliability of temporary site testing laboratories in civil engineering projects.

By implementing NABL's recognition scheme, this collaboration seeks to ensure that materials used in construction are tested accurately on-site, fostering trust in their quality. This initiative will contribute to the overall improvement of construction standards, ensuring safer and more durable structures across India.

290. The third edition of the Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting between India and which country was held in Goa, in November 2024?

भारत और किस देश के बीच संयुक्त रक्षा सहयोग समिति (JDCC) की तीसरी बैठक नवंबर 2024 में गोवा में आयोजित की गई?

(a) Tanzania
 (b) Oman
 (c) Japan
 (d) USA

(e) Sri Lanka**Ans. a**

Sol. 3rd India-Tanzania Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting held in Goa
The third edition of the Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting between India and Tanzania took place in Goa.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed a wide range of areas of cooperation, including growing training partnerships and service-to-service, maritime & defence industry collaboration.

The Indian delegation, led by Joint Secretary Shri Amitabh Prasad, included senior officials from the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces. The High Commissioner of India to Tanzania Shri Bishwadip Dey also attended the meeting. The Tanzanian delegation was led by Land Forces Commander Maj Gen Fadhil Omary Nondo.

The Tanzanian delegation will visit Goa Shipyard Ltd to get first-hand experience of India's capabilities in port development and shipbuilding. The delegation is also scheduled to visit INS Hansa and the National Institute of Hydrography in Goa.

291. Which Department signed a two-year MoU with WinZO to foster innovation, mentorship, and global opportunities for over 2,000 startups in India's interactive entertainment sector, including scaling the Tech Triumph Program, in November 2024?

नवंबर 2024 में किस विभाग ने टेक ट्रायम्प प्रोग्राम को आगे बढ़ाने सहित भारत के इंटरैक्टिव मनोरंजन क्षेत्र में 2,000 से अधिक स्टार्टअप के लिए नवाचार, सलाह और वैश्विक अवसरों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए WinZO के साथ दो साल का समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) Department of Higher Education
- (b) Department of Official Language
- (c) Department of Startup India
- (d) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (e) Department of Invest India

Ans. d

Sol. DPIIT signs MoU for two years with WinZO to support over 2,000 interactive entertainment startups

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) signed an MoU with WinZO, India's largest social gaming and interactive entertainment platform.

This first-of-its-kind collaboration will focus on building a robust ecosystem of over 2,000 startups, innovators, and students, providing them with mentorship, industry insights, and access to global opportunities.

The MoU spanning over two years also aims to accelerate the growth of India's interactive entertainment sector by fostering innovation, creating skilled talent, and scaling startups to compete on a global stage.

The MoU will expand WinZO's flagship Tech Triumph Program (Bharat Edition), a platform for identifying and mentoring India's top game developers. This program has already showcased India's gaming talent at global forums such as the Game Developers Conference (GDC) and Gamescom LATAM, and will now scale its impact through DPIIT's support.

292. Constitution Day, also known as Samvidhan Divas, is celebrated every year on November 26. This day marks the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1949 by the Constituent Assembly of India. The Government of India's Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment declared November 26 Constitution Day in which year?

संविधान दिवस हर साल 26 नवंबर को मनाया जाता है। यह दिन 1949 में भारत की संविधान सभा द्वारा भारतीय संविधान को अपनाने का प्रतीक है। भारत सरकार के सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय ने किस वर्ष 26 नवंबर को संविधान दिवस घोषित किया?

- (a) 2010
- (b) 2014
- (c) 2015
- (d) 2018
- (e) 2020

Ans. c

Sol. 26 November - Samvidhan Diwas

Constitution Day, also known as Samvidhan Divas, is celebrated every year on November 26. This day marks the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1949 by the Constituent Assembly of India.

The Constitution finally took effect on January 26, 1950, when India became a republic. The Government of India's Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment declared November 26 Constitution Day in 2015, the year that marked the 125th birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar, the chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution. Previously, the day was celebrated as Law Day.

The Constitution established India as a sovereign, socialist, secular, and democratic republic, guaranteeing its citizens justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. Thus, the day underscores the importance of national unity, fostering unity in justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.

The Constitution of India is the largest written constitution in the world, with 1,17,360 words (in the English version). At its inception, it had 395 Articles and 8 Schedules.

293. Which insurance company has joined hands with Profectus Capital to provide tailored insurance solutions to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यमों (एमएसएमई) को अनुकूलित बीमा समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए प्रोफेक्टस कैपिटल के साथ हाथ मिलाया है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Liberty General Insurance
- (d) Go Digit General Insurance
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. Liberty General Insurance Join Hands with Profectus Capital to Empower MSMEs Liberty General Insurance, a prominent player in India's insurance sector, has joined hands with Profectus Capital to provide tailored insurance solutions to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

This collaboration aims to provide financial security to MSMEs, enabling them to focus on growth and sustainability without the looming threat of unforeseen risks.

The collaboration aims to embed insurance awareness within the financial ecosystem, enabling businesses to protect their operations, employees, and families. By catering to risk management requirements, Liberty General Insurance and Profectus Capital strive to build resilience and ensure continuity for MSMEs, empowering them to face challenges with confidence.

294. World Sustainable Transport Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व सतत परिवहन दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 24 November
- (b) 25 November
- (c) 26 November
- (d) 27 November
- (e) 28 November

Ans. c

Sol. 26 November - World Sustainable Transport Day

World Sustainable Transport Day is observed annually on November 26th, recognises the important role of safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all in supporting sustainable economic growth, improving the social welfare of people and enhancing international cooperation and trade among countries, the General Assembly decided, in its resolution A/RES/77/286 of May 2023 to declare 26 November as World Sustainable Transport Day.

Sustainable transport — with its objectives of universal access, enhanced safety, reduced environmental and climate impact, improved resilience, and greater efficiency — is central to sustainable development.

295. Yamandu Orsi has been elected as the new President of which country?

यामांदू ओरसी किस देश के नए राष्ट्रपति चुने गए हैं?

- (a) Uruguay
- (b) Kazakhstan
- (c) Spain
- (d) Netherland
- (e) Japan

Ans. a

Sol. Yamandu Orsi elected the new President of Uruguay

A teacher of history, folk dancer and former mayor, the 57-year-old Yamandu Orsi has been elected as the new President of Uruguay.

Yamandu Orsi secured 49.8 per cent of the votes, compared to Alvaro Delgado of the centre-right National Party, who secured 45.9 per cent votes.

Yamandu Orsi will succeed the current President, Luis Lacalle Pou, in March 2025.

The Uruguayan President is elected for a term of five years and is not eligible for immediate reelection. It was due to this reason the incumbent, President Luis Lacalle Pou, did not contest the election.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- PM of Haiti - Alix Didier Fils-Aime

- PM of Japan - Shigeru Ishiba
- President of USA - Donald Trump (47th)
- Deputy President of USA - JD Vance
- President of Botswana - Duma Boko
- President of Vietnam - Luong Cuong

About Uruguay

- Capital: Montevideo
- Currency: Peso Uruguayo
- President: Yamandu Orsi

296. President Droupadi Murmu released the transition of the Indian constitution in which languages on the occasion of the 2024 Samvidhan Diwas?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने 2024 संविधान दिवस के अवसर पर भारतीय संविधान का परिवर्तन पत्र किस भाषा में जारी किया?

- (a) Sanskrit and Marathi
- (b) Malayalam and Maithili
- (c) Odia and Assamese
- (d) Sanskrit and Maithili
- (e) Nepali and Urdu

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Constitution in Sanskrit and Maithili language launched President Droupadi Murmu unveiled the Indian constitution's translation in Sanskrit and Maithili language in New Delhi on 26 November 2024 on the occasion of the Samvidhan Diwas.

Maithili is mainly spoken in Bihar, Jharkhand, and Nepal.

The government of India has undertaken a project to translate the Indian constitution into all 22 scheduled languages mentioned in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.

This year marks 75 years of the enactment of the Indian constitution. The Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Indian constitution on 26 November 1949, which was promulgated on 26 January 1950.

297. Bihar youngster Vaibhav Suryavanshi has become the youngest player to earn an IPL deal, worth INR 1.10 crore (US\$0.13 million approx.), from which IPL Team?

बिहार के युवा वैभव सूर्यवंशी किस आईपीएल टीम से 1.10 करोड़ रुपये (लगभग 0.13 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर) की कीमत का आईपीएल सौदा हासिल करने वाले सबसे कम उम्र के खिलाड़ी बन गए हैं?

- (a) Chennai Super Kings
- (b) Delhi Capitals
- (c) Kolkata Knight Riders
- (d) Rajasthan Royals
- (e) Lucknow Super Giants

Ans. d

Sol. Bihar's Suryavanshi becomes youngest IPL player at just 13

Bihar youngster Vaibhav Suryavanshi, a left-hand top-order batter, has become the youngest player to earn an IPL deal, worth INR 1.10 crore (US\$0.13 million approx.), from Rajasthan Royals (RR).

Suryavanshi, all of 13 years and 243 days on the day he got his maiden IPL contract, has already played for India Under-19 and scored a century opening the batting against Australia Under-19 in a four-day game in Chennai less than two months ago.

Bids for Suryavanshi started at his base price of INR 30 lakh and RR and Delhi Capitals (DC) were soon involved in the bidding battle, which eventually went RR's way.

Suryavanshi also has a triple-century to his name - an unbeaten 332 - in an U-19 tournament in Bihar, the Randhir Verma Tournament. He idolises Brian Lara and consults former India opener Wasim Jaffer about his game from time to time - they had first met during an U-19 white-ball tournament in Bangladesh in November 2023.

298. Which Indian organization has been honoured with the 2024 OPCW The Hague Award?

प्रश्न 1. किस भारतीय संगठन को 2024 ओपीसीडब्ल्यू द हेंग पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) AIIMS Delhi
- (b) India's NITI Aayog
- (c) Indian Chemical Council
- (d) ISRO
- (e) IIT Delhi

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Chemical Council conferred with 2024 OPCW The Hague Award

The Indian Chemical Council, an apex body representing the Indian chemical Industry, was conferred with the 2024 OPCW The Hague Award in a ceremony in the Hague, Netherlands, on 25 November 2024.

The Director General of the Indian Chemical Council, D. Sothi Selvam, received the award.

The award was conferred on the Indian Chemical Council during the 29th Session of the Conference of the States Parties (CSP) of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

The 29th session of the CSP will be held from 25 to 29 November 2024 in the Hague, Netherlands.

The Conference of the States Parties (CSP) meets annually at the Hague to oversee the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, promote the Convention's objectives, and review compliance with the treaty.

The CSP includes all 193 countries that are members of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Recent Award

- **JCB Prize 2024** - Upamanyu Chatterjee (for Lorenzo Searches for the Meaning of Life book)
- **Global Peace Award For Indian-American Minority Welfare** - Narendra Modi
- **FABA Lifetime Achievement Award 2024** - Dr. Soumya Swaminathan
- **Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize** - Ashok Gopal (for A Part Apart: The Life and Thought of B R Ambedkar)

- **Indira Gandhi Prize for 2023** - Daniel Barenboim, and Ali Abu Awwad (for Peace, Disarmament, and Development)
- **Green World Awards 2024 in London** - Coal India Limited

299. Consider the following points about the 'Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat' campaign recently launched by the Central Government against child marriage-

(I) The 'Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat' campaign was launched by the Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Annapurna Devi.

(ii) According to the government, it will continue till 2030.

(iii) The government also unveiled the 'Child Marriage Free Bharat' will support the campaign's mission by raising public awareness against child marriage, preventing child marriage, and reporting incidents of child marriage.

(iv) The campaign will focus on all districts of the country.

(v) According to the 2006 Act, child marriage refers to a marriage where the age of the groom (male) is less than 21 years or the age of the bride (girl) is less than 21 years.

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. b

Sol. India Launches 'Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat' Campaign Against Child Marriage

The Government of India launched the 'Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat' campaign to eradicate the social evil of child marriage.

The Campaign will be supervised by the Union Ministry of Child and Women Development. According to the government, it will continue until the social evil of child marriage is eradicated from the country.

The 'Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat' campaign was launched by the Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Annpurna Devi in New Delhi.

The minister also unveiled the 'Child Marriage Free Bharat' portal. The portal will support the campaign's mission by raising public awareness against child marriage, preventing child marriage, and reporting incidents of child marriage.

The campaign will focus on 130 districts of the country where the incidence of child marriage is very high. It will involve the concerned central and state government departments, district Child Marriage Prohibition Officers, civil society members and organisations and the media.

Status of Child Marriage in India

- Parliament has enacted the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006 to prohibit child marriage, protect and provide relief to victims and enhance punishment for those who abet, promote or solemnise such marriage.
- The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006 replaced the Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929.

- According to the 2006 Act, child marriage refers to a marriage where the age of the groom (male) is less than 21 years or the age of the bride (girl) is less than 18 years.
- According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5
- The percentage of girls getting married before age 18 declined from 47 per cent in 2005-06 to 27 per cent in 2015-2016. This means that 1 out of 5 girls get married before the age of 18.
- The maximum prevalence of child marriage is amongst Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, with 26 per cent of the girls getting married before the age of 18 years.
- Eight states-West Bengal, Bihar, Tripura Jharkhand, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Telangana have a higher prevalence of child marriage than the national average

300. The Ministry of Mines has launched the first-ever tranche of mineral block auctions in India's offshore areas. This landmark initiative signals India's entry into the exploration and development of undersea mineral resources within its offshore territories. Who is the Union Minister of Coal and Mines?

खान मंत्रालय ने भारत के अपतटीय क्षेत्रों में खनिज ब्लॉक नीलामी की पहली किश्त शुरू की है। यह ऐतिहासिक पहल भारत के अपने अपतटीय क्षेत्रों में समुद्र के नीचे खनिज संसाधनों की खोज और विकास में प्रवेश का संकेत देती है। कोयला और खान मंत्रालय के केंद्रीय मंत्री कौन हैं

(a) C. R. Patil
 (b) Bhupender Yadav
 (c) Raghunandan Ra
 (d) Satish Chandra Dubey
 (e) G Kishan Reddy

Ans. e

Sol. Mines Ministry launched India's first-ever auction of minerals in offshore areas. The Ministry of Mines has launched the first-ever tranche of mineral block auctions in India's offshore areas.

This landmark initiative signals India's entry into the exploration and development of undersea mineral resources within its offshore territories. These areas include the country's territorial waters, continental shelf, exclusive economic zone (EEZ), and other maritime zones.

India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), spanning over 2 million square kilometres, is believed to hold significant mineral reserves.

In August 2023, the Parliament amended the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002, making auctions the mandatory mode for allocating mineral blocks in offshore areas. This amendment enables the government to streamline the granting of production leases and composite licences for resource exploration and extraction.

The first tranche features 13 carefully selected mineral blocks across the Arabian Sea and the Andaman Sea. These include deposits of construction sand, lime mud, and polymetallic nodules—minerals essential for infrastructure development, high-tech manufacturing, and the green energy transition.

Union Minister of Coal and Mines - G Kishan Reddy

Union Minister of State for Coal and Mines - Satish Chandra Dubey

301. According to the Ministry of Finance, the revenue collected by the union government through Goods and Services Tax (GST) on healthcare and life insurance services surged by how much per cent to Rs 16,398 crore in 2023-24 from Rs 2,101 crore in 2019-20?

वित्त मंत्रालय के अनुसार, स्वास्थ्य सेवा और जीवन बीमा सेवाओं पर वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (जीएसटी) के माध्यम से केंद्र सरकार द्वारा एकत्रित राजस्व 2019-20 में 2,101 करोड़ रुपये से 2023-24 में कितने प्रतिशत बढ़कर 16,398 करोड़ रुपये हो गया?

- (a) 180%
- (b) 280%
- (c) 380%
- (d) 680%
- (e) 880%

Ans. d

Sol. Govt collects Rs 16,398 crore GST on health, life insurance in FY24: FinMin
The revenue collected by the union government through Goods and Services Tax (GST) on healthcare and life insurance services surged by 680 per cent to Rs 16,398 crore in 2023-24 from Rs 2,101 crore in 2019-20, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

However, GST collections in this category dropped marginally in FY24 compared to Rs 16,770 crore collected in FY23.

This comes amid demands from stakeholders, including states, to reduce GST rates on health and life insurance premiums.

At present, GST on health insurance services is levied at a standard rate of 18 per cent. Specific health insurance schemes catering to the needs of differently abled and economically weaker sections of society, such as Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), Universal Health Insurance Scheme, Jan Arogya Bima Policy, and Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme, are exempt from GST.

Bihar's deputy chief minister and finance minister, Samrat Choudhary, has been appointed as the convenor of a Group of Ministers (GoM) on health insurance. The GoM is expected to submit its report to the GST Council, which is scheduled to meet in Jaisalmer on December 21.

302. Which company has completed setting up India's first green hydrogen fuelling station in Leh, Ladakh for NTPC in November 2024?

किस कंपनी ने नवंबर 2024 में एनटीपीसी के लिए लेह, लद्दाख में भारत का पहला ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन ईंधन स्टेशन स्थापित करने का काम पूरा कर लिया है?

- (a) ReNew Power
- (b) TP renewable Microgrid
- (c) JSW Energy
- (d) NTPC Limited
- (e) Amara Raja Infra

Ans. e

Sol. Amara Raja Infra sets up Green Hydrogen fuelling station for NTPC in Leh
EPC company Amara Raja Infra has completed setting up India's first green hydrogen
fuelling station in Leh, Ladakh for NTPC.

The project will enable emission-free transport in and around Leh – making India
among the few countries to take the lead in the green mobility space. With the
completion, NTPC will operationalise five hydrogen fuel cell buses in the region.
Union Power Minister and Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal
inaugurated the green hydrogen fuelling station. The scope of the project consisted of
designing, engineering, supplying, construction, erection, testing and commissioning of
the hydrogen station. Additionally, it also includes three years of operation and
maintenance works of all systems on a turnkey basis.

The fuelling station project with a capacity of producing GH2 of 80kg per day was
completed in two years, at a height of 3,400 meters above sea level with temperatures
varying between minus 25°Celsius to 30°Celsius.

The project would serve as a precursor to large-scale green hydrogen mobility and
storage projects that would come up in India as part of the National Hydrogen Energy
Mission. Further, it will be useful for studying and deploying multiple hydrogen fuelling
stations across the country.

**303. Which insurance company has unveiled the Smart Communications App, a
cutting-edge digital platform aimed at enhancing interactions between customers,
agents, valued partners, and its Proprietary Sales Force (PSF)?**

किस बीमा कंपनी ने स्मार्ट कम्युनिकेशन ऐप का अनावरण किया है, जो एक अत्याधुनिक
डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म है जिसका उद्देश्य ग्राहकों, एजेंटों, मूल्यवान भागीदारों और इसके प्रोप्राइटरी
सेल्स फोर्स (PSF) के बीच बातचीत को बढ़ाना है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Liberty General Insurance
- (d) PNB MetLife India Insurance
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance

Ans. d

Sol. PNB MetLife introduces Smart Communications App to transform Agent-Customer
Interactions

PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited has unveiled the Smart Communications
App, a cutting-edge digital platform aimed at enhancing interactions between
customers, agents, valued partners, and its Proprietary Sales Force (PSF).

The app is designed to simplify sales processes and foster meaningful, personalised
connections.

Key Features of the Smart Communications App-

- Seamless Communication
- Personalised Interactions
- Paperless Workflow
- Agent Dashboard

PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited is a leading life insurance provider in India, combining the global expertise of MetLife, Inc. with the legacy of Punjab National Bank (PNB). Tagline "Milkar Life Aage Badhaein".

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Shriram Mutual Fund launches **industry-first multi-sector rotation fund**
- IDFC FIRST Bank launches **real-time tracking for international money** in partnership with Swift
- Indian Overseas Bank Unveils **Online Re-KYC Service for Hassle-Free Updates**
- Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) launched **e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility** in partnership with National e-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL).
- Jio Financial Services launches **SmartGold** for digital gold purchase.

304. In November 2024, which company rolled out a new automatic top-up feature for UPI Lite, streamlining small-value transactions for users?

नवंबर 2024 में, किस कंपनी ने UPI लाइट के लिए एक नया स्वचालित टॉप-अप फीचर शुरू किया, जिससे उपयोगकर्ताओं के लिए छोटे-मूल्य के लेन-देन को सरल बनाया जा सके?

(a) Paytm
 (b) Google Pay
 (c) PhonePe
 (d) Amazon Pay
 (e) BHIM

Ans. a

Sol. Paytm launches UPI Lite Auto Top-Up for Hassle-Free Recurring Daily Payments
 One97 Communications (OCL), the parent company of Paytm, has rolled out a new automatic top-up feature for Paytm UPI Lite, streamlining small-value transactions for users.

This feature ensures automatic recharging of the UPI Lite balance when it drops below a preset limit, eliminating the need for a PIN and enabling seamless daily payments.

Users can now make payments of up to Rs. 500 per transaction, with a daily cap of Rs. 2,000, making the feature ideal for recurring expenses such as groceries, transportation, subscriptions, and small utility bills. According to Paytm, the UPI Lite system keeps bank statements clutter-free, as transactions are processed via an on-device wallet without direct access to the main bank account.

Additionally, Paytm has introduced a UPI statement download feature, allowing users to view and download detailed transaction records, including those made via UPI Lite. This enhancement promotes effective expense tracking and spending management.

The auto top-up feature is currently live for select users via Yes Bank and Axis Bank and will soon be expanded to all users across partner banks.

Paytm has partnered with leading banks, including SBI, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, and Yes Bank, to enable secure and efficient UPI payments.

305. In November 2024, the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) handed a how-many-year suspension to Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia after he refused to provide a sample for a dope test during the national selection trials on March 10?

नवंबर 2024 में, राष्ट्रीय डोपिंग रोधी एजेंसी (नाडा) ने भारतीय पहलवान बजरंग पुनिया को कितने साल के लिए निलंबित कर दिया, क्योंकि उन्होंने 10 मार्च को राष्ट्रीय चयन ट्रायल के दौरान डोप परीक्षण के लिए नमूना देने से इनकार कर दिया था?

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

Ans. c

Sol. NADA suspends Bajrang Punia for four years over anti-doping code violation
The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) handed a four-year suspension to Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia after he refused to provide a sample for a dope test during the national selection trials on March 10.

Initially suspended by NADA on April 23, the Tokyo Games bronze medallist was also suspended by the World Wrestling Federation (UWW) in light of the incident.

The Panel holds that the Athlete is liable for sanctions under Article 10.3.1 and liable for ineligibility for a period of 4 years," the ADDP said in its order.

306. Eight-year-old Divith Reddy has won the Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship in Montesilvano, Italy. He is from which state?

आठ वर्षीय दिविथ रेडी ने इटली के मोटेसिल्वानो में अंडर-8 विश्व कैडेट शतरंज चैंपियनशिप जीती है। वह किस राज्य से हैं?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Chhattisgarh
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Kerala

Ans. b

Sol. Divith Reddy won Under-8 World Cadets Chess Champion 2024
Eight-year-old Divith Reddy of Hyderabad, Telangana, has won the Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship in Montesilvano, Italy.

Divith secured 9 out of the possible 11 points in the Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship and was tied with fellow Indian Sattwik Swain and the Chinese Ziming Guo. However, due to a better tie-break score, Divith Reddy was awarded the gold medal, Sattwik Swain the silver medal, and the Chinese Ziming Guo got the bronze medal. Divith, with a FIDE rating of 1784, started the Championships brilliantly by winning the first four of his matches. However, he lost his next two matches but bounced back to win his last five matches and the title.

About FIDE World Cadet Championships 2024

- The world chess governing body FIDE organised the FIDE World Cadet Championships 2024 at Montesilvano, Italy.
- The World Cadet Championship was organised under three categories -U8, U10 and U12.

307. Which company has received SEBI's approval to act as the asset management company for Angel One Mutual Fund which will focus exclusively on passive investment solutions, in November 2024?

किस कंपनी को नवंबर 2024 में एंजेल वन म्यूचुअल फंड के लिए एसेट मैनेजमेंट कंपनी के रूप में कार्य करने के लिए सेबी की मंजूरी मिली है, जो विशेष रूप से व्यापक निवेश समाधानों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करेगी?

- (a) Upstox
- (b) Angel One
- (c) Paytm Mone
- (d) Zerodha Kite
- (e) 5paisa

Ans. b

Sol. Angel One gets SEBI nod to enter mutual fund business

Angel One Asset Management Company has received SEBI's approval to act as the asset management company for Angel One Mutual Fund which will focus exclusively on passive investment solutions.

Angel One Mutual Fund's passive investment products such as index funds and exchange traded funds will be designed to offer clients a low-cost, transparent and accessible pathway to wealth creation.

The fund house aims to offer user-friendly, easy to understand wealth creating products to a growing base of retail investors across the country.

Chairman and Managing Director of Angel One - Dinesh Thakkar

308. Indian billionaire Shashi Ruia died recently at the age of 81. He was the founder of which of the following companies?

भारतीय अरबपति शशि रुइया का हाल ही में 81 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी के संस्थापक थे?

- (a) Jindal Group
- (b) Essar Group
- (c) Nayara Group
- (d) HCL Group
- (e) KENT Group

Ans. b

Sol. Shashi Ruia, Essar group co-founder, dies at 81

Indian billionaire and co-founder of Essar Group Shashi Ruia, aged 81, has passed away. Shashi Ruia's journey started with brother Ravi Ruia when they founded Essar group in 1969 and bagged a Rs 2.5 crore order from the Madras Port Trust for the construction of an outer breakwater in the port.

In the early years, Essar focused on the construction and engineering sector. It built a number of major infrastructure projects, including bridges, dams, and power plants. In the 1980s, Essar diversified into the energy sector, with the acquisition of a number of oil and gas assets.

309. Which edition of Indian Coast Guard's National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise and Workshop (SAREX-24) begins in Kochi, Kerala?

भारतीय तटरक्षक बल के राष्ट्रीय समुद्री खोज और बचाव अभ्यास और कार्यशाला (SAREX-24) का कौन सा संस्करण कोच्चि, केरल में शुरू हुआ है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Coast Guard's SAREX-24 maritime exercise begins

The 11th edition of Indian Coast Guard's National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise and Workshop (SAREX-24) begins in Kochi, Kerala.

Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh has inaugurated the event. The exercise is being held alongside the 22nd National Maritime Search and Rescue Board meeting.

The event will feature the largest ever real time simulations aimed at honing the skills for effective Search and Rescue Operations and collaborative efforts among the regional and international maritime stakeholders.

Response operations to large-scale contingencies at sea will be the essence of the current edition of SAREX, based on the theme "Enhancing Search and Rescue Capabilities through Regional Collaboration."

310. Which insurance provider has unveiled its latest Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, 'Star Arogya Digi Seva'?

किस बीमा प्रदाता ने अपनी नवीनतम कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी (सीएसआर) पहल, 'स्टार आरोग्य डिजी सेवा' का अनावरण किया है?

- (a) Aitya Birla Health Insurance Ltd
- (b) Reliance Health Insurance Ltd
- (c) Manipal Cigna Health Insurance
- (d) Star Health Insurance
- (e) Niva Bupa Health Insurance Ltd

Ans. d

Sol. Star Health Insurance launches 'Star Arogya Digi Seva' with CCDC

Star Health Insurance, a prominent standalone health insurance provider, has unveiled its latest Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, 'Star Arogya Digi Seva'.

Developed in partnership with the Center for Chronic Disease and Control (CCDC), the program seeks to bridge healthcare gaps in underserved rural communities by combining cutting-edge telemedicine technology with Mobile Health Units (MHUs). Focusing initially on five aspirational districts in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the initiative will span across 74 villages in 10 districts, delivering essential healthcare services directly to these areas.

The program emphasizes the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and hypertension, while also conducting awareness campaigns on preventive health and iron nutrition.

311. Which bank has raised ₹50,000 crore through domestic bonds so far (November 2024) during FY25?

किस बैंक ने वित्त वर्ष 25 के दौरान अब तक (नवंबर 2024) घरेलू बॉन्ड के ज़रिए ₹50,000 करोड़ जुटाए हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. SBI raises ₹50,000 crore via bonds in FY25

State Bank of India (SBI) has raised ₹50,000 crore through domestic bonds so far during FY25.

The bond issuances include ₹30,000 crore in long-term, tier 2 bonds worth ₹15,000 crore and AT1 bonds amounting to ₹5000 crore.

The bank garnered Rs 5,000 crore AT1 Bonds, Rs 15,000 crore Tier 2 Bonds and Rs 30,000 crore Long Term Bonds till date during FY25 at a very competitive rate.

The country's biggest lender State Bank of India earlier this month had raised Rs 10,000 crore through its seventh infrastructure bond issuance.

All these issues have attracted overwhelming responses from investors and were oversubscribed by more than 2 times against the respective base issue size.

These bonds are of 15-year tenor except for the AT1 Bonds which is perpetual.

312. Union Minister for Commerce and Industry has launched the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and Regulatory Affairs Portal in a bid to enhance transparency and facilitate feedback on India's business environment. Who is the Commerce and Industry minister?

केंद्रीय वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री ने पारदर्शिता बढ़ाने और भारत के कारोबारी माहौल पर फीडबैक की सुविधा के लिए भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (सीआईआई) के ईज ऑफ ड्विंग बिजनेस (ईओडीबी) और विनियामक मामलों के पोर्टल का शुभारंभ किया है। वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री कौन हैं?

- (a) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (b) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- (c) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- (d) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. e

Sol. Piyush Goyal launches CII's Ease of Doing Business and Regulatory Affairs Portal

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, has launched the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and Regulatory Affairs Portal in a bid to enhance transparency and facilitate feedback on India's business environment.

The portal, unveiled during the 2nd DPIIT-CII National Conference on Ease of Doing Business, aims to provide real-time updates on key initiatives led by the government and CII, empowering users to track progress and resolve concerns effectively.

The government's approach to Ease of Doing Business is rooted in cooperative federalism and aims to make business processes smoother for both entrepreneurs and citizens.

313. In November 2024, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Upendra Dwivedi has launched an online learning platform for the Indian Army nicknamed as "Eklavya". This initiative aligns with the Indian Army's theme for 2024 as the "Year of Technology Absorption". The platform has been developed by which of the following?

नवंबर 2024 में, थल सेनाध्यक्ष (COAS) जनरल उपेंद्र द्विवेदी ने भारतीय सेना के लिए "एकलव्य" नामक एक ऑनलाइन शिक्षण मंच लॉन्च किया है। यह पहल 2024 के लिए भारतीय सेना की थीम "प्रौद्योगिकी अवशोषण का वर्ष" के अनुरूप है। इस प्लेटफॉर्म को निम्न में से किसके द्वारा विकसित किया गया है?

- (a) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- (b) Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
- (c) Indian Space Research Organisation
- (d) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- (e) Bhaskaracharya National Institute of Space Applications and Geoinformatics

Ans. e

Sol. Army launches 'Eklavya' online digital platform for officers' training
 Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Upendra Dwivedi has launched an online learning platform for the Indian Army nicknamed as "Eklavya".
 This initiative aligns with the Indian Army propelling itself into the "Decade of Transformation" as envisioned by the COAS and also with Indian Army's theme for 2024 as the "Year of Technology Absorption".

The Eklavya software platform has been developed under the aegis of Headquarters Army Training Command with Army War College as the sponsor agency. The platform has been developed at zero cost through "Bhaskaracharya National Institute of Space Applications and Geoinformatics" (BISAG-N), Gandhinagar, along with support from Directorate General of Information Systems.

Student officers are permitted to register for multiple courses simultaneously. A total of 96 courses by 17 Category 'A' Training Establishments of the Indian Army have already been hosted on the platform.

There are three categories of courses hosted on the Eklavya platform. The first category is the 'Pre-Course Preparatory Capsules'

which has study material for all offline physical courses being conducted at various Category 'A' training establishments. The aim is to shift the "basics" to the online courses so that physical courses have more and more contemporary content with a focus on the "application part".

The second category of courses are the "appointment or specific assignment-related courses". Officers on getting posted to some of the specialist appointments have to learn the craft by getting on-the-job training (OJT) and therefore, it takes a finite amount of time for them to function with full efficiency in those appointments.

The third category of courses is the “Professional Development Suite” to include courses on Strategy, Operational Art, Leadership, Organisational Behaviour, Finance, Art of Reading, Power Writing, Emerging Technology etc.

The Eklavya also has the functionality of a searchable “Knowledge Highway”, wherein various journals, research papers and articles etc are uploaded under a single window. The platform will go a long way in encouraging continuous professional military education in the officers, decongest and enrich the existing physical course, preparing officers for specialist appointments and encouraging domain specialisation.

314. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has announced the interoperability of stock exchanges to ensure business continuity in the face of a technical glitch or an outage. The interoperability for cash, derivatives, currency derivatives, and interest rate derivatives will be effective from which date?

भारतीय प्रतिभूति एवं विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) ने तकनीकी गड़बड़ी या व्यवधान की स्थिति में कारोबार की निरंतरता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए स्टॉक एक्सचेंजों की अंतर-संचालन क्षमता की घोषणा की है। नकदी, डेरिवेटिव, मुद्रा डेरिवेटिव और ब्याज दर डेरिवेटिव के लिए अंतर-संचालन क्षमता किस तारीख से प्रभावी होगी?

- (a) 1 January 2025
- (b) 1 March 2025
- (c) 1 April 2025
- (d) 1 June 2025
- (e) 1 August 2025

Ans. c

Sol. SEBI pushes for interoperability between NSE and BSE during outages from April 1. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has announced the interoperability of stock exchanges to ensure business continuity in the face of a technical glitch or an outage. The interoperability for cash, derivatives, currency derivatives, and interest rate derivatives will be effective from April 1, 2025.

Upon discussion with exchanges, it has been decided that, to begin with, the NSE would act as an alternative trading venue for the BSE and vice-versa.

Stock exchanges have been directed to issue a standard operating procedure (SOP) regarding it in the next two months. Traders would be able to hedge their open positions by taking offsetting positions in identical or correlated indices on other exchanges.

315. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of SBI Funds Management?

एसबीआई फंड्स मैनेजमेंट के प्रबंध निदेशक और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ashok Mehta
- (b) Debasish Mishra
- (c) Rishi Chhabra
- (d) Nand Kishore
- (e) Rajat Verma

Ans. d

Sol. SBI Funds Management appoints Nand Kishore as MD & CEO

SBI Funds Management has appointed Nand Kishore as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer. He will take over from Shamsher Singh.

Kishore was Deputy Managing Director (Global Markets) at SBI's Corporate Centre in Mumbai, where he oversaw the bank's treasury operations.

Kishore has over 34 years of experience working with SBI across major banking verticals such as Branch Banking, International Operations, Treasury Operations and Investment Banking, Corporate Banking and Retail Operations.

He began his career at the SBI as a Probationary Officer in 1990 and moved up the ranks to become Deputy Managing Director.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD and CEO of Indian Bank** - Binod Kumar (replace S L Jain) *final approval pending*
- **DBS Bank India** - Rajat Verma (replace Surojit Shome)
- **Country manager for India** - Rishi Chhabra
- **Chief General Manager of SBI for New Delhi Circle** - Debasish Mishra
- **MD and CEO of IFCI Ltd.** - Rahul Bhave
- **MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB)** - Ashok Chandra

316. Which of the following has partnered with insurtech platform Riskcovry to introduce a state-of-the-art digital insurance distribution platform?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने अत्याधुनिक डिजिटल बीमा वितरण प्लेटफॉर्म पेश करने के लिए इंश्योरटेक प्लेटफॉर्म रिस्ककोव्री के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (c) Ideal Insurance Brokers
- (d) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- (e) State Bank of India

Ans. c

Sol. Ideal Insurance Brokers Join Hands with Riskcovry to Launch Digital Insurance Platform

Ideal Insurance Brokers, one of India's leading insurance broking firms, has partnered with insurtech platform Riskcovry to introduce a state-of-the-art digital insurance distribution platform. This collaboration significantly shifts from traditional offline processes to a fully digital and customer-centric approach.

The partnership equips Ideal Insurance with a comprehensive digital suite, providing its team with instant access to a wide range of insurers and products through an intuitive dashboard. Key features include real-time business tracking via robust MIS and reporting tools and streamlined workflows that minimize manual tasks and operational errors.

317. Which IIT will host the 10th India International Science Festival 2024?

कौन सा आईआईटी 10वें भारत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान महोत्सव 2024 की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) IIT Ropar
- (c) IIT Kanpur

(d) IIT Madras

(e) IIT Guwahati

Ans. e

Sol. IIT Guwahati to host 2024 India International Science Festival

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati will celebrate India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024 from November 30 to December 3 in Guwahati.

The theme of this 10th edition of IISF is "Transforming India into an S&T-driven Global Manufacturing Hub". It reflects the government's aim to merge science and technology with industrial growth, making India a global leader in manufacturing.

The India International Science Festival is organised by the Union Ministry of Science and Technology and the Union Ministry of Earth Science in association with Vijnana Bharati.

The various departments of the Ministry of Science and Technology—the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), and Department of Biotechnology (DBT)—are involved in the India International Science Festival.

This year, the coordinating job has been given to the Thiruvananthapuram-based CSIR laboratory- National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology.

The 9th edition of the India International Science Festival 2023 was held in Faridabad, Haryana, from 17-20 January 2024. The 1st edition of the India International Science Festival was held at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi in 2015.

About Vijnana Bharati

- Vijnana Bharti is a non-governmental organisation that works for the development of the swadeshi science movement in the country.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Prof. K I Vasu of the Indian Institute of Science (Bengaluru) led a group.
- In 1991, during the Nagpur meeting, it was decided to launch the Swadeshi Science Movement at the national level named Vijnana Bharati.

318. What is the range of K-4 missile developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) which was recently launched from INS Arighat?

रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) द्वारा विकसित K-4 मिसाइल की रेंज क्या है जिसे हाल ही में INS अरिघाट से लॉन्च किया गया था?

- (a) 1000km**
- (b) 1500km**
- (c) 2000km**
- (d) 3500km**
- (e) 4000km**

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Navy successfully Test fires K-4 Missile from INS Arighaat

Indian Navy has successfully tested a nuclear-capable K-4 missile from its nuclear-powered submarine INS Arighaat. The INS Arighaat submarine can carry four K-4 missiles.

The Indian Navy commissioned its second nuclear-powered submarine, INS Arighat, on 29 August 2024. The first nuclear-powered submarine, INS Arihant, was inducted in November 2017.

INS Arihant can carry only one K-4 missile.

About the K-4 Missile

- K-4 is a nuclear-capable submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The missile is in the user trial phase before its final induction on INS Arihant/INS Arighat. It is the second SLBM to be developed by the DRDO.
- The first SLBM of India, Sagarika or K-15, has already been inducted into INS Arihant. It has a range of 750 km. The range of the K-4 SLBM is 3500 Km

319. Where was the 12th International Tourism Mart held?

12वां अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन मार्ट कहां आयोजित किया गया?

(a) Jim Corbett National Park
 (b) Ranthambore National Park
 (c) Sundarban National Park
 (d) Kanha Tiger Reserve
 (e) Kaziranga National Park

Ans. e

Sol. Kaziranga National Park hosted the 12th International Tourism Mart 2024

The 12th International Tourism Mart was held in the UNESCO World Heritage site Kaziranga National Park, Assam.

Union Minister for Tourism and Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurated the 12th International Tourism Mart.

The International Tourism Mart will highlight the vast potential of tourism in the North-Eastern Region to domestic and international audiences and bring together the Tourism and hospitality industry stakeholders to promote tourism in the region.

Kaziranga National Park is celebrating its 50th anniversary of being declared a national park.

The International Tourism Mart has been organised by the Union Ministry of Tourism every year since 2013.

The International Tourism Mart is held on a rotational basis in one of the eight North Eastern States: Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, or Sikkim.

The first International Tourism Mart was held in Assam, and the 11th edition was held in Shillong, Meghalaya.

About Kaziranga National Park

- The Kaziranga National Park was formed in 1908, declared a National Park in 1974, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985 and a Tiger Reserve in 2006.
- It is spread over a 430 square kilometre area in the Brahmaputra Valley region of Assam,
- It is the home to the world's largest population of Indian one-horned Indian rhinoceros.

- Over 2,200 one-horned rhinos are found in the park, constituting around 2/3rd of the world's population.

320. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader Hemant Soren was sworn in as the chief minister of Jharkhand for the fourth time. Hemant Soren represented which constituency in the 6th Jharkhand legislative assembly (2024)?

झारखंड मुक्ति मोर्चा (JMM) के नेता हेमंत सोरेन ने चौथी बार झारखंड के मुख्यमंत्री के रूप में शपथ ली। हेमंत सोरेन ने 6वीं झारखंड विधानसभा (2024) में किस निर्वाचन क्षेत्र का प्रतिनिधित्व किया?

- Ramgarh
- Ranchi
- Jamtara
- Barhait
- Dumka

Ans. d

Sol. Hemant Soren sworn in as the Jharkhand Chief Minister for 4th time

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader Hemant Soren was sworn in as the chief minister of Jharkhand for the fourth time.

Governor Santosh Kumar Ganagwar administered the oath of office and secrecy as the 14th chief minister of Jharkhand in a ceremony at Ranchi's Morabadi Ground.

This is the fourth time Hemant Soren has been sworn in as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand. He was first sworn in on 13 July 2013 and remained in office until 28 December 2014. His second term was from 2019- 31 January 2024, and his third term was from 4 July—28 November 2024.

He broke the record of his father, Shibu Soren, who was also the Chief Minister of Jharkhand three times.

During the recently held Jharkhand Legislative Assembly election, Hemant Soren led the INDIA alliance to a thumping majority. The INDIA alliance won 56 seats in the 81-member Jharkhand Assembly.

Hemant Soren won his Barhait assembly seat by 39,791 votes, defeating BJP's Gamliyel Hembrom in the recently held assembly polls.

Jharkhand was created on 15 November 2000 as the 28th state of India after the enactment of the Bihar Reorganisation Act 2000.

To date, seven people have served as its chief minister. Bharatiya Janata Party's Babulal Marandi was the first Chief Minister of Jharkhand.

321. Masato Kanda was elected as _____ president of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

मासातो कांडा को एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) का _____ अध्यक्ष चुना गया।

- 10th
- 11th
- 12th
- 13th
- 14th

Ans. b

Sol. Masato Kanda elected as new President of ADB

Masato Kanda, former top currency diplomat for Japan, was elected as 11th president of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Kanda, 59, currently serves as special advisor to Japan's prime minister and minister of finance.

He will assume office on Feb 24, 2025, succeeding Masatsugu Asakawa, who will leave office on Feb 23 next year.

Kanda will complete the unexpired term of Asakawa, which ends on Nov 23, 2026.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masato Kanda (replace Masatsugu Asakawa) *effect from 24 Feb 2025*
- **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)

Recent Appointments in Foreign

- **Secretary General of Interpol** - Valdecy Urquiza (Brazil's Federal Police Commissioner)
- **Chairperson of 77th Session of WHO Regional Committee** - JP Nadda
- **President of the 68th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** - Sang Wook Ham
- **First Indian President of Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)** - Raja Randhir Singh
- **First Female Government Spokesperson of Iran** - Fatemeh Mohajerani
- **CEO of Nestlé** - Laurent Freixe (replace Mark Schneider)

322. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Chennai-based real estate developer, DRA?

चेन्नई स्थित रियल एस्टेट डेवलपर, डीआरए का ब्रांड एंबेसडर किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Tamanna Bhatia
- (b) Keerthy Suresh
- (c) Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
- (d) Priyanka Chopra
- (e) Rashmika Mandanna

Ans. e

Sol. DRA signs up Rashmika Mandanna as brand ambassador

Chennai-based real estate developer, DRA has signed on actress Rashmika Mandanna, as its brand ambassador.

The company, which has so far developed 10 million sq ft of (mostly) residential space in Chennai, expects to add 2.7 m sq ft from its nine ongoing and six upcoming projects.

Rashmika, who co-starred with Amitabh Bachchan, Goodbye, will help in this effort.

The actor has endorsed many brands and products, such as McDonald's, Kalyan Jewellers, Bisk Farm, Cashify and Dabur Honey and in 2023 was the first Indian ambassador to the Japanese fashion brand Onitsuka Tiger.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Sonu Sood - Brand Ambassador and Honourary Tourism Advisor for Thailand
- Harbhajan Singh & Sania Mirza - Dubai Sports Council brand ambassador
- Shreyanka Patil - BOBCARD Limited
- Rashmika Mandanna - National Ambassador for Promoting Cyber Safety
- Rahul Dravid - Shriram Finance Ltd,
- Manu Bhaker – Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)

323. International Jaguar Day is celebrated every year on which day to highlight the growing dangers to jaguars and the urgent need for their protection?

जगुआर के बढ़ते खतरों और उनकी सुरक्षा की तत्काल आवश्यकता को उजागर करने के लिए हर साल किस दिन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जगुआर दिवस मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 26 November
- (b) 27 November
- (c) 28 November
- (d) 29 November
- (e) 30 November

Ans. d

Sol. 29 November - International Jaguar Day

International Jaguar Day is celebrated every year on November 29, aims to highlight the growing dangers to jaguars and the urgent need for their protection.

These big cats, known as the largest in the Americas and key to preserving biodiversity and cultural heritage in Central and South America, are also crucial to the Amazon Rainforest and the third largest cat predator globally.

In 2020, the World Wildlife Federation (WWF) started a plan to help jaguars grow in number and protect their homes by 2030. At the United Nations in New York in March 2018, leaders from 14 countries with jaguar habitats came together for the Jaguar 2030 Forum.

This meeting led to the Jaguar 2030 Statement, which detailed many joint efforts to save jaguars, including the idea for an International Jaguar Day.

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