

# Best 300+ MCQs

April 2025

## Current Affairs PDF



**1. What is the name of the operation launched by the Indian government to help earthquake-hit victims in Myanmar?**

**म्यांमार में भूकंप प्रभावित पीड़ितों की मदद के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू किए गए अभियान का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) Operation Sagar
- (b) Operation Sahay
- (c) Operation Brahma
- (d) Operation Raksha
- (e) Operation Uddhar

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India launches Operation Brahma to help quake hit Myanmar

The government of India has launched Operation Brahma to help the earthquake-hit victims in Myanmar. A 7.7 magnitude quake hit Myanmar on 28 March 2025, killing at least 1000 people.

According to the US Geological Survey, more than 10,000 people are feared dead in Myanmar.

India, under its Neighbourhood First policy and its policy of being the first responder in providing Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) has launched Operation Brahma.

Two Indian Air Force C-130J aircraft carrying relief material for the quake-hit Myanmar took off from Hindon Air Force Station, Uttar Pradesh.

The plane carried the first tranche of 15 tonnes of urgent humanitarian aid landed at the Yangon airport of Myanmar. A search-and-rescue team and a medical team have also been sent to Myanmar.

The relief package includes essential supplies such as tents, blankets, sleeping bags, crucial medical supplies, including paracetamol, antibiotics, syringes, gloves, and bandages etc.

**2. President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the National Conference on Environment held at the Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. Which organization has organized the National Conference on Environment 2025?**

**राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने नई दिल्ली के विज्ञान भवन में आयोजित पर्यावरण पर राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया। किस संगठन ने पर्यावरण पर राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन 2025 का आयोजन किया है?**

- (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (b) National Green Tribunal
- (c) Supreme Court of India
- (d) Indian Environmental Society
- (e) World Wildlife Fund

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** President Murmu inaugurates National Conference on Environment 2025

President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the National Conference on Environment held at the Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.

The National Conference on Environment 2025 has been organised by the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

The National Conference on Environment focuses on the legal aspect of Environmental laws and their proper implementation. Thus, the Conference brings together the Judges of the Supreme Court, High Court, District Court, and the policymakers- the government of India and its various ministries.

**3. What is the total worth of projects launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Chhattisgarh?**

**प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा छत्तीसगढ़ में शुरू की गई परियोजनाओं की कुल कीमत कितनी है?**

- (a) ₹25,000 crore
- (b) ₹30,500 crore
- (c) ₹33,700 crore
- (d) ₹35,000 crore
- (e) ₹40,000 crore

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** PM Modi unveils projects worth Rs 33 thousand 700 crore in Chhattisgarh  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched projects worth 33 thousand 700 crore rupees in Chhattisgarh.

The projects are aligned with his government's broader agenda of infrastructure expansion, housing, education, and rural empowerment.

The projects unveiled by Prime Minister include three lakh new houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, 130 PM-SHRI schools equipped with smart classrooms and modern laboratories, a 540-km petroleum pipeline to enhance regional energy security, and an extensive network of rural roads aimed at improving connectivity in Maoist-affected areas.

**4. Which multinational air exercise will the Indian Air Force (IAF) participate in Greece?**

**भारतीय वायु सेना (IAF) ग्रीस में किस बहुराष्ट्रीय वायु अभ्यास में भाग लेगी?**

- (a) Red Flag
- (b) INIOCHOS-25
- (c) Cobra Gold
- (d) Pitch Black
- (e) Malabar

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** IAF to Participate in Multinational Air Exercise INIOCHOS-25 in Greece

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will participate in the multinational air exercise INIOCHOS-25, beginning in Greece.

The 12-day exercise, hosted by Greece's Hellenic Air Force, will take place at Andravida Air Base in a historic region of Elis. It will continue till the 11th of April.

The IAF contingent will include Su-30 MKI fighters, along with combat-enabling IL-78 and C-17 aircraft.

The exercise will integrate multiple air and surface assets from fifteen countries under realistic combat scenarios, designed to simulate modern-day air warfare challenges.

#### Recent Exercise

- 14th edition of **Exercise Indra** between India and Russia -Chennai
- 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of bilateral naval exercise, **Varuna 2025** between India and Franc - Arabian Sea
- INS Ranvir participates in **Exercise Bongosagar 2025** between India and Bangladesh
- **12th edition** of Exercise **KHANJAR-XII** between India and Kyrgyzstan - Tokmok, Kyrgyzstan
- **7th edition of Security Belt-2025 between Russia, China and Iran** - Iranian port of Chabahar near Indian Ocean

#### 5. Who has won the 2025 Tashkent Open Agzamov Memorial title in Tashkent, Uzbekistan?

उज्बेकिस्तान के ताशकंद में 2025 ताशकंद ओपन अग्जामोव मेमोरियल खिताब किसने जीता है?

(a) R Praggnanandhaa  
(b) Arjun Erigaisi  
(c) Nihal Sarin  
(d) Vudit Gujrathi  
(e) D Gukesh

Ans. c

**Sol.** Nihal Sarin clinches 2025 Tashkent Open Agzamov Memorial title

India's Nihal Sarin has clinched the 2025 Tashkent Open Agzamov Memorial title in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The 20-year-old Indian Grandmaster secured the title with an unbeaten score of 8 out of 10, outperforming a strong field that included eight players rated above 2600.

With this victory, Nihal gained 7.1 Elo rating points, bringing his live rating to 2694, just a step away from the coveted 2700 mark.

#### 6. Olympian Deepak Punia has won a Silver medal at the Asian Wrestling Championships in Amman, Jordan. In which weight category did Deepak Punia win a silver medal?

ओलंपियन दीपक पुनिया ने जॉर्डन के अम्मान में एशियाई कुश्ती चैंपियनशिप में रजत पदक जीता है। दीपक पुनिया ने किस भार वर्ग में रजत पदक जीता?

(a) 57kg  
(b) 61kg  
(c) 74kg  
(d) 92kg  
(e) 110 kg

Ans. d

**Sol.** Deepak Punia & Udit settle for Silver medals at Asian Wrestling Championship in Amman

In wrestling, Olympian Deepak Punia and Udit settles for Silver medals at Asian Wrestling Championships in Amman, Jordia.

While Deepak Punia won Silver in the Men's freestyle 92kg weight category, Udit bagged Silver in 61kg weight division.

Meanwhile, Dinesh, who went down to Mongolia's Munkhtur Lkhagvagerel in the 125kg semis, made the most of his chance by defeating Turkmenistan's Zyyamuhammet Saparov to bag the bronze.

India have secured a total of 10 medals – one gold, three silver and six bronze at the event.

#### **7. Where will the Hero Asia Cup Hockey 2025 be hosted?**

**हीरो एशिया कप हॉकी 2025 का आयोजन कहां किया जाएगा?**

- (a) Patna
- (b) Rajgir
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Mumbai
- (e) Kolkata

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Bihar to host Men's Hockey Hero Asia Cup 2025

Rajgir in Bihar will host the Hero Asia Cup Hockey 2025 in August of this year.

Hockey India and the Bihar State Sports Authority signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard at the Patliputra Sports Complex in Patna.

The tournament will take place from the 29th of August to the 7th of September at the recently developed Rajgir Hockey Stadium. This will be the second international sporting event hosted by Rajgir, after the Women's Asian Champions Trophy in November last year, where India emerged victorious.

The 12th edition of the Hero Asia Cup will witness the participation of 8 teams, including India, Pakistan, Japan, Korea, China, and Malaysia.

The remaining two teams will secure their spots through the qualifying tournament, the AHF Cup. South Korea stands as the most successful team in the history of the Men's Asia Cup with five titles, followed closely by India and Pakistan, who have each won the tournament three times.

#### **8. What is the expected growth rate of India's economy in the fiscal year 2025-26 according to the EY Economy Watch report?**

**EY इकोनॉमी वॉच रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था की अपेक्षित वृद्धि दर क्या है?**

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.4%
- (c) 7.6%
- (d) 9.2%

**(e) 6.2%**

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** India's economy projected to grow at 6.5% in FY26: EY report

India's economy is expected to grow at 6.5% in the fiscal year 2025-26, according to the latest EY Economy Watch report.

The report emphasizes the need for a well-calibrated fiscal strategy that supports human capital development while maintaining fiscal prudence to enhance long-term growth prospects.

For FY25, real GDP growth is projected at 6.4%, aligning with the revised estimates by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

The revised national accounts data indicate that India's real GDP growth rates for FY23, FY24, and FY25 are estimated at 7.6%, 9.2%, and 6.5%, respectively.

The third-quarter growth rate for FY25 is estimated at 6.2%, implying a required 7.6% growth in the fourth quarter to meet the annual projection.

#### **Updated GDP List**

- EY Economy Watch report - 6.5% (FY25)
- Fitch Rating - 6.5% (FY26), 6.3% (FY27)
- CRISIL - 6.5% (FY26)
- Moody's Analytics - 6.4% (FY25)
- RBI - 6.6% (FY25), 6.7% (FY26)
- Deloitte - 6.5-6.8 (FY25)
- FICCI - 6.4% (FY25)
- UN - 6.6% (CY25); 6.7% (CY26)
- SBI - 6.3% (FY25)
- NSO - 6.4% (FY25)

**9. The amalgamation of Aditya Birla Finance Ltd (ABFL) with its parent Aditya Birla Capital Ltd (ABCL) with effect from April 1, 2025, will lead to rationalisation and simplification of group structure, improved financial stability, and increased operational efficiency. What type of entity will ABCL become after the amalgamation?**

**1 अप्रैल, 2025 से आदित्य बिड़ला फाइनेंस लिमिटेड (ABFL) का अपनी मूल कंपनी आदित्य बिड़ला कैपिटल लिमिटेड (ABCL) के साथ विलय होने से समूह संरचना का युक्तिकरण और सरलीकरण होगा, वित्तीय स्थिरता में सुधार होगा और परिचालन दक्षता में वृद्धि होगी। विलय के बाद ABCL किस प्रकार की इकाई बन जाएगी?**

- (a) A manufacturing company**
- (b) A Core Investment Company**
- (c) An operating NBFC**
- (d) A commercial bank**
- (e) A health insurance provider**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Aditya Birla Finance merges with parent Aditya Birla Capital

The amalgamation of Aditya Birla Finance Ltd (ABFL) with its parent Aditya Birla Capital Ltd (ABCL) with effect from April 1, 2025, will lead to rationalisation and simplification of group structure, improved financial stability, and increased operational efficiency.

ABCL will be converted from a Core Investment Company to an operating NBFC (non-banking finance company), and this will create a unified larger entity with greater financial strength and flexibility enabling direct access to capital.

As of December-end 2024, ABCL's aggregate assets under management of over ₹5.03 lakh crore, include a consolidated lending book of over ₹1.46 lakh crore and gross written premium of ₹16,942 crore in Life and health insurance businesses in nine months of FY25.

**10. Consider the following statements regarding the new UPI guidelines by NPCI:  
एनपीसीआई द्वारा नए यूपीआई दिशा-निर्देशों के संबंध में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:**

1. Banks and PSPs are required to update mobile number records weekly using the Mobile Number Revocation List (MNRL) and Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP).
2. UPI IDs linked to mobile numbers that have been inactive for 180 days will be deactivated.
3. The "Collect Payments" feature is being restricted to prevent fraud, with person-to-person transactions limited to ₹2,000.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, and 3
- (e) all are incorrect

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** NPCI Brings New UPI Guidelines in Effect from April 1, 2025

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is set to implement new guidelines for Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions from April 1, 2025, to enhance security, interoperability, and overall customer experience.

These are requirements for all member banks of UPI, Payment Service Providers (PSPs), and third-party app providers (TPAPs), such as leading apps like PhonePe, Google Pay, and Paytm.

The new framework attempts to resolve issues related to unused or reassigned mobile numbers and improve user trust and operating efficiency.

One of the most important updates is the handling of mobile numbers assigned to UPI IDs. According to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), mobile numbers that have remained unused for 90 days can be reassigned to new customers.

To counter this, NPCI has made it obligatory for banks and PSPs to update mobile number records weekly through the Mobile Number Revocation List (MNRL) and Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP). This will help minimize transaction errors due to expired or reused mobile numbers. From April 1, UPI IDs associated with dormant mobile numbers

will be deactivated, making it necessary for users to ensure their registered mobile numbers with banks are active and up-to-date.

NPCI is also removing the “Collect Payments” feature from UPI because of fraud issues. This feature will now be limited to large, authenticated merchants only, and person-to-person collect payments will be limited to ₹2,000. PSP apps also need to report cases where they locally settle UPI numbers because of NPCI’s system delay every month. This reporting provides transparency and accountability in UPI operations.

### **Effective Key Changes From April 1**

- Regular weekly updating of mobile number records through MNRL/DIP.
- Deactivating UPI IDs associated with inactive or reused mobile numbers.
- Mandatory opt-in for UPI number seeding; consent can't be captured at the time of transactions.
- Limitation of “Collect Payments” facility to verified merchants; person-to-person collect payments limited to ₹2,000.
- Obligatory monthly reporting by PSPs for locally settled UPI numbers because of system lag.

The updated guidelines reflect NPCI’s commitment to strengthening India’s digital payment infrastructure as UPI continues to drive financial inclusion across the country. By addressing operational inefficiencies and fraud risks, these changes aim to create a safer and more reliable payment ecosystem for millions of users.

### **11. Who has been appointed as the CEO and Managing Director of Tata Group's electronics retail chain Croma?**

**टा समूह की इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स रिटेल चेन क्रोमा के सीईओ और प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Avijit Mitra
- (b) Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- (c) Ratan Tata
- (d) Shibashish Roy
- (e) Mukesh Ambani

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Tata Group appoints Shibashish Roy as MD & CEO of Croma

Tata Group's electronics retail chain Croma has appointed Shibashish Roy as its chief executive officer and Managing Director.

Roy, who has over 20 years of experience in Tata Group companies, was named chief executive officer in November 2024 and worked alongside outgoing managing director Avijit Mitra during a transition period that concluded in March 2025.

### **Recent Appointments**

- **MD of Ambuja Cements Limited** - Ajay Kapur
- **CEO and Whole-time Director of Ambuja Cements** - Vinod Bahety
- **Whole-time Director of Maruti Suzuki India** - Sunil Kakkar
- **Full-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to PM (EAC-PM)** - Sanjay Kumar Mishra (Former Chief of ED)

- **Bureau Member of United World Wrestling (UWW) Asia** - Sanjay Singh
- **Chairman of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)** - Ashok Singh Thakur (for three years)
- **Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court** -Justice Harish Tandon

**12. GAIL (India) Ltd has signed a five-year LNG supply agreement with which company?**

गेल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड ने किस कंपनी के साथ पांच साल का एलएनजी आपूर्ति समझौता किया है?

- (a) ADNOC Gas
- (b) Vitol Asia
- (c) Qatar Energy Trading
- (d) ExxonMobil
- (e) Shell

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** GAIL to begin LNG supplies from Qatar Energy next month under five-year deal  
State-owned gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd will begin receiving LNG supplies from Qatar Energy Trading next month under a five-year agreement, ensuring the delivery of 12 cargoes annually.

In addition to the Qatar deal, GAIL has signed a 10-year contract with Vitol Asia for 1 MTPA of LNG from 2026 and another 10-year deal with ADNOC Gas (UAE) for 0.5 MTPA of LNG.

These agreements support India's goal of increasing the share of natural gas in the energy mix from 6-7% to 15% by 2030, aligning with national energy security and sustainability objectives.

**13. What is the name of the SpaceX mission that launched the first human spaceflight directly over Earth's polar regions?**

स्पेसएक्स मिशन का नाम क्या है जिसने पृथ्वी के ध्रुवीय क्षेत्रों के ऊपर से सीधे पहला मानव अंतरिक्ष यान लॉन्च किया?

- (a) Fram2
- (b) Polaris Dawn
- (c) Inspiration4
- (d) Crew-10
- (e) Arctic Explorer

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** SpaceX Launches Historic "Fram2" Mission – First Human Spaceflight Over Polar Regions

SpaceX launched "Fram2," the first human spaceflight to travel directly over Earth's North and South Poles, on a privately funded mission.

The mission includes groundbreaking experiments, such as taking the first X-ray in space and studying mushroom growth in microgravity.

The crew consists of mission commander Chun Wang (China/Malta), vehicle commander Jannicke Mikkelsen (Norway), mission pilot Rabea Rogge (Germany), and mission specialist Eric Philips (Australia).

Named after the 19th-century Norwegian exploration ship "Fram," the mission aims to gather new data to advance long-term space exploration.

**14. What is the name of the new cooperative-based taxi service being launched by the Indian government?**

**भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू की जा रही नई सहकारी-आधारित टैक्सी सेवा का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) Bharat Taxi
- (b) Sahkar Taxi
- (c) Janata Taxi
- (d) Swadeshi Taxi
- (e) Sarthak Taxi

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Govt to launch 'Sahkar Taxi' service across India to compete with Ola, Uber  
The Indian government is set to launch a new cooperative-based taxi service called "Sahkar Taxi" across the country to offer an alternative to popular ride-hailing platforms like Ola and Uber in a market with huge growth projection.

Union Minister Amit Shah announced the plan in Parliament stating that the new service will register two-wheeler taxis, rickshaws, and four-wheeler taxis.

Moreover, unlike existing private company services, Sahkar Taxi will ensure that all profits go directly to the drivers, rather than large corporations.

**15. Who has been appointed as the new Private Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi?**

**प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नए निजी सचिव के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ruchi Sharma
- (b) Nidhi Tewari
- (c) Anjali Verma
- (d) Suresh Mehta
- (e) Ravi Prakash

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Nidhi Tewari appointed as private secretary to PM Modi

Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer Nidhi Tewari has been appointed as the new Private Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The appointment, approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, was officially announced by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT).

Tewari is currently serving as Deputy Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

The 2014-batch IFS officer is from Varanasi's Mahmoorganj area, PM Modi's Lok Sabha constituency since 2014. She secured the 96th rank in the Civil Services Examination in 2013 and initially served as an Assistant Commissioner in Varanasi before joining the Indian Foreign Service.

She has been serving as Deputy Secretary in the PMO since January 6, 2023, after initially joining as an Under Secretary in 2022.

### Recent Appointments

- **MD of Ambuja Cements Limited** - Ajay Kapur
- **CEO and Whole-time Director of Ambuja Cements** - Vinod Bahety
- **Whole-time Director of Maruti Suzuki India** - Sunil Kakkar
- **Full-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to PM (EAC-PM)** - Sanjay Kumar Mishra (Former Chief of ED)

### 16. Where has the Indian Consulate General launched a Hindi language course?

**भारतीय महावाणिज्य दूतावास ने हिंदी भाषा पाठ्यक्रम कहाँ शुरू किया है?**

- (a) University of Colombo
- (b) University of Jaffna
- (c) University of Vavuniya
- (d) University of Peradeniya
- (e) University of Kelaniya

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Indian Consulate General in Jaffna launches Hindi language course at University of Vavuniya

The Consulate General of India in Jaffna has launched a Hindi language course at the University of Vavuniya, catering to growing interest in the language.

The course was inaugurated jointly by Indian Consul General Sai Murali and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Atputharajah. The initiative aims to enhance linguistic and cultural ties between India and Sri Lanka, fostering better communication and deeper cultural exchanges.

The program reflects India's commitment to strengthening educational and people-to-people connections in Sri Lanka. With Hindi gaining popularity in the region, the course is expected to provide students with new opportunities for academic and professional growth.

### 17. Which company will acquire Nissan Motor's 51% stake in Renault Nissan Automotive India (RNAIPL)?

**कौन सी कंपनी रेनार्ट निसान ऑटोमोटिव इंडिया (RNAIPL) में निसान मोटर की 51% हिस्सेदारी का अधिग्रहण करेगी?**

- (a) Toyota Group
- (b) Volkswagen Group
- (c) Renault Group
- (d) Honda Motor Co.
- (e) Ford Motor Co.

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Renault Group to take over Nissan Motor's 51% stake in Chennai plant

Renault Group will acquire Nissan Motor's 51% stake in Renault Nissan Automotive India (RNAIPL), taking full control of the Chennai-based joint venture.

Nissan will continue to use RNAIPL as a key sourcing hub for its vehicles, including the Magnite, for both Indian and export markets.

The transaction, subject to regulatory approvals, is expected to close by the end of the first half of 2025, with Nissan asserting it has no plans to exit the Indian market.

**18. Who crushed Novak Djokovic's dream to win his 100th tour-level title in the Miami Open tennis?**

**मियामी ओपन टेनिस में अपना 100वां टूर-स्तरीय खिताब जीतने का नोवाक जोकोविच का सपना किसने तोड़ दिया?**

- (a) Carlos Alcaraz
- (b) Tomas Berdych
- (c) Jakub Mensik
- (d) Rafael Nadal
- (e) Stefanos Tsitsipas

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Miami Open Champion: Teenager Jakub Mensik defeats Novak Djokovic in finals In Miami Open tennis, Jakub Mensik has crushed Novak Djokovic's dream to win 100th tour level title. The 19-year-old Czech beat the six-time Miami open champion in the final of the Men's Singles in Florida, 7-6, 7-6.

With this win, Mensik also became the second-youngest champion of the tournament behind Carlos Alcaraz, who lifted the trophy in 2022 as an 18-year-old.

Mensik also became the first Czech player to win an ATP Masters 1000 event since Tomas Berdych triumphed in Paris in 2005.

Mensik was born in September 2005 when Djokovic was already in the Top 100 of the ATP Rankings. The 18-year difference between them marked the biggest age gap in an ATP Masters 1000 final.

**19. The fourth edition of "Tiger Triumph," a bilateral tri-service Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise between India and the United States, commenced in Eastern seaboard in Visakhapatnam and will continue until April 13. Onboard which ship was the opening ceremony of Tiger Triumph-2025 held?**

**भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के बीच द्विपक्षीय त्रि-सेवा मानवीय सहायता और आपदा राहत (HADR) अभ्यास "टाइगर ट्रायम्फ" का चौथा संस्करण विशाखापत्तनम में पूर्वी समुद्र तट पर शुरू हुआ और 13 अप्रैल तक जारी रहेगा। टाइगर ट्रायम्फ-2025 का उद्घाटन समारोह किस जहाज पर आयोजित किया गया था?**

- (a) INS Vikramaditya
- (b) INS Viraat
- (c) INS Jalashwa
- (d) INS Satpura
- (e) INS Sahyadri

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India-US tri-service exercise 'Tiger Triumph' commences in Visakhapatnam

The fourth edition of "Tiger Triumph," a bilateral tri-service Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise between India and the United States, commenced in Eastern seaboard in Visakhapatnam and will continue until April 13

The opening ceremony of Tiger Triumph-2025 was held onboard the Indian Navy's INS Jalashwa.

The exercise reflects the deepening convergence of US-India strategic maritime interests and the countries' defense partnership. This edition aims to further enhance interoperability and combined joint all-domain operations during large-scale.

**20. Vandana Katariya, who has recently announced her retirement, is associated with which sport?**

**वंदना कटारिया, जिन्होंने हाल ही में अपनी सेवानिवृत्ति की घोषणा की है, किस खेल से जुड़ी है?**

- (a) Cricket
- (b) Badminton
- (c) Athletics
- (d) Tennis
- (e) Hockey

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Indian hockey icon Vandana Katariya announces retirement after illustrious 15-year career

Indian women's hockey stalwart, Vandana Katariya, has officially announced her retirement from international hockey, bringing an end to an illustrious career spanning over 15 years.

With 320 international appearances and 158 goals to her name, Vandana departs as the most-capped player in the history of Indian women's hockey.

The 32-year-old, who made her senior team debut in 2009, was an integral part of several defining moments in the sport, including India's historic fourth-place finish at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, where she became the first and only Indian woman to score a hat-trick at the Games.

Vandana was honoured with some of India's most prestigious awards, including the Arjuna Award (2021) and the Padma Shri (2022). She also received the Hockey India Balbir Singh Sr. Award for Player of the Year (Women) in 2014, the Hockey India President's Award for Outstanding Achievement in 2021, and the Hockey India Dhanraj Pillay Award for Forward of the Year in 2021 and 2022, cementing her status as one of India's finest forwards.

**21. Who will be honored with the prestigious Ugadi Award by the Andhra Pradesh government?**

**आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा प्रतिष्ठित उगादि पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया जाएगा?**

- (a) B. V. Subrahmanyam
- (b) MyNaa Swamy
- (c) R. Mallikarjuna
- (d) K. Vijayanand
- (e) P. V. Narasimha Rao

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Historian MyNaa Swamy to receive Ugadi Award

Historian and archaeologist MyNaa Swamy will receive the prestigious Ugadi Award from the Andhra Pradesh government for his contributions to historical research and social service.

The award, including the 'Kalaratna' title, 'Hamsa' medal, a certificate of appreciation, and a cash prize, will be presented by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu in Vijayawada.

MyNaa Swamy's research on the Vijayanagara Empire and Lepakshi Veerabhadra temple complex has uncovered over 100 previously unknown inscriptions in Telugu, Kannada, and Sanskrit.

**Recent Award**

- **59th Jnanpith Award** - Vinod Kumar Shukla (*for Deewar Mein Ek Khirki Rehti Thi*)
- **Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024** - Veteran Sculptor Ram Sutar
- **Oeko-Tex certification from Germany for Eri silk** - North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation
- **Stockholm Water Prize 2025** - Austrian hydrologist Günter Blöschl (*for his groundbreaking contributions to flood risk management and water resource engineering*)
- **Air Service Quality (ASQ) award** - Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport (for the third consecutive year)

**22. The Government of India, in collaboration with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has announced the re-issuance of two Government Securities (G-Secs) through a price-based auction scheduled for April 4, 2025. Which platform will be used to conduct the auction of G-Secs?**

भारत सरकार ने भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) के साथ मिलकर 4 अप्रैल, 2025 को निर्धारित मूल्य-आधारित नीलामी के माध्यम से दो सरकारी प्रतिभूतियों (G-Sec) को पुनः जारी करने की घोषणा की है। G-Sec की नीलामी के लिए किस प्लेटफॉर्म का उपयोग किया जाएगा?

- (a) NSE Trading Portal
- (b) BSE Online Platform
- (c) RBI's E-Kuber
- (d) SEBI Monitoring System
- (e) National Payment Corporation of India

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Government of India to Re-Issue Rs. 36,000 Crore in G-Secs

The Government of India in collaboration with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has announced the re-issuance of two Government Securities (G-Secs) through a price-based auction scheduled for April 4, 2025.

This move reflects the government's ongoing efforts to manage public debt efficiently while promoting transparency in the financial markets.

The auction will include the “6.64% Government Security 2027” for a notified amount of Rs. 6,000 crore and the “6.79% Government Security 2034” for Rs. 30,000 crore.

Additionally, the government can accept up to Rs. 2,000 crore in extra subscriptions for each security, underscoring its flexibility in meeting funding requirements.

The auction will be conducted electronically via RBI’s Core Banking Solution platform, E-Kuber.

These securities will also be eligible for “When Issued” trading under RBI guidelines, enabling market participants to trade them before their issuance date. This mechanism enhances liquidity and provides investors with greater flexibility.

**23. How much does Manappuram Finance plan to raise through redeemable non-convertible debentures (NCDs)?**

**मणप्पुरम फाइनेंस रिडीमेबल नॉन-कन्वर्टिबल डिबेंचर (एनसीडी) के माध्यम से कितना धन जुटाने की योजना बना रहा है?**

- (a) Rs. 4,000 crore
- (b) Rs. 4,500 crore
- (c) Rs. 5,000 crore
- (d) Rs. 5,500 crore
- (e) Rs. 6,000 crore

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Manappuram Finance Gets Board Approval to Raise Rs. 5,500 Crore

Manappuram Finance has declared a major fundraising program. The board of the company has sanctioned a proposal to raise up to Rs. 5,500 crore by issuing redeemable non-convertible debentures (NCDs).

This was decided in a board meeting conducted on March 29, 2025, which is a strategic initiative to increase its capital base and aid future growth.

The approved NCD issue can be carried out through private placements or public issues in one or more tranches during the financial year 2025-26. This provides Manappuram Finance with the flexibility to tailor its fund-raising approach based on market conditions and investor interest.

Established in 1949, Manappuram Finance has emerged as prominent player in the gold loan industry, providing a variety of financial products and services such as microfinance, vehicle finance, and housing finance.

**24. Which Indian bank has partnered with J.P. Morgan to offer real-time U.S. dollar payments in March 2025?**

**मार्च 2025 में वास्तविक समय में अमेरिकी डॉलर में भुगतान की पेशकश करने के लिए किस भारतीय बैंक ने जे.पी. मॉर्गन के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India's Axis Bank, J.P. Morgan roll out anytime dollar payments for clients  
India's Axis Bank has partnered with J.P. Morgan to offer real-time U.S. dollar payment capabilities to commercial clients in the country, facilitated by Kinexys, the U.S.-based lender's blockchain and digital assets unit.

This is the first instance where an Indian company will have the flexibility to make or receive dollar payments at any time, J.P. Morgan said.

Axis Bank will deliver the 24/7 dollar clearing capability for clients out of Gujarat International Finance Tec-City, or GIFT city, an international financial services center. The collaboration with Kinexys will offer "significant value" to clients by streamlining payments, unlocking liquidity and adding further optionality on cross-border payments. Currently, companies can make cross-border payments that are settled on the same day.

Naveen Mallela, global co-head at Kinexys, illustrated the anytime payment capability by saying that Indian companies can now make dollar payments to Middle Eastern clients on Sundays, which are standard working days in that region.

**25. What is the record high value of defence exports achieved in the Financial Year 2024-25?**

**वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-25 में रक्षा निर्यात का रिकॉर्ड उच्च मूल्य क्या है?**

- (a) Rs 15,000 crore
- (b) Rs 20,000 crore
- (c) Rs 23,622 crore
- (d) Rs 25,050 crore
- (e) Rs 30,303 crore

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Defence exports surge to a record high of Rs 23,622 crore in Financial Year 2024-25  
Defence exports have surged to a record high of Rs 23,622 crore (approx. US\$ 2.76 billion) in the Financial Year (FY) 2024-25.

A growth of Rs 2,539 crore or 12.04% has been registered in the just-concluded FY over the defence exports figures of FY 2023-24, which were Rs 21,083 crore.

The Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) have shown a significant increase of 42.85% in their exports in the FY 2024-25, reflecting the growing acceptability of Indian products in the global market and the ability of the Indian defence industry to be a part of the global supply chain.

**26. Which government body is responsible for implementing the electronic processing of import and export for gems, jewellery, and machinery samples?**

**रत्न, आभूषण और मशीनरी के नमूनों के आयात और निर्यात के इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्रसंस्करण को लागू करने के लिए कौन सी सरकारी संस्था जिम्मेदार है?**

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (b) Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)
- (c) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

**(d) Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**

**(e) Ministry of Commerce**

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** CBIC to launch E-processing for gems & jewellery trade next month

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs will introduce the electronic processing of the import and export of gems, jewellery, and machinery samples through personal carriage by air passengers.

This will come into effect from the 1st of next month at specified airports. Nine airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Kochi, Coimbatore, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Jaipur would allow personal carriage export of gems and jewellery.

Seven airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Jaipur would allow personal carriage import of gems and jewellery. In the case of samples or prototypes of machinery, the facility would initially be made available at the Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai airports

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, has introduced electronic processing of Bill of Entry/ Shipping Bill pertaining to gems and jewellery/samples/prototypes through personal carriage by air passengers from 01.05.2025 onwards at specified airports.

**27. Who has taken charge as the Managing Director and CEO of SBI Card?**

**एसबीआई कार्ड के प्रबंध निदेशक और सीईओ के रूप में किसने कार्यभार संभाला है?**

**(a) Challa Sreenivasulu Setty**

**(b) Salila Pande**

**(c) Parul Tyagi**

**(d) Shivanshi Singh**

**(e) Anshika Mishra**

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** SBI Card names Salila Pande as MD & CEO

Salila Pande has taken charge as the Managing Director and CEO of SBI Card.

Prior to this role, Pande served as Chief General Manager of SBI's Mumbai Metro Circle, leading the retail business, and held international positions such as President and CEO of SBI California and a risk management leader in Singapore.

**Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- Whole-time Member (Life) of IRDAI** - Swaminathan S. Iyer
- Secretary of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)** - B Ramesh Babu
- Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)** - CS Setty
- Executive Director of Canara Bank** - S K Majumdar (*for 3 years*)
- Head of Bank of America in India** -Vikram Sahu (replace Kaku Nakhate)

**28. Who has become the first African woman to assume the office of the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth of Nations?**

**राष्ट्रमंडल राष्ट्रों के महासचिव का पद संभालने वाली पहली अफ्रीकी महिला कौन बनी हैं?**

**(a) Patricia Scotland**

- (b) Kofi Annan**
- (c) Shirley Botchwey**
- (d) Ellen Johnson Sirleaf**
- (e) Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Shirley Botchwey becomes 1st African woman to assume office as Commonwealth Secretary-General

Shirley Botchwey has become the first African woman to assume the office of the Secretary General of the Commonwealth of Nations.

She replaced Patricia Scotland of Dominica, who incidentally was the first woman to hold the post of Secretary General of the Commonwealth of Nations.

She previously served as Ghana's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration from January 2017 to January 2024 and was also a member of Ghana's National Security Council.

The Secretary-General is nominated by Commonwealth leaders and can serve a maximum of two terms of four years each. The Commonwealth Secretary-General is responsible for promoting and protecting the Commonwealth's values, representing the Commonwealth publicly and the management of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The Commonwealth of Nations is an association of 56 independent countries that were once the colonies of Great Britain.

**29. Who has been appointed as a member of the IMF Managing Director's Advisory Council on Entrepreneurship and Growth?**

**उद्यमिता और विकास पर आईएमएफ प्रबंध निदेशक की सलाहकार परिषद के सदस्य के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Mukesh Ambani**
- (b) Ratan Tata**
- (c) N Chandrasekaran**
- (d) Gautam Adani**
- (e) Sundar Pichai**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** N Chandrasekaran joins IMF advisory council on entrepreneurship & growth

N Chandrasekaran, the Chairman of Tata Sons, has been appointed as a member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director's Advisory Council on Entrepreneurship and Growth.

This council aims to provide insights into macroeconomic and financial policies to support innovation, entrepreneurship, and long-term economic growth.

**30. Which of the following statements about India's locomotive production is false based on the given information?**

**दी गई जानकारी के आधार पर भारत के लोकोमोटिव उत्पादन के बारे में निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा कथन गलत है?**

**(a) India achieved a record production of 1,681 locomotives in the financial year 2024-25, making it a global leader in railway locomotive manufacturing.**

**(b) The production of 1,681 locomotives in 2024-25 reflects a 19% increase from the 1,472 locomotives produced in 2023-24.**

**(c) From 2014 to 2024, India manufactured 9,168 locomotives, nearly doubling the annual average of 470 from the 2004-2014 period.**

**(d) In 2024-25, Chittaranjan Locomotive Works produced 700 locomotives, the highest among all manufacturing units in India.**

**(e) Between 2004 and 2014, India produced more locomotives annually than it did between 2014 and 2024.**

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** India produced 1,681 locomotives in FY25, surpassing U.S., Europe. India has emerged as a global leader in railway locomotive manufacturing, achieving a record production of 1,681 locomotives in the financial year 2024-25. This milestone surpasses the total locomotive production of regions such as the United States, Europe, South America, Africa, and Australia, reaffirming India's growing dominance in the global railway sector.

This marks an increase of 209 locomotives, or 19%, compared to the 1,472 locomotives produced in the previous financial year 2023-24.

The continuous rise in locomotive production is a direct result of strategic decisions taken to strengthen the "Make in India" initiative. Between 2004 and 2014, India produced a total of 4,695 locomotives, with a national annual average of 470. In contrast, from 2014 to 2024, locomotive manufacturing witnessed a significant surge, with 9,168 locomotives produced, raising the annual average to approximately 917. In the financial year 2024-25, Indian Railways achieved a record production of 1,681 locomotives across its manufacturing units. The production was distributed as follows: Chittaranjan Locomotive Works manufactured 700 locomotives, Banaras Locomotive Works produced 477, Patiala Locomotive Works contributed 304 locomotives and 100 locomotives each were manufactured at the Madhepura and Marhowrah units. The majority of the locomotives produced in the country were intended for freight trains. Among the 1,681 locomotives produced in the financial year 2024-25, the breakdown is as follows:

- WAG-9/9H locomotives: 1,047
- WAG-9HH locomotives: 7
- WAG-9 Twin locomotives: 148
- WAP-5 locomotives: 2
- WAP-7 locomotives: 272
- NRC locomotives: 5
- WAG-12B locomotives: 100
- WDG 4G/6G locomotives: 100

**31. Former World Bank economist, Poonam Gupta has been appointed as the Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Who is Poonam Gupta replacing as Deputy Governor of RBI?**

**विश्व बैंक की पूर्व अर्थशास्त्री पूनम गुप्ता को भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) का डिएटी गवर्नर नियुक्त किया गया है। पूनम गुप्ता RBI के डिएटी गवर्नर के रूप में किसकी जगह लेंगी?**

- (a) Tavarna Rabi Sankar**
- (b) Swaminathan Janakiraman**
- (c) Michael Patra**
- (d) M Rajeshwar Rao**
- (e) Sanjay Malhotra**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Poonam Gupta appointed as RBI's deputy governor

Former World Bank economist, Poonam Gupta has been appointed as the Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

She will hold the position for a period of three years. At RBI, she will be replacing Michael Patra as deputy governor.

Gupta currently serves as the Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER).

She is also a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and acts as the Convener for the Advisory Council to the 16th Finance Commission.

Gupta joined NCAER in 2021, bringing with her nearly two decades of experience in senior roles at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Washington, D.C.

Moreover, Gupta has held teaching positions at the Delhi School of Economics, University of Maryland (USA), and as a visiting faculty member at the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in Delhi.

She is also part of the Development Advisory Committee of NITI Aayog and serves on the Executive Committee of FICCI. Notably, she chaired the Task Force on Macroeconomics and Trade during India's G20 Presidency. She was honored with the 1998 EXIM Bank Award for her doctoral work on international economics.

#### **About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**

- **Founded** - 1 April 1935
- **RBI Nationalized** - 1 January 1949
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **RBI set up** - Hilton Young Commission
- **1st Governor** - Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- **1st Indian Governor** - CD Deshmukh
- **26th Governor** - Sanjay Malhotra (replace Shaktikanta Das)
- **RBI Deputy Governor** (4) - 1. Tavarna Rabi Sankar
  - 2. Swaminathan Janakiraman
  - 3. Poonam Gupta
  - 4. M Rajeshwar Rao

**32. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched the 'NITI NCAER States Economic Forum' portal in New Delhi. The portal has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the National Council of Applied Economic Research. What is the main purpose of the 'NITI NCAER States Economic Forum' portal?**

वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने नई दिल्ली में 'नीति एनसीईआर स्टेट्स इकोनॉमिक फोरम' पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है। इस पोर्टल को नीति आयोग ने नेशनल काउंसिल ऑफ एप्लाइड इकोनॉमिक रिसर्च के सहयोग से विकसित किया है। 'नीति एनसीईआर स्टेट्स इकोनॉमिक फोरम' पोर्टल का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) To track international economic trends
- (b) To provide a platform for policymakers and researchers to access consolidated data
- (c) To regulate state-level economic policies
- (d) To serve as a financial planning tool for businesses
- (e) To replace the National Budget planning process

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** FM Sitharaman launched NITI-NCAER portal on state finances

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched the 'NITI NCAER States Economic Forum' portal in New Delhi.

The portal has been developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the National Council of Applied Economic Research.

The portal is a comprehensive repository of data on social, economic, and fiscal parameters, research reports, papers, and expert commentary on state finances for a period of about 30 years. It will facilitate an understanding of macro, fiscal, demographic, and socio-economic trends and will address the ongoing need for consolidated sectoral data in one place.

The portal will also provide a forum for policymakers, researchers, and others in alluding to the data for informed debates and discussions.

**33. The famous Kumbakonam vetrilai (Kumbakonam betel leaf) and Thovalai maanikka maalai have been given the Geographical Indications (GI) tag. In which region is the Kumbakonam betel leaf primarily found?**

प्रसिद्ध कुंभकोणम वेत्रलाई (कुंभकोणम सुपारी) और थोवलाई मानिकका मलाई को भौगोलिक संकेत (जीआई) टैग दिया गया है। कुम्भकोणम पान का पत्ता मुख्यतः किस क्षेत्र में पाया जाता है?

- (a) Western Ghats
- (b) Nilgiri Hills
- (c) Cauvery Delta
- (d) Eastern Coastal Plains
- (e) Deccan Plateau

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Thovalai's traditional 'Manikka Malai' secures GI tag

The famous Kumbakonam vetrilai (Kumbakonam betel leaf) and Thovalai maanikka maalai have been given the Geographical Indications (GI) tag.

The Kumbakonam betel leaf is found in the Cauvery Delta region specifically in regions like Thiruvaiyaru, Papanasam, Thiruvidaimarudhur, Kumbakonam, and Valaigaman blocks of Thanjavur and Tiruvarur.

Almost after three years of submitting an application for the GI tag, the six-generation old craftsmanship has secured the tag accorded by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Kumbakonam betel leaves' history can be traced back to centuries. According to details in the GI journal, besides paddy, the crops generally grown on wetlands are sugarcane and betel vine. The Thovalai maanikka maalai is a special type of garland that is made only in Thovalai.

**34. Federal Bank has launched its latest credit card product, Fed StarBiz, specifically for business customers. Which organizations collaborated with Federal Bank to develop the Fed StarBiz credit card?**

फेडरल बैंक ने अपना नवीनतम क्रेडिट कार्ड उत्पाद, फेड स्टारबिज लॉन्च किया है, जो विशेष रूप से व्यावसायिक ग्राहकों के लिए है। फेड स्टारबिज क्रेडिट कार्ड विकसित करने के लिए किन संगठनों ने फेडरल बैंक के साथ सहयोग किया?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Mastercard
- (b) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Visa
- (c) NPCI and American Express
- (d) Visa and Paytm
- (e) RBI and RuPay

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Federal Bank in collaboration with NPCI and Visa Launches Fed StarBiz –Credit Card Linked to ODCC Accounts

Federal Bank has launched its latest credit card product, Fed StarBiz, specifically for business customers.

Designed in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Visa, this new credit card is designed to meet the distinct financial requirements of India's dynamic small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The launch is Federal Bank's strategic entry into the business and commercial credit card space.

**35. How much stake is LIC planning to acquire in ManipalCigna Health Insurance as part of its ₹3,500–4,000 crore investment?**

एलआईसी अपने ₹3,500-4,000 करोड़ के निवेश के हिस्से के रूप में मणिपालसिग्ना हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस में कितनी हिस्सेदारी हासिल करने की योजना बना रही है? (a) 25%

- (b) 40%
- (c) 50%
- (d) 60%
- (e) 75%

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** LIC Partners with ManipalCigna to Transform the Health Insurance Market

LIC, India's largest insurer, is set to acquire up to a 50% stake in ManipalCigna Health Insurance for ₹3,500–4,000 crore, marking its entry into the booming health insurance market.

Manipal Education (51%) and Cigna Corporation (49%) will reduce their shares in the joint venture to make room for LIC's inclusion.

With 1.4 million agents and a massive customer base, LIC could transform ManipalCigna, disrupting the ₹3 trillion general insurance sector where health coverage holds a 37% share.

Managing health loss ratios poses a hurdle for LIC, while competitors like Star Health and Niva Bupa face tougher rivalry, pending composite licensing approval.

**36. Where did President Droupadi Murmu attend the closing ceremony of RBI's 90th-anniversary celebrations?**

**राष्ट्रपति द्वौपदी मुर्मू आरबीआई की 90वीं वर्षगांठ समारोह के समापन समारोह में कहाँ शामिल हुई?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** President Droupadi Murmu Attends RBI's 90th Anniversary Closing Ceremony

President Droupadi Murmu attended the closing ceremony of RBI's 90th-anniversary celebrations in Mumbai, marking the culmination of a year-long event that highlighted RBI's crucial role in India's economic growth.

Since its establishment in 1935, RBI has been the backbone of India's financial sector, managing monetary policy, currency issuance, and banking supervision, while also driving financial inclusion and digital transformation.

The anniversary celebrations included initiatives like financial literacy programs and national competitions, reinforcing RBI's commitment to regulatory improvements, digital adoption, and a strong, stable banking system for India's future growth.

**37. Which bank has received authorization from the CPAO to disburse pensions to central government pensioners?**

**किस बैंक को केंद्र सरकार के पेंशनभोगियों को पेंशन वितरित करने के लिए सीपीएओ से प्राधिकरण प्राप्त हुआ है?**

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Yesa Bank
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) IDFC FIRST Bank

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** IDFC FIRST Bank authorised by CPAO for pension disbursement

IDFC FIRST Bank has received authorisation from the Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO), Government of India, to disburse pensions to central government pensioners. The bank will facilitate pension payments for retired All India Service Officers, former MPs, retired High Court and Supreme Court judges, ex-Presidents and Vice Presidents, and officials of civil ministries and departments (excluding Railways, Posts, Telecom, and Defence).

**38. Which financial group has successfully merged Credit Suisse's service entities in India?**

**किस वित्तीय समूह ने भारत में क्रेडिट सुइस की सेवा संस्थाओं का सफलतापूर्वक विलय किया है?**

- (a) JPMorgan Chase
- (b) Goldman Sachs
- (c) UBS Group
- (d) Deutsche Bank
- (e) Citigroup

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** UBS completes merger of Credit Suisse Service Company entities in India. UBS Group has successfully merged Credit Suisse's service entities in India into UBS Business Solutions (India), consolidating 24,000 employees under one structure.

This integration combines Credit Suisse Services (India), Credit Suisse Business Analytics (India), and Credit Suisse Services AG, Pune, following UBS's acquisition of Credit Suisse in 2023.

India now represents one of UBS's largest locations, accounting for approximately 16% of its global workforce of over 110,000 employees.

**39. Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Pension Fund**

**Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)?**

**पेंशन फंड विनियामक और विकास प्राधिकरण (PFRDA) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Deepak Mohanty
- (b) S S Mundra
- (c) Sivasubramanian Ramann
- (d) Ajay Tyagi
- (e) M Rajeshwar Rao

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Govt appoints S Ramann as new PFRDA chairperson

The government has appointed Deputy CAG S Ramann as Chairperson of pension fund regulator Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

Ramann would replace incumbent Deepak Mohanty whose term comes to an end in May 2025.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Sivasubramanian Ramann, Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General, to the post of chairperson, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). The ACC

has approved his appointment for a tenure of five years or till he attains age of 65 years, it said.

Ramann, presently serving as Deputy CAG, belongs to 1991 batch of Indian Audit & Accounts Service (IA&AS).

#### **About Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)**

- Founded- 23 August 2003
- Headquarters- New Delhi
- Chairman - Sivasubramanian Ramann (replace Deepak Mohanty)
- Owner- Ministry of Finance, Government of India

**40. World Autism Awareness Day is observed on April 2nd every year to raise awareness about autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and promote acceptance and inclusion of individuals with autism. What is the theme for World Autism Awareness Day 2025?**

विश्व ऑटिज्म जागरूकता दिवस हर साल 2 अप्रैल को ऑटिज्म स्पेक्ट्रम विकार (ASD) के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने और ऑटिज्म से पीड़ित व्यक्तियों की स्वीकृति और समावेश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व ऑटिज्म जागरूकता दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

(a) Empowering Autistic Voices  
(b) Inclusion for All  
(c) Advancing Neurodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals  
(d) Breaking Barriers for Autism  
(e) Autism Awareness for a Better Future

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 2 April - World Autism Awareness Day

World Autism Awareness Day is observed on April 2nd every year to raise awareness about autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and promote acceptance and inclusion of individuals with autism.

Theme 2025 - Advancing Neurodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) created World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) in 2007. The United Nations (UN) commemorated this important day on April 2 after it was founded.

**41. National Walking Day is observed on the first Wednesday of April every year to encourage people to prioritize their health by incorporating walking into their daily routine. This year was observed on 2 April. What is the theme for National Walking Day 2025?**

राष्ट्रीय पैदल यात्रा दिवस हर साल अप्रैल के पहले बुधवार को मनाया जाता है ताकि लोगों को अपने दैनिक दिनचर्या में पैदल चलने को शामिल करके अपने स्वास्थ्य को प्राथमिकता देने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जा सके। इस साल यह दिवस 2 अप्रैल को मनाया गया। राष्ट्रीय पैदल यात्रा दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

(a) Walk for a Healthier Life

- (b) Keep Walking, Stay Fit
- (c) Save Yourself from Diabetes, Heart Diseases, and Cancers
- (d) Walking for a Better Tomorrow
- (e) Steps Towards Wellness

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 2 April 2025 - National Walking Day

National Walking Day is observed on the first Wednesday of April every year to encourage people to prioritize their health by incorporating walking into their daily routine. This year was observed on 2 April.

Theme 2025- Save yourself from diabetes, heart diseases and cancers

Established by the American Heart Association (AHA), the day highlights the benefits of walking for heart health, mental well-being, and overall fitness.

#### **42. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of FICCI's Media and Entertainment Committee South?**

**फिक्की की मीडिया और मनोरंजन समिति दक्षिण का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Rajinikanth
- (b) Kamal Haasan
- (c) Mohanlal
- (d) S. S. Rajamouli
- (e) Mani Ratnam

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Kamal Haasan appointed as Chairman of FICCI Media and Entertainment Committee South

Actor Kamal Haasan has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's Media and Entertainment Committee South. This was announced during the FICCI's Media and Entertainment Business Conclave South Connect 2025, which was held in Chennai.

#### **Recent Appointments**

- **MD of Tata Group's electronics retail chain Croma** - Shibashish Roy
- **MD of Ambuja Cements Limited** - Ajay Kapur
- **CEO and Whole-time Director of Ambuja Cements** - Vinod Bahety
- **Whole-time Director of Maruti Suzuki India** - Sunil Kakkar
- **Full-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to PM (EAC-PM)** - Sanjay Kumar Mishra (Former Chief of ED)

#### **43. When did India and China celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations?**

**भारत और चीन ने राजनयिक संबंधों की 75वीं वर्षगांठ कब मनाई?**

- (a) April 1, 2025
- (b) April 2, 2025
- (c) April 3, 2025
- (d) April 4, 2025
- (e) April 5, 2025

**Ans. a****Sol. India and China Celebrate 75 Years of Diplomatic Relations**

India and China celebrated 75 years of diplomatic relations on April 1, 2025, with leaders from both nations exchanging messages, highlighting the importance of their bilateral ties.

India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, advocated strong India-China relations based on non-alignment, Asian solidarity, and the Panchsheel principles of peaceful coexistence.

While Nehru envisioned India-China cooperation as crucial for the Global South, the relationship has experienced ups and downs, including border conflicts and two wars.

**44. In March 2025, Which company has entered into a partnership with Rajasthan Part I Power Transmission Limited to develop a 6,000 MW HVDC transmission system?**

**मार्च 2025 में, किस कंपनी ने 6,000 मेगावाट एचवीडीसी ट्रांसमिशन सिस्टम विकसित करने के लिए राजस्थान पार्ट I पावर ट्रांसमिशन लिमिटेड के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) NTPC Limited
- (b) Tata Power
- (c) Power Grid Corporation
- (d) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- (e) Adani Green Energy

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** BHEL partners with Adani Energy Solutions for 6,000 MW HVDC Bhadla-Fatehpur transmission project

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has entered into a partnership with Rajasthan Part I Power Transmission Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Energy Solutions Limited (AESL).

The joint venture will see the development of a 6,000 MW, ±800 kV high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission system that will transport renewable energy from Bhadla in Rajasthan to Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, with completion expected by 2029.

This project is a crucial step towards meeting India's goal of achieving 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030 and demonstrates BHEL's continued commitment to India's energy infrastructure and the Make in India initiative.

The HVDC link will play a pivotal role in facilitating bi-directional power flow, ensuring grid stability, and aiding in the smooth integration of renewable energy into the national grid.

This marks BHEL's fourth major Ultra High Voltage Direct Current (UHVDC) transmission project. Previously, the company has executed the North-East Agra +800 kV, 6,000 MW, Raigarh-Pugalur +800 kV, 6,000 MW, and is currently involved in the Khavda-Nagpur +800 kV, 6,000 MW HVDC link, in collaboration with Hitachi Energy India.

**45. What percentage tariff has the US imposed on imports from India under Trump's "discounted" reciprocal tariffs?**

ट्रम्प के "छूट वाले" पारस्परिक टैरिफ के तहत अमेरिका ने भारत से आयात पर कितने प्रतिशत टैरिफ लगाया है?

- (a) 30%
- (b) 25%
- (c) 27%
- (d) 20%
- (e) 22%

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Trump unveils 'discounted' reciprocal tariffs, India to be charged 27% President Donald Trump unveiled "discounted" reciprocal tariffs on multiple countries, including a 27% tariff on imports from India, effective April 9, 2025. The move is aimed at countering what Trump called unfair trade practices.

Trump highlighted that India levies a 52% tariff on US imports. The US, in turn, will impose roughly half that rate. Other affected countries include China (34%), the EU (20%), South Korea (25%), Japan (24%), and Taiwan (32%).

Despite concerns, SBI Research reports the tariffs may only lead to a 3–3.5% dip in Indian exports, thanks to India's diversified export base, growing manufacturing and services sectors, and alternate trade routes.

Ahead of the announcement, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal visited Washington to discuss a potential bilateral trade agreement (BTA). Both nations aim to finalize a deal by the end of 2025, targeting \$500 billion in bilateral trade by 2030.

**46. Nikhil Singhal, a distinguished media strategist, Founder of Vigor Media Worldwide, and President of the Noida High Rise Federation, was honored with the prestigious Uttar Pradesh Anmol Ratan Award. Which publication was recognized Nikhil Singhal as the Most Followed Indian Media Strategist in 2022? विगोर मीडिया वर्ल्डवाइड के संस्थापक और नोएडा हाई राइज फेडरेशन के अध्यक्ष, प्रतिष्ठित मीडिया रणनीतिकार निखिल सिंघल को प्रतिष्ठित उत्तर प्रदेश अनमोल रत्न पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया। किस प्रकाशन ने निखिल सिंघल को 2022 में सबसे अधिक फॉलो किए जाने वाले भारतीय मीडिया रणनीतिकार के रूप में मान्यता दी?**

- (a) The Economic Times
- (b) The Times of India
- (c) Khaleej Times
- (d) Hindustan Times
- (e) Indian Express

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Renowned Media Strategist Nikhil Singhal Honored with Uttar Pradesh Anmol Ratan Award

Nikhil Singhal, a distinguished media strategist, Founder of Vigor Media Worldwide, and President of the Noida High Rise Federation, was honored with the prestigious Uttar Pradesh Anmol Ratan Award.

The award ceremony, hosted by the Tapasya Foundation Trust, took place at the iconic Taj Lucknow.

This recognition highlights his remarkable contributions to the public relations industry and his exemplary leadership in strategic communication.

As President of Noida High Rise Federation, Nikhil has been instrumental in advocating for the rights and concerns of high-rise residents in Noida, ensuring effective communication between stakeholders and government authorities.

Awarded as ET Global Leader title by The Economic Times in 2021, Nikhil was also recognized as the Most Followed Indian Media Strategist by Khaleej Times in 2022. He was featured in the Times 40 Under 40 list in 2022, an honor that celebrates young leaders making a significant impact in their fields.

**47. In which district did Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu launch the 'P4 - Margadarsi Bangaru Kutumbam' poverty eradication program?**

**आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री एन. चंद्रबाबू नायडू ने किस जिले में 'पी4 - मार्गदर्शि बंगारु कुटुम्बम' गरीबी उन्नीसन कार्यक्रम शुरू किया?**

- (a) Guntur
- (b) Krishna
- (c) Bapatla
- (d) Chittoor
- (e) Anantapur

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Andhra CM Launches P4 Poverty Eradication Scheme in Bapatla District

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu implemented the 'P4 - Margadarsi Bangaru Kutumbam' poverty eradication program at the village level in Kotha Gollapalem, Bapatla district, aiming to link affluent individuals with needy families to eliminate poverty.

Under the P4 initiative, two local affluent individuals, Vikram Narayana Rao and Vasantha Srinivasa Rao, were entrusted with supporting 30 families, collaborating with the Bapatla district collector to devise an action plan for effective implementation. The launch coincided with the NTR Bharosa pension distribution program in Chinaganjam mandal, where Naidu emphasized the scheme's role in poverty alleviation, alongside updates on rapid progress in Amaravati capital works and the Polavaram project.

#### **About Andhra Pradesh**

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – N Chandrababu Naidu
- **Deputy CM** – Pawan Kalyan
- **Governor** – S. Abdul Nazeer
- **Legislative Assembly Seat** - 175

**48. Who has been appointed as the new President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC)?**

**एशियाई क्रिकेट परिषद (एसीसी) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Shammi Silva

- (b) Ehsan Mani
- (c) Najam Sethi
- (d) Mohsin Naqvi
- (e) Wasim Khan

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi appointed President of Asian Cricket Council  
Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Mohsin Naqvi was appointed as the new President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC).

Naqvi, who has served as the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman since February 2024 will assume the role immediately. He succeeds Shammi Silva, President of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC).

Under Naqvi, the PCB recently hosted the Champions Trophy - an ICC event after 29 years.

**49. Which organization has partnered with Nippon India Mutual Fund to offer door-to-door KYC verification services?**

**किस संगठन ने डोर-टू-डोर केवाईसी सत्यापन सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए निप्पॉन इंडिया म्यूचुअल फंड के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) Department of Posts
- (d) UIDAI
- (e) SEBI

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India Post Partners with Nippon India Mutual Fund to Enhance KYC Verification Services

Department of Posts (DoP) has signed an MoU with Nippon India Mutual Fund to provide door-to-door KYC verification services for their investors.

This partnership aims to streamline the KYC process, ensuring convenience, security, and compliance for investors across India.

The door-to-door KYC service will offer investors the convenience of completing the process from home, a crucial benefit for the investors especially the elderly. This partnership aligns with the Government of India's emphasis on Jan Nivesh, the initiative aimed at promoting financial inclusion for the common masses.

**50. H Shankar has been appointed as the Managing Director of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL). Which organization is the parent company of CPCL?**

**एच शंकर को चेन्नई पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (CPCL) का प्रबंध निदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है। CPCL की मूल कंपनी कौन सी संस्था है?**

- (a) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- (b) Hindustan Petroleum
- (c) Bharat Petroleum
- (d) ONGC

**(e) GAIL****Ans. a****Sol.** H Shankar appointed as Managing Director of CPCL

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of H Shankar as the Managing Director (MD) of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL), a subsidiary of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL).

Shankar, who was serving as Director (Technical) at CPCL, has assumed the role with effect from April 1. Previously, he has been holding additional charge as Managing Director of CPCL since July 16, 2024.

Shankar's tenure as MD of CPCL will continue until his superannuation on March 31, 2029, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

**51. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for GRM Overseas Limited's basmati rice brand, 10X Zarda King?**

**जीआरएम ओवरसीज लिमिटेड के बासमती चावल ब्रांड, 10X ज़र्दा किंग के लिए ब्रांड एंबेसडर के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Akshay Kumar
- (b) Shah Rukh Khan
- (c) Salman Khan
- (d) Ranveer Singh
- (e) Aamir Khan

**Ans. c****Sol.** Salman Khan named brand ambassador for 10X Zarda King rice

Salman Khan has been appointed brand ambassador for GRM Overseas Limited's premium basmati rice brand, 10X Zarda King, and stars in their new "#RishtaMubarak" campaign celebrating food's role in building relationships.

The campaign emphasizes tradition and togetherness, aligning with Khan's family-friendly image to promote the brand's biryani-focused rice offerings.

**Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Salman Khan - GRM Overseas Wheat Flour
- Vidya Balan - Federal Bank
- Shubman Gill - Tyre brand MRFs
- Punjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh - American clothing brand, Levi's
- PV Sindhu - PUMA India
- Tata Mumbai Marathon - Mo Farah
- MS Dhoni - Eurogrip Tyres

**52. Veteran actor and director Manoj Kumar passed away in Mumbai. He was 87. Which nickname was Manoj Kumar famously known by due to his patriotic films?**

**दिग्गज अभिनेता और निर्देशक मनोज कुमार का मुंबई में निधन हो गया। वह 87 वर्ष के थे।**

**देशभक्ति फिल्मों के कारण मनोज कुमार किस उपनाम से प्रसिद्ध थे?**

- (a) Cinema King

**(b) Bharat Kumar**  
**(c) Patriotic Star**  
**(d) Desh ka Manoj**  
**(e) Film Maestro**

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Veteran actor-director Manoj Kumar passes away

Veteran actor and director Manoj Kumar passed away in Mumbai. He was 87.

The legendary Bollywood actor was well-known by his nickname 'Bharat Kumar' for his patriotic films. He was a recipient of the prestigious Padma Shri in 1992 and Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 2015 for his immense contribution to Indian cinema for decades.

Born as Harikrishna Giri Goswami, Kumar has shaped the narrative of patriotic movies in Bollywood and has delivered classics like Upkar (1967), Purab Aur Paschim (1970), and Kranti (1981).

**53. What is the name of the new credit card launched by Federal Bank for business customers?**

**फेडरल बैंक द्वारा व्यावसायिक ग्राहकों के लिए लॉन्च किए गए नए क्रेडिट कार्ड का नाम क्या है?**

**(a) Fed Business Pro**  
**(b) Star Credit Biz**  
**(c) Fed StarBiz**  
**(d) BizPay Card**  
**(e) SME Star**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Federal Bank launches Fed StarBiz credit card for business customers

Federal Bank has launched Fed StarBiz, a credit card designed for business customers. This has been launched by Federal Bank in collaboration with NPCI, an umbrella organization for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India and Visa, a global payments technology company.

Fed StarBiz is designed to cater to the unique needs of SME customers, offering a range of features and benefits that enhance financial management and convenience.

#### **Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- Federal Bank launches **Fed StarBiz credit card** for business customers in collaboration with NPCI and Visa
- IDFC FIRST Bank authorised by **CPAO for pension disbursement**
- Bank of Baroda Unveils '**mDigiNext**' App to Enhance Corporate Cash Management
- HDFC Bank introduced the **Embassy Fixed Deposit**, a specialized foreign currency term deposit scheme exclusively available in USD, targeting diplomats, non-diplomatic staff, and diplomatic missions as eligible investors.

**54. Which Indian port became the first to cross 200 million metric tonnes of annual cargo volume in FY25?**

**वित्त वर्ष 2025 में 200 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन वार्षिक कार्गो वॉल्यूम को पार करने वाला पहला भारतीय बंदरगाह कौन सा बन गया?**

- (a) Kandla Port
- (b) Nhava Sheva Port
- (c) Mundra Port
- (d) Visakhapatnam Port
- (e) Chennai Port

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Mundra becomes first Indian port to handle 200 MMT cargo in FY25

Mundra port in Gujarat has become the first Indian port to cross 200 million metric tonnes of annual cargo volumes during the financial year 2025.

The port handled 200.7 MMT of cargo during FY25. During FY25, all the ports of APSEZ collectively handled 450.2 MMT cargo volume, a seven percent year-on-year growth compared to previous year.

The growth was led by growth in containers which grew by 20 percent year-on-year. The volumes of liquid and gas volumes handled grew at nine percent. In the just ended fiscal, logistics rail volume stood at 0.64 million TEUs --- a growth of 8 percent.

**55. India's Niharika Singhania has clinched first position in the prestigious Azelhof CSI Lier competition held in Belgium. The Azelhof CSI Lier competition is related to which sport?**

**भारत की निहारिका सिंघानिया ने बेल्जियम में आयोजित प्रतिष्ठित एजेलहोफ़ सीएसआई लियर प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान प्राप्त किया है। एजेलहोफ़ सीएसआई लियर प्रतियोगिता किस खेल से संबंधित है?**

- (a) Swimming
- (b) Boxing
- (c) Equestrian
- (d) Wrestling
- (e) Cricket

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Indian equestrian Niharika Singhania clinches gold at Azelhof CSI Lier in Belgium. In a remarkable display of skill and dedication, young Indian equestrian player Niharika Singhania has clinched first position in the prestigious Azelhof CSI Lier equestrian competition held in Belgium.

Competing against international participants, Niharika demonstrated exceptional talent and composure to bring home gold. Niharika participated in the Two Phases special event, riding on Hotesse Charboniere. She finished the event with 40.72 and 40.34 penalty points.

**56. Consider the following statements about the Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II):**

**वाइब्रेंट विलेज प्रोग्राम-II (VVP-II) के बारे में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:**

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding from the Central Government.
2. The programme's timeline of FY 2024-25 to FY 2029-30 aligns with India's short-term development goals rather than the long-term Viksit Bharat@2047 vision.
3. The programme covers villages along the Northern border, which were excluded from VVP-I.
4. The total outlay for VVP-II is Rs. 6,839 crores.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Cabinet approves "Vibrant Villages Programme-II (VVP-II) for financial years 2024-25 to 2028-29

The Union Cabinet chaired by the PM Narendra Modi, today approved the Vibrant Villages Programme -II (VVP-II) as a Central Sector Scheme (100% Centre funding), furthering its commitment for the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 for 'Safe, Secured & Vibrant land borders'.

The Programme would help in the comprehensive development of the villages located in the blocks abutting international land borders (ILBs), other than the Northern border already covered under VVP-I.

With a total outlay of Rs.6,839 crore, the programme shall be implemented in select strategic villages in the States/UTs of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, J&K (UT), Ladakh (UT), Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal till the FY 2028-29.

The objective is to improve living conditions, livelihood opportunities, internal security, and ensure integration of border populations as vital stakeholders in border safety.

Funding will support infrastructure development, value chain creation through cooperatives and SHGs, SMART education, tourism circuits, and other sustainable livelihood projects.

The programme will leverage technology platforms like PM Gati Shakti, and ensure saturation of services in four key areas: road, telecom, TV connectivity, and electrification through convergence with existing schemes.

**57. Consider the following statements regarding the multitracking projects approved by the Union Cabinet for Indian Railways:**

**भारतीय रेलवे के लिए केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल द्वारा स्वीकृत मल्टीट्रैकिंग परियोजनाओं के बारे में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:**

1. The construction of 19 new stations will improve access to aspirational districts like Gadchiroli and Rajnandgaon.

2. The total estimated cost of the projects is Rs. 18,658 crore, with completion expected by 2030-31.
3. The projects span only Maharashtra and other States like Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
4. These initiatives are part of the PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) 2, 3 and 4
- (e) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Cabinet approves four multitracking projects to enhance Indian Railways capacity. The Union Cabinet has approved four major multitracking projects for Indian Railways, aiming to significantly enhance line capacity and improve both passenger and freight transportation across key routes.

With an estimated total cost of Rs. 18,658 crore, these projects will be completed by 2030-31 and are expected to streamline logistics, reduce costs, and support sustainable rail operations.

Spanning 1,247 kilometers across 15 districts in Maharashtra, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh, the four approved projects are crucial for increasing the efficiency of transportation for essential commodities like coal, iron ore, and other minerals.

The four projects include the third and fourth line expansion between Sambalpur and Jarapda, the third and fourth line between Jharsuguda and Sason, the fifth and sixth line between Kharsia, Naya Raipur, and Parmalkasa, and the doubling of the Gondia-Balharshah track.

These projects are part of the PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity. This initiative has been made possible through integrated planning and aims to provide seamless connectivity for the movement of people, goods, and services. The projects will also see the construction of 19 new stations, improving access to important regions, including two aspirational districts—Gadchiroli and Rajnandgaon. This enhanced connectivity will benefit around 3,350 villages and approximately 47.25 million people.

**58. The Protection of Interest in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025, passed by both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, marks the second major aviation reform under Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu, aiming to align India's aircraft leasing and financing with global standards. The Protection of Interest in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025, builds upon which international agreement related to aviation finance and leasing?**

**विमान वस्तुओं में हितों का संरक्षण विधेयक, 2025, जिसे लोकसभा और राज्यसभा दोनों ने पारित कर दिया है, नागरिक उड़ान मंत्री राम मोहन नायडू के तहत दूसरा बड़ा विमानन सुधार**

है, जिसका उद्देश्य भारत के विमान पट्टे और वित्तपोषण को वैश्विक मानकों के अनुरूप बनाना है। विमान वस्तुओं में हितों का संरक्षण विधेयक, 2025, विमानन वित्त और पट्टे से संबंधित किस अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समझौते पर आधारित है?

- (a) Montreal Protocol
- (b) Warsaw Convention
- (c) Cape Town Convention
- (d) Geneva Convention on Air Transport
- (e) Chicago Convention

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Parliament passes the Protection of Interest in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025

The Protection of Interest in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025, passed by both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, marks the second major aviation reform under Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu.

The bill aims to align India's aircraft leasing and financing ecosystem with global standards, providing a critical boost to investor confidence in the country's rapidly growing aviation market.

It builds on the framework of the Cape Town Convention of 2001, which sought to simplify and standardize international leasing agreements. Although India formally adopted this convention in 2008, gaps in legal enforcement led to higher leasing costs—typically 8 to 10 percent higher than in other nations. This legislation aims to address those gaps, ensuring legal certainty for aircraft financiers and reducing costs for Indian carriers.

India's aviation sector has seen rapid growth, with annual passenger traffic doubling from 10.38 crore (Independence to 2014) to 22.81 crore by 2024, and the number of airports increasing from 74 in 2014 to 159 in 2024.

The legislation supports the sector's expansion—evidenced by aircraft numbers rising from 340 in 2014 to over 840 in 2024—while tackling challenges like high Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) costs, which constitute 45% of airline operational expenses.

Future plans include producing 2.5 crore liters of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) by 2025, transitioning over 100 airports to renewable energy, and increasing Flight Training Organizations (FTOs) to meet the demand for 30,000-34,000 pilots over the next 10-15 years.

**59. Consider the following statements regarding the 6th BIMSTEC Summit attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi:**

**प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा भाग लिए गए 6वें बिस्टेक शिखर सम्मेलन के बारे में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:**

1. The Summit was hosted by Thailand, which currently chairs the BIMSTEC group.
2. The theme “BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open” reflects a focus on regional growth amidst global uncertainties.
3. PM Modi proposed the establishment of a BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce to promote economic integration.

**4. India will host the first BIMSTEC Games in 2030 to mark the group's 30th anniversary.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?**

- (a) 2 and 3
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1, 3 and 4
- (d) 2 only
- (e) 4 only

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** Prime Minister participates in the 6th BIMSTEC Summit, Thailand

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 6th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Summit hosted by Thailand, the current chair.

The theme of the Summit was – “BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open”. It reflected the priorities of the leaders and the aspirations of the peoples of the BIMSTEC region, as well as the efforts of BIMSTEC in ensuring shared growth in times of global uncertainties.

To enhance capacity building and economic integration, PM Modi introduced the BODHI programme for youth skilling, proposed a BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce, an annual BIMSTEC Business Summit, a Digital Public Infrastructure study, and a cancer care capacity-building initiative.

Strengthening cultural and people-to-people ties, India will host the BIMSTEC Athletics Meet in 2025, the first BIMSTEC Games in 2027, a Traditional Music Festival, and youth-focused events like a Young Leaders' Summit, Hackathon, and Young Professional Visitors programme.

**60. Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil launched the Web-based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal in New Delhi, which automates the generation of weekly water storage bulletins, replacing the earlier manual system. Under the Web-based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal launched by the Government of India, the reservoir storage bulletin is issued regularly on which day of the week?**

केंद्रीय जल शक्ति मंत्री सी.आर. पाटिल ने नई दिल्ली में वेब-आधारित जलाशय भंडारण निगरानी प्रणाली (RSMS) पोर्टल लॉन्च किया, जो पहले की मैनुअल प्रणाली की जगह साप्ताहिक जल भंडारण बुलेटिन के निर्माण को स्वचालित करता है। भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू किए गए वेब-आधारित जलाशय भंडारण निगरानी प्रणाली (RSMS) पोर्टल के तहत, जलाशय भंडारण बुलेटिन सप्ताह के किस दिन नियमित रूप से जारी किया जाता है?

- (a) Monday
- (b) Wednesday
- (c) Thursday
- (d) Friday
- (e) Sunday

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil launches Web-based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal

Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil launched the Web-based Reservoir Storage Monitoring System (RSMS) Portal in New Delhi, which automates the generation of weekly water storage bulletins, replacing the earlier manual system.

The portal monitors 161 key reservoirs (total live storage capacity of 182.375 BCM) and provides real-time updates, graphs, tables, and downloadable bulletins. It is accessible to decision-makers and the general public.

Bulletins are issued every Thursday and shared with agencies including PMO, NITI Aayog, IMD, MoJS, and various state governments. Advisories are released in case of critical storage situations.

Reservoir data support agriculture, power, domestic use, disaster management, and climate resilience, playing a critical role in ensuring water security and planning crop cycles across the country.

**61. After a successful pilot in the Northeast Frontier Railway, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) has officially integrated with \_\_\_\_\_, enabling recovery of lost or stolen mobile phones for passengers across India.**

**पूर्वोत्तर सीमांत रेलवे में सफल पायलट के बाद, रेलवे सुरक्षा बल (RPF) ने आधिकारिक तौर पर \_\_\_\_\_ के साथ एकीकरण किया है, जिससे पूरे भारत में यात्रियों के खोए या चोरी हुए मोबाइल फोन की रिकवरी संभव हो गई है।**

- (a) DigiLocker
- (b) CEIR
- (c) UMANG
- (d) CSC
- (e) Aarogya Setu

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** RPF Joins CEIR Portal to Enhance Mobile Recovery for Rail Passengers

After a successful pilot in the Northeast Frontier Railway, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) has officially integrated with the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) portal, enabling recovery of lost or stolen mobile phones for passengers across India. Through CEIR, RPF can now block the IMEI number of missing phones, making them unusable and deterring resale, while also leveraging tracking tools for quick recovery. Passengers can report missing phones via Rail Madad (online or by dialing 139). RPF's Zonal Cyber Cells will register the complaint on CEIR, block the device, and facilitate recovery and return.

RPF's ongoing Operation Amanat has already returned property worth ₹84.03 crores to over 1.15 lakh passengers. The CEIR portal will further boost RPF's ability to track and restore lost mobile phones efficiently.

**62. Which Union Minister has launched the new website of the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR)?**

**किस केंद्रीय मंत्री ने जल संसाधन, नदी विकास और गंगा संरक्षण विभाग (DoWR, RD & GR) की नई वेबसाइट लॉन्च की है?**

- (a) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- (b) Nitin Gadkari
- (c) C.R. Patil
- (d) Piyush Goyal
- (e) Hardeep Singh Puri

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil launches a new website of the Department of Water Resources, RD & GR based

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, C.R. Patil, launched a new website for the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR) in New Delhi.

This initiative aligns with the Digital Brand Identity Manual (DBIM) framework, aiming to create a cohesive digital ecosystem across all government departments.

Key features of the new website include:

1. **Consistent User Experience:** The DBIM framework ensures a uniform look and feel across government websites, enhancing user navigation and accessibility.
2. **Enhanced Accessibility:** The website complies with the latest Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), making it accessible to all citizens, including those with disabilities.
3. **Optimized Performance:** With an optimized coding structure, the site offers faster load times and improved performance, benefiting users even in low-bandwidth areas.
4. **Mobile-Friendly Design:** The responsive design ensures compatibility across various devices, including smartphones, tablets, and desktops.
5. **Centralized Content Management:** A centralized content management system allows for efficient updates and maintenance, ensuring up-to-date information is readily available to the public.

**63. Which country has become the first European nation to announce its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC)?**

**कौन सा देश अंतर्राष्ट्रीय आपराधिक न्यायालय (ICC) से हटने की घोषणा करने वाला पहला यूरोपीय राष्ट्र बन गया है?**

- (a) Poland
- (b) Italy
- (c) Hungary
- (d) Austria
- (e) Germany

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Hungary first European country to withdraw from the ICC

The Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has announced that his country is withdrawing from the International Criminal Court (ICC). Hungary is the first European

country to withdraw from the International Criminal Court, which was established in 2002.

The decision to withdraw from the ICC was announced by Viktor Orbán in the presence of the visiting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is on a four-day official visit to Hungary.

The ICC has issued an arrest warrant against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for his alleged war crimes in Gaza.

Hungary, being the founder member of the ICC and a signatory to the 1998 Rome Statute, was under an obligation to arrest Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. With Hungary's decision to withdraw from the ICC, the country is under no obligation to arrest Benjamin Netanyahu.

### **About International Criminal Court (ICC)**

- Established: 2002
- Based in: The Hague, Netherlands
- Members - 125 countries, including Hungary.
- Legal Basis: Rome Statute (adopted in 1998, entered into force in 2002)
- Objective: To prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.
- Major powers like the USA, China, India, Israel, and Russia are not members.

**64. The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024, passed by the Lok Sabha, introduces a comprehensive legal structure to promote economical, reliable, and sustainable coastal transportation, reducing pressure on road and rail networks. What is the target for coastal cargo traffic set by the Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024?**

लोक सभा द्वारा पारित तटीय नौवहन विधेयक, 2024, किफायती, विश्वसनीय और टिकाऊ तटीय परिवहन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक व्यापक कानूनी संरचना प्रस्तुत करता है, जिससे सड़क और रेल नेटवर्क पर दबाव कम होता है। तटीय नौवहन विधेयक, 2024 द्वारा तटीय कार्गो यातायात के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है?

- (a) 150 million tonnes by 2025
- (b) 230 million tonnes by 2030
- (c) 200 million tonnes by 2028
- (d) 250 million tonnes by 2032
- (e) 300 million tonnes by 2035

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Lok Sabha Passes the Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024.

The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024, passed by the Lok Sabha, introduces a comprehensive legal structure to promote economical, reliable, and sustainable coastal transportation, reducing pressure on road and rail networks.

The bill removes the requirement of general trading licenses for Indian ships and simplifies coastal trade operations, aligning with the National Logistics Policy and supporting the "Make in India" initiative.

The bill regulates foreign vessel participation through specific licenses, encourages Indian ship ownership, boosts shipbuilding, port services, and employment, and aims to reduce logistics costs.

It proposes integration of coastal shipping with inland waterways and involves States and Union Territories in policy-making, promoting regional development and cooperative federalism.

Provisions include green clearance channels, reduced GST on bunker fuel, and a National Database for Coastal Shipping. The bill targets increasing coastal cargo traffic to 230 million tonnes by 2030 from 162 million tonnes in 2023-24.

**65. When is the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action observed?**

**खदान जागरूकता और खदान कार्रवाई में सहायता के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस कब मनाया जाता है?**

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 4 April - International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action  
International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action is observed on April 4th every year.

The day aims to raise awareness about the impact of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) on communities and to promote assistance in mine action.

Theme 2025 - Safe Futures Start Here

**66. Who has been given the additional charge as Chairperson of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) in April 2025?**

**अप्रैल 2025 में राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय रिपोर्टिंग प्राधिकरण (NFRA) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे अतिरिक्त प्रभार दिया गया है?**

- (a) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- (b) Parul Tyagi
- (c) Ravneet Kaur
- (d) T. V. Somanathan
- (e) Urjit Patel

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** CCI chief Ravneet Kaur gets addl charge as NFRA Chairperson  
Competition Commission of India (CCI) chief Ravneet Kaur has been given the additional charge as the NFRA Chairperson.

After the completion of his three-year tenure, Ajay Bhushan Prasad Pandey retired as the Chairperson of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) on March 31.

The additional charge will be for a period of three months starting from April 1, 2025 or till the appointment of a regular incumbent or until further orders, whichever is the earliest.

### Recent Appointments

- **MD of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL); a subsidiary of Indian IOC** - H Shankar
- **President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC)** - Mohsin Naqvi (Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board)
- **Chairman of FICCI Media and Entertainment Committee South** - Kamal Haasan appointed as
- **MD of Tata Group's electronics retail chain Croma** - Shibashish Roy
- **MD of Ambuja Cements Limited** - Ajay Kapur

**67. Who has recently been appointed as the new President of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)?**

हाल ही में फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन एक्सपोर्ट ऑर्गनाइजेशन (FIEO) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ashwani Kumar
- (b) SC Ralhan
- (c) Ravikant Kapur
- (d) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- (e) Rajiv Kumar

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** SC Ralhan takes charge of new FIEO president

SC Ralhan has taken over as the new president of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), replacing Ashwani Kumar.

Ralhan brings over 50 years of experience in exports, particularly in the engineering and hand tools industry, to his new role.

Ravikant Kapur, an industry veteran from the textiles sector, has taken charge as the vice-president of FIEO.

**68. When is National Maritime Day observed in India?**

भारत में राष्ट्रीय समुद्री दिवस कब मनाया जाता है?

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 5 April - National Maritime Day

National Maritime Day is celebrated on April 5th every year to commemorate the contributions of the maritime industry to the Indian economy.

The objective of National Maritime Day is to promote awareness about the importance of the maritime industry, recognize the achievements of Indian seafarers, and highlight the role of shipping in international trade and commerce.

The day marks the anniversary of the first Indian shipping company, the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, which was established in 1919 and began its operations on April 5, 1919.

### 69. Who has become the first Indian to receive the Fred Darrington Sand Master Award?

**फ्रेड डारिंगटन सैंड मास्टर पुरस्कार पाने वाले पहले भारतीय कौन बने हैं?**

- (a) Nila Madhab Panda
- (b) Sudarsan Pattnaik
- (c) Pratibha Ray
- (d) Amartya Sen
- (e) Kailash Chandra Meher

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Sudarsan Pattnaik Becomes First Indian to Win Fred Darrington Sand Art Award  
Renowned Indian sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik has become the first Indian to receive the prestigious Fred Darrington Sand Master Award for his outstanding contributions to sand art.

The award was presented during the Sandworld 2025 International Sand Art Festival in Dorset, England.

To mark the occasion, Pattnaik created a 10-foot-high sculpture of Lord Ganesha carrying the message of "World Peace". The award holds special significance this year as it commemorates the 100th birth anniversary of legendary British sculptor Fred Darrington.

Sudarshan Pattnaik, a Padma Shri awardee from Odisha, has participated in over 65 international sand art festivals and championships. His work, often blending spiritual themes with social messages, has earned him widespread recognition – but the Weymouth award marks a new high.

The Sandworld exhibition at Lodmoor Park, known for its massive, detailed sand sculptures created using just sand and water, features works from artists across the world. But this year, it's a message from India – carved in sand and rooted in peace – that's leaving the deepest impression.

#### Recent Award

- **Uttar Pradesh Anmol Ratan Award** - Nikhil Singhal
- **Ugadi Award from the Andhra Pradesh government** - Historian and archaeologist MyNaa Swamy
- **59th Jnanpith Award** - Vinod Kumar Shukla (*for Deewar Mein Ek Khirk Rehti Thi*)
- **Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024** - Veteran Sculptor Ram Sutar
- **Oeko-Tex certification from Germany for Eri silk** - North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation

- **Stockholm Water Prize 2025** - Austrian hydrologist Günter Blöschl (*for his groundbreaking contributions to flood risk management and water resource engineering*)

**70. Who has been awarded the "Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana" by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake?**

राष्ट्रपति अनुरा कुमार डिसनायके द्वारा "श्रीलंका मित्र विभूषण" से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) S. Jaishankar
- (c) Draupadi Murmu
- (d) Narendra Modi
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankhar

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** PM Narendra Modi Conferred Sri Lanka's Highest Honour for a Foreign Leader President Anura Kumara Dissanayake awarded the "Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana" to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the nation's highest civilian honour for a foreign head of state, recognizing his strong and friendly ties with Sri Lanka.

The award, established in 2008, is presented exclusively to heads of state or government for their outstanding contributions to strengthening Sri Lanka's international friendships.

Rich in symbolism, the award features the Dharma Chakra, Pun Kalasa, Navarathna, and the Sun and Moon, representing shared heritage, prosperity, enduring friendship, and an eternal bond between India and Sri Lanka.

President Dissanayake emphasized Modi's deserving nature, stating the award reflects Sri Lanka's deep appreciation of the cultural, spiritual, and diplomatic relationship with India.

**71. World Health Day is celebrated every year on April 7, marking the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948 and highlighting global health awareness. What is the theme of World Health Day 2025?**

विश्व स्वास्थ्य दिवस हर साल 7 अप्रैल को मनाया जाता है, जो 1948 में विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) की स्थापना का प्रतीक है और वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य जागरूकता पर प्रकाश डालता है। विश्व स्वास्थ्य दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Health for All
- (b) Our Planet, Our Health
- (c) Building a Fairer, Healthier World
- (d) Universal Health Coverage: Everyone, Everywhere
- (e) Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** 7 April – World Health Day

World Health Day is celebrated every year on April 7, marking the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948 and highlighting global health awareness.

The day promotes universal health coverage, mental well-being, and equitable access to healthcare, aiming to build a healthier, fairer world for all.

Theme 2025 - Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures

**72. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Thomas Cook India's foreign exchange business?**

**थॉमस कुक इंडिया के विदेशी मुद्रा व्यापार के लिए ब्रांड एंबेसडर के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ranveer Singh
- (b) Ayushmann Khurrana
- (c) Kartik Aaryan
- (d) Varun Dhawan
- (e) Sidharth Malhotra

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Thomas Cook India taps Kartik Aaryan as brand ambassador for forex business Thomas Cook India Limited has appointed Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan as brand ambassador for its foreign exchange business.

The strategic move aims to target India's millennial and Gen Z travellers, who the company identifies as powerful drivers in the country's outbound travel growth. The partnership begins with a campaign promoting Thomas Cook's recently launched Borderless Travel Card, a multi-currency prepaid card designed for international travellers.

**Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Salman Khan - 10X Zarda King rice
- Salman Khan - GRM Overseas Wheat Flour
- Vidya Balan - Federal Bank
- Shubman Gill - Tyre brand MRFs
- Punjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh - American clothing brand, Levi's
- PV Sindhu - PUMA India
- Mo Farah - Tata Mumbai Marathon

**73. In April 2025, What denominations will be issued with the new RBI Governor's signature?**

**अप्रैल 2025 में, नए RBI गवर्नर के हस्ताक्षर से कौन से मूल्यवर्ग के नोट जारी किए जाएंगे?**

- (a) ₹100 and ₹2000
- (b) ₹20 and ₹50
- (c) ₹200 and ₹1000
- (d) ₹10 and ₹500
- (e) ₹5 and ₹100

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** RBI to issue ₹10, ₹500 notes in new series bearing Gov. Malhotra's signature

The Reserve Bank of India will issue ₹10 and ₹500 denomination banknotes in Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series bearing the signature of the new RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra. The design of these notes is similar in all respects to ₹10 and ₹500 banknotes in Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series.

All banknotes in the denominatio nof ₹10 issued by the Reserve Bank in the past will continue to be legal tender. All banknotes in the denomination of ₹500 in Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series issued by the Reserve Bank in the past will also continue to be legal tender.

**74. Over 13,000 square kilometres of forest area — more than the total geographical area of Delhi, Sikkim and Goa combined — is under encroachment in 25 states and Union territories that have so far submitted data to the Union environment ministry. Which state has reported the highest forest encroachment as of March 2024?**

25 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में 13,000 वर्ग किलोमीटर से अधिक वन क्षेत्र अतिक्रमण के अधीन है - जो दिल्ली, सिक्किम और गोवा के कुल भौगोलिक क्षेत्र से भी अधिक है, जिन्होंने अब तक केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्रालय को डेटा प्रस्तुत किया है। मार्च 2024 तक किस राज्य ने सबसे अधिक वन अतिक्रमण की सूचना दी है?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Madhya Pradesh
- (e) Maharashtra

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Over 13,000 sq km of Forest Land Under Encroachment Across India: Govt Report Reveals

Over 13,000 square kilometres of forest area — more than the total geographical area of Delhi, Sikkim and Goa combined — is under encroachment in 25 states and Union territories that have so far submitted data to the Union environment ministry. Ten states are yet to submit data on forest encroachment.

Last year, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) took suo motu cognisance of a PTI report that cited government data showing 7,50,648 hectares (7,506.48 square kilometres) of forest area — more than five times the size of Delhi — was under encroachment.

The NGT had directed the ministry in April last year to compile the details of encroachment of forest areas in all states and Union Territories in a prescribed format. In a report submitted to the NGT, the ministry said that as of March 2024, a total of 13,05,668.1 hectares (or 13,056 square kilometres) of forest area was under encroachment in 25 states and Union territories that had provided data.

These states and Union territories are the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Manipur.

States and Union territories that are still to submit the data and details on forest encroachment are Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana, West Bengal, Nagaland, Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

According to the ministry report, Madhya Pradesh had the highest forest encroachment, with 5,460.9 square kilometres affected, as of March 2024. Assam has 3,620.9 square kilometres of forest area under encroachment.

A total of 863.08 square kilometres of forest land in Karnataka is under encroachment, followed by 575.54 square kilometres in Maharashtra, 534.9 square kilometres in Arunachal Pradesh, 405.07 square kilometres in Odisha, 264.97 square kilometres in Uttar Pradesh, 247.72 square kilometres in Mizoram, 200.40 square kilometres in Jharkhand and 168.91 square kilometres in Chhattisgarh.

**75. Which bank has launched India's first B2B collections solution using Bharat Connect?**

**किस बैंक ने भारत कनेक्ट का उपयोग करके भारत का पहला B2B संग्रह समाधान लॉन्च किया है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol. Axis Bank Becomes First to Launch B2B Collections via Bharat Connect**

Axis Bank has partnered with a Fortune 500 company to launch India's first B2B collections solution using NBBL's Bharat Connect (formerly BBPS), marking a major milestone in digital payment innovation.

The solution enables seamless invoice payments across sectors like FMCG, Pharma, Automotives, and Healthcare, integrating multiple ordering apps and simplifying collections for distributors and retailers.

Developed using Axis Bank's advanced Corporate API stack, the platform offers a scalable, customizable, and agile system, supported by NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. (NBBL) to streamline supply chain finance operations.

**76. Which bank has been authorized by the Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO), Government of India, to disburse pensions to Central Government pensioners, including All India Service Officers, former Members of Parliament, and retired Judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court?**

**भारत सरकार के केंद्रीय पेंशन लेखा कार्यालय (सीपीएओ) ने किस बैंक को अखिल भारतीय सेवा के अधिकारियों, पूर्व संसद सदस्यों और उच्च न्यायालयों और सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीशों सहित केंद्र सरकार के पेंशन भोगियों को पेंशन वितरित करने के लिए अधिकृत किया है?**

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank

- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) IDFC FIRST Bank
- (e) State Bank of India

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** IDFC FIRST Bank Authorized for Central Government Pension Disbursement  
IDFC FIRST Bank has been authorized by the Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO), Government of India, to disburse pensions to Central Government pensioners, including All India Service Officers, former Members of Parliament, and retired Judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court.

Pensioners can receive their pensions directly into their IDFC FIRST Bank Savings Account, which offers benefits such as zero fees on various banking services, higher interest rates with monthly credits, and exclusive senior citizen advantages.

The bank allows pension accounts to be opened jointly with a spouse, ensuring continuity of the family pension in the same account upon the primary pensioner's demise.

To initiate pension disbursement through IDFC FIRST Bank, pensioners need to share their bank account details with their employer, who will coordinate with the respective Pay & Accounts Office and CPAO for processing

**77. The Assam Government has launched its biggest women entrepreneurship support scheme, offering `10,000 as seed capital to boost self-employment opportunities for women. What is the name of Assam's biggest women entrepreneurship support scheme?**

असम सरकार ने अपनी सबसे बड़ी महिला उद्यमिता सहायता योजना शुरू की है, जिसमें महिलाओं के लिए स्वरोजगार के अवसरों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 10,000 रुपये की शुरुआती पूँजी की पेशकश की गई है। असम की सबसे बड़ी महिला उद्यमिता सहायता योजना का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Mahila Shakti Yojana
- (b) Assam Udyog Mission
- (c) Mukhya Mantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyan
- (d) Nari Samarth Yojana
- (e) Women Enterprise Scheme

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** CM Himanta launches Assam's biggest women entrepreneurship support scheme  
The Assam Government has launched its biggest women entrepreneurship support scheme, offering `10,000 as seed capital to boost self-employment opportunities for women.

The scheme, called 'Mukhya Mantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyan,' was launched by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in Behali, Biswanath district, and will be rolled out across the state in phases.

Through the new scheme, the government will provide `10,000 as seed capital in the first year, `25,000 (`12,500 as loan and equal amount as government support) in the second year on productive usage of seed capital, and `50,000 in the third stage.

**78. SBI has discontinued its limited-period Amrit Kalash Fixed Deposit scheme, which offered a 400-day deposit with interest rates of 7.10% for regular investors and 7.60% for senior citizens. Which SBI scheme can investors opt for after the discontinuation of the Amrit Kalash FD scheme?**

एसबीआई ने अपनी सीमित अवधि वाली अमृत कलश फिक्स्ड डिपॉजिट योजना को बंद कर दिया है, जिसमें नियमित निवेशकों के लिए 7.10% और वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए 7.60% की ब्याज दरों के साथ 400-दिन की जमा राशि की पेशकश की गई थी। अमृत कलश एफडी योजना के बंद होने के बाद निवेशक कौन सी एसबीआई योजना चुन सकते हैं?

- (a) Amrit Sagar FD
- (b) Amrit Vrishti FD
- (c) Amrit Nivesh FD
- (d) Amrit Samridhi FD
- (e) Amrit Kalash 2.0 FD

**Ans. b**

**Sol. SBI Withdraws Amrit Kalash FD Scheme from April 1, 2025**

SBI has discontinued its limited-period Amrit Kalash Fixed Deposit scheme, which offered a 400-day deposit with interest rates of 7.10% for regular investors and 7.60% for senior citizens.

The scheme was withdrawn effective April 1, 2025, as per an official update on the SBI website; it had been offering attractive returns since April 12, 2023.

Investors seeking similar benefits can now opt for SBI's Amrit Vrishti FD scheme, which offers slightly better rates and additional perks, especially for senior and super senior citizens.

**79. Which Regional Rural Bank (RRB) has launched e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) services in collaboration with NESL?**

किस क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक (आरआरबी) ने एनईएसएल के सहयोग से ई-बैंक गारंटी (ई-बीजी) सेवाएं शुरू की हैं?

- (a) Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank
- (b) Kerala Gramin Bank
- (c) Pragathi Krishna Gramin Bank
- (d) Karnataka Vikas Gramin Bank
- (e) Tamil Nadu Grama Bank

**Ans. d**

**Sol. KVG Bank launches e-Bank Guarantee service**

Regional rural bank (RRB) Karnataka Vikas Gramin Bank (KVGB) has launched its e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) services in collaboration with the government's information utility provider National E-Governance Services Limited (NESL) in Dharwad.

Launching the services in Dharwad, bank Chairman Shrikant M. Bhandiwad said that KVG Bank is the first among the 43 regional rural banks in India to introduce the facility. The e-BG service leverages e-signatures and e-stamps, significantly simplifying the bank guarantee process. With this facility, guarantees can now be issued within minutes.

Beneficiaries can view the e-Bank Guarantee on the NESL portal immediately after issuance, eliminating the need for additional confirmation.

**80. What is the total amount of the social loan facility announced by Citi and State Bank of India (SBI), aimed at financing microfinance institutions and non-banking financial companies that provide loans to women entrepreneurs and smallholder farmers?**

सिटी और भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (एसबीआई) द्वारा घोषित सामाजिक ऋण सुविधा की कुल राशि कितनी है, जिसका उद्देश्य महिला उद्यमियों और छोटे किसानों को ऋण प्रदान करने वाली माइक्रोफाइनेंस संस्थाओं और गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनियों को वित्तपोषित करना है?

- (a) \$195 million
- (b) \$250 million
- (c) \$295 million
- (d) \$350 million
- (e) \$400 million

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Citi and SBI Announce \$295 Million Social Loan Facility

Citi and State Bank of India (SBI) have jointly announced a \$295 million social loan facility aimed at financing microfinance institutions and non-banking financial companies that provide loans to women entrepreneurs and smallholder farmers. The loan facility is specifically designed to support women entrepreneurs and smallholder farmers, promoting financial inclusion and economic empowerment within these groups.

This initiative underscores the commitment of both Citi and SBI to foster social development and support underserved communities by enhancing access to financial resources.

**81. Which country has assumed the chairmanship of BIMSTEC for the next two years?**

अगले दो वर्षों के लिए बिम्स्टेक की अध्यक्षता किस देश ने संभाली है?

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Bangladesh assumes Chairmanship of BIMSTEC for next two years

Bangladesh assumed the chairmanship of the regional grouping – Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (Bimstec) – for the next two years.

Upon receiving the Chairmanship from the Prime Minister of Thailand, Chief Adviser of the Interim Government of Bangladesh Muhammad Yunus made a statement of acceptance, underscoring an inclusive and action-oriented Bimstec.

Yunus reaffirmed Bangladesh's commitment to advancing regional cooperation and development. The Bimstec comprises seven countries of the Bay of Bengal region – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

**82. President Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which was passed by Parliament during its budget session. The President also gave her assent to the Mussalman Waqf (Repeal) Bill, 2025, which was also passed by Parliament. How many members voted in favor of the bill in the Lok Sabha?**

राष्ट्रपति द्वारा पदी मुर्मू ने वक्फ (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2025 को अपनी मंजूरी दे दी है, जिसे संसद ने अपने बजट सत्र के दौरान पारित किया था। राष्ट्रपति ने मुसलमान वक्फ (निरसन) विधेयक, 2025 को भी अपनी मंजूरी दे दी है, जिसे संसद ने भी पारित कर दिया है। लोकसभा में कितने सदस्यों ने विधेयक के पक्ष में मतदान किया?

- (a) 200
- (b) 250
- (c) 288
- (d) 300
- (e) 232

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** President Droupadi Murmu signs Waqf (Amendment) bill 2025 into law. President Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which was passed by Parliament during its budget session. The President also gave her assent to the Mussalman Waqf (Repeal) Bill, 2025, which was also passed by Parliament. The Rajya Sabha passed the bill with 128 votes in favor and 95 against, while the Lok Sabha cleared the bill after a lengthy debate, with 288 members voting in favor and 232 opposing it.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, focuses on improving the management of waqf properties, empowering stakeholders relevant to the management of waqf properties, improving the efficiency of the survey, registration, and case disposal process, and developing waqf properties. While the core purpose remains the management of waqf properties, the aim is to implement modern and scientific methods for better governance. The Mussalman Waqf Act of 1923 was also repealed.

The bill, first introduced in August last year, was revised following recommendations by a Joint Parliamentary Committee. It amends the original Waqf Act of 1995, aiming to streamline the administration of waqf properties across India. Key features include improving the registration process and incorporating technology to enhance the efficiency of Waqf board operations.

The bill aims to overcome the shortcomings of the previous act, enhance the efficiency of Waqf boards, improve the registration process, and increase the role of technology in managing waqf records.

**83. The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) is observed every year on 6 April, celebrating the transformative power of sport in**

**fostering positive change, bridging divides, and transcending boundaries. What is the theme of IDSDP 2025?**

**विकास और शांति के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय खेल दिवस (IDSDP) हर साल 6 अप्रैल को मनाया जाता है, जिसमें सकारात्मक बदलाव को बढ़ावा देने, विभाजन को पाटने और सीमाओं को पार करने में खेल की परिवर्तनकारी शक्ति का जश्न मनाया जाता है। IDSDP 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Sport for All: Unity in Diversity**
- (b) Power of Sport to Unite Nations**
- (c) One World, One Team**
- (d) Levelling the Playing Field: Sport for Social Inclusion**
- (e) Empowering Youth Through Sport**

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 6 April - International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) is observed every year on 6 April, celebrating the transformative power of sport in fostering positive change, bridging divides, and transcending boundaries.

Theme 2025 - Levelling the Playing Field: Sport for Social Inclusion

In August 2013, the UN General Assembly decided to proclaim 6 April as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, and it has been celebrated each year since 2014.

**84. On which date is the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda observed?**

**रवांडा में 1994 में तुत्सी के खिलाफ हुए नरसंहार पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय चिंतन दिवस किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 7 April – International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda

The International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda is observed every year on 7 April.

This day marks the beginning of one of the darkest chapters in recent history, when in 1994, over 800,000 Tutsi, along with moderate Hutu and others who opposed the genocide, were systematically killed in just 100 days.

Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2003, the day serves as a solemn occasion to honor the victims, support the survivors, and reflect on the lessons learned. This annual observance encourages people globally to stand up against hate speech, discrimination, and violence, and to promote values of peace, human rights, and dignity for all.

**85. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the New Pamban Bridge in Tamil Nadu. This landmark project is India's first vertical-lift sea bridge, showcasing the nation's growing engineering and infrastructural capabilities. Which organization constructed the New Pamban Bridge?**

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने तमिलनाडु में न्यू पंबन ब्रिज का उद्घाटन किया है। यह ऐतिहासिक परियोजना भारत का पहला वर्टिकल-लिफ्ट समुद्री पुल है, जो देश की बढ़ती इंजीनियरिंग और अवसंरचना क्षमताओं को दर्शाता है। न्यू पंबन ब्रिज का निर्माण किस संगठन ने किया?

- (a) Larsen & Toubro
- (b) IRCON International
- (c) National Highways Authority of India
- (d) Hindustan Construction Company
- (e) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

**Ans. e**

**Sol.** PM Modi inaugurates India's first vertical-lift sea bridge in Tamil Nadu. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the New Pamban Bridge in Tamil Nadu. This landmark project is India's first vertical-lift sea bridge, showcasing the nation's growing engineering and infrastructural capabilities.

The 2.07-kilometre-long bridge, spanning the Palk Strait, stands as a testament to India's engineering prowess and visionary infrastructure development.

A demonstration showcased the bridge's functionality, with visuals capturing key moments. An Indian Coast Guard (ICG) boat successfully navigated under the structure, highlighting its vertical clearance and maritime accessibility. Following the boat's passage, a train crossed the bridge, demonstrating its structural integrity and operational readiness.

The story of the bridge dates back to 1914, when British engineers constructed the original Pamban Bridge—a cantilever structure with a Scherzer rolling lift span—connecting Rameswaram Island to mainland India. The new bridge, sanctioned in 2019, is three metres taller than the original, enhancing sea connectivity and accommodating maritime traffic more efficiently.

Constructed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Railways, at a cost of over Rs 700 crore the New Pamban Bridge has been designed to meet higher standards for speed, load-bearing capacity, and maritime clearance. It enhances connectivity while showcasing India's capabilities in safety, durability, and innovation.

As India's first vertical lift sea bridge, the New Pamban Bridge joins the ranks of other iconic international structures known for their engineering achievements—such as the Golden Gate Bridge in the United States, Tower Bridge in London, and the Øresund Bridge connecting Denmark and Sweden.

**86. The first tri-service all-women global circumnavigation expedition “Samudra Pradakshina” was flagged off from Mumbai. Which sailing vessel is being used for the “Samudra Pradakshina” expedition?**

पहले त्रि-सेवा महिला वैश्विक जलयात्रा अभियान "समुद्र प्रदक्षिणा" को मुंबई से हरी झंडी दिखाकर रवाना किया गया। "समुद्र प्रदक्षिणा" अभियान के लिए किस नौकायन जहाज का उपयोग किया जा रहा है?

- (a) INSV Tarini
- (b) IASV Triveni
- (c) INSV Mhadei
- (d) INS Shakti
- (e) IASV Nari Vahini

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** All Women's Tri Service Samudra Pradakshina flagged off from Mumbai. The first tri-service all-women global circumnavigation expedition "Samudra Pradakshina" on board the IASV (Indian Army Sailing Vessel) Triveni was flagged off from Mumbai.

The expedition was flagged off by Lieutenant General AK Ramesh, Commandant, College of Military Engineering, from the Indian Naval Watermanship Training Centre, Colaba, Mumbai.

The 12 crew members of IASV Triveni have been drawn from the Indian Armed Forces- Indian Army, Indian Navy, and Indian Air Force. All the crew members were given rigorous training at the Army Adventure Nodal Centre for Blue Water Sailing in Marve, Mumbai.

The expedition will sail to Seychelles and come back to Mumbai, covering the 4,000 nautical mile journey in 55 days. The expedition is part of the armed forces to promote women's empowerment or Nari Shakti.

Last year, the Indian Navy successfully launched its all women second Navika Sagar Parikrama expedition to circumnavigate the globe on board the Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Tarini or INSV Tarini. It was manned by two women officers of the India Navy.

**87. Which Indian dignitary was recently honoured with the Key to the City of Lisbon. The Key to the City of Lisbon is the highest honour accorded by the city of Lisbon?**

हाल ही में किस भारतीय गणमान्य को लिस्बन शहर की चाबी से सम्मानित किया गया। लिस्बन शहर की चाबी लिस्बन शहर द्वारा दिया जाने वाला सर्वोच्च सम्मान है?

- (a) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- (b) Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar
- (c) External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar
- (d) President Droupadi Murmu
- (e) Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** President Droupadi Murmu Honoured with Key to City of Lisbon

President Droupadi Murmu attended the ceremony to deliver the city key of honour. The ceremony is being organized by the Mayor of Lisbon, Carlos Manuel, to present the key of the city in her honour. The Key to the City of Lisbon is the highest honour accorded by the city of Lisbon.

She is visiting Portugal at the invitation of President of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. The visit is taking place after a gap of 27 years. The last State Visit took place in 1998 when President K R Narayanan visited Portugal.

**88. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Oman India Joint Investment Fund—Management Company?**

ओमान इंडिया ज्वाइंट इन्वेस्टमेंट फंड-मैनेजमेंट कंपनी के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Kumar
- (b) Neeraj Vyas
- (c) Satish Chavva
- (d) Rakesh Sharma
- (e) Alok Agarwal

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Satish Chavva appointed CEO of Oman India Joint Investment Fund.

The Board of Oman India Joint Investment Fund—Management Company, a private equity fund manager promoted by the Oman Investment Authority and the State Bank of India, has appointed Satish Chavva as its Chief Executive Officer.

Chavva joins from British International Investment, the UK's development finance institution, where he held various roles, including heading Direct Private Equity for South Asia.

Chavva has a deep association with OIJIF, having previously served as Director of Investments at OIJIF between 2016 and 2022. Prior to that, he was with Citi Group in India and the UK, including in its private equity arm, Citi Venture Capital International for over 9 years.

**89. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has launched a dedicated digital portal developed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) to streamline private investment in infrastructure development on National Waterways, promoting Ease of Doing Business (EODB). The launch of the IWAI digital portal and the 2025 regulations is most aligned with which broader national objective?**

केंद्रीय मंत्री सर्बानंद सोनोवाल ने राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों पर बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास में निजी निवेश को कारगर बनाने और व्यापार करने में आसानी (ईओडीबी) को बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारतीय अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग प्राधिकरण (आईडब्ल्यूएआई) द्वारा विकसित एक समर्पित डिजिटल पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है। आईडब्ल्यूएआई डिजिटल पोर्टल और 2025 के नियमों का लॉन्च किस व्यापक राष्ट्रीय उद्देश्य के साथ सबसे अधिक संरेखित है?

- (a) Digital India Mission
- (b) Gati Shakti Master Plan
- (c) Viksit Bharat Vision
- (d) Sagarmala Project
- (e) Maritime India Vision 2030

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal Launches Digital Portal for National Waterways

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has launched a dedicated digital portal developed by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) to streamline private investment in infrastructure development on National Waterways, promoting Ease of Doing Business (EODB).

The National Waterways (Construction of Jetties/Terminals) Regulations, 2025 allows private entities to develop or operate terminals with a No Objection Certificate (NoC) from IWAI, covering both new and existing, permanent and temporary terminals.

The first digital NoC was issued to Marina India Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. for a jetty at Malim, Goa (National Waterway-68), marking a milestone in digital governance and private sector engagement.

The initiative aims to unlock sustainable infrastructure growth, with cargo movement rising from 18 to 133 million tonnes in FY 2023-24, reinforcing the sector as a key driver of economic growth under the "Viksit Bharat" vision.

**90. Where was the 4th Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting on Tourism Cooperation between India and Japan held?**

**भारत और जापान के बीच पर्यटन सहयोग पर संयुक्त कार्य समूह (JWG) की चौथी बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई?**

- (a) Tokyo
- (b) Kyoto
- (c) Mumbai
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Osaka

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 4th Joint Working Group Meeting on Tourism Cooperation between India and Japan

The 4th Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting on Tourism Cooperation between India and Japan was held in New Delhi.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mugdha Sinha, Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and HaraikawaNaoya, Commissioner, Japan Tourism Agency (JTA). The Co- Chairs of the two countries exchanged notes on the profile of the visitors and delved into the data insights of the tourists travelling between the two countries, including to Buddhist destinations, in order to undertake suitable policy interventions to make the destinations more attractive for the millennial tourists.

**91. The government has procured 100 lakh bales of cotton under MSP operations through its nodal agency. Which state has recorded the highest procurement of cotton under MSP operations?**

**सरकार ने अपनी नोडल एजेंसी के माध्यम से एमएसपी संचालन के तहत 100 लाख गांठ कपास की खरीद की है। एमएसपी संचालन के तहत कपास की सबसे अधिक खरीद किस राज्य ने दर्ज की है?**

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Telangana
- (e) Andhra Pradesh

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Government of India Procures 100 Lakh Bales of Cotton Under MSP Operations  
The government has procured 100 lakh bales of cotton under MSP operations through its nodal agency.

This procurement accounts for 38 percent of the total cotton arrivals of 263 lakh bales and 34 percent of the estimated total cotton production of 294.25 lakh bales in the country.

Among the states, Telangana has recorded the highest procurement at 40 lakh bales, followed by Maharashtra with 30 lakh bales and Gujarat with 14 lakh bales.

Other states with significant procurement include Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha. Procurement in Haryana, Rajasthan, and Punjab stands at 1.15 lakh bales.

The Textiles Ministry said in a statement that in total, 37 thousand 450 crore rupees have been paid to approximately 21 lakh cotton farmers across all cotton-producing states.

**92. The Department of Financial Services (DFS) has notified the amalgamation of 26 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) under the “One State, One RRB” principle. This is the fourth phase of the RRB consolidation process. Which of the following correctly represents the trend in RRB numbers post the various phases of consolidation from 2006 onwards?**

**वित्तीय सेवा विभाग (DFS) ने “एक राज्य, एक आरआरबी” सिद्धांत के तहत 26 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों (RRB) के विलय को अधिसूचित किया है। यह आरआरबी समेकन प्रक्रिया का चौथा चरण है। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा कथन 2006 के बाद से समेकन के विभिन्न चरणों के बाद आरआरबी संख्याओं में रुझान को सही ढंग से दर्शाता है?**

- (a) 196 → 100 → 70 → 43 → 28
- (b) 196 → 82 → 56 → 43 → 28
- (c) 196 → 90 → 80 → 50 → 28
- (d) 150 → 100 → 75 → 45 → 38
- (e) 196 → 100 → 85 → 60 → 28

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Govt Merges 26 RRBs Under ‘One State, One RRB’ Plan to Boost Efficiency  
The Department of Financial Services (DFS) has notified the amalgamation of 26 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) under the “One State, One RRB” principle. This is the fourth phase of the RRB consolidation process. The Ministry of Finance rolled out the amalgamation plan in November last year, building on improvements in efficiency from previous phases.

Following consultations with stakeholders, 26 RRBs across 10 states and one Union Territory have been merged, focusing on enhancing scale, efficiency, and cost rationalisation.

Currently, 43 RRBs operate across 26 states and two Union Territories. Post-amalgamation, there will be 28 RRBs covering 700 districts with more than 22,000 branches. Around 92 percent of these branches are located in rural and semi-urban areas.

This is fourth phase of amalgamation. In previous 3 phases viz. Phase-I (FY 2006 to FY 2010) number of RRBs were reduced from 196 to 82, Phase-2 (FY 2013 – FY 2015) number of RRBs were reduced from 82 to 56 and Phase-3 (FY 2019 to FY 2021) number of RRBs were reduced from 56 to 43.

**93. Bank of Baroda has introduced a new fixed deposit option called 'Bob Square Drive Deposit Scheme' with 7.75% interest. And with this, which of its previous FD schemes has been withdrawn by Bank of Baroda?**

**बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा ने 7.75% ब्याज के साथ 'बॉब स्क्वायर ड्राइव डिपॉजिट स्कीम' नामक एक नया फिक्स्ड डिपॉजिट विकल्प पेश किया है। और इसके साथ ही, बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा ने अपनी पिछली कौन सी FD स्कीम वापस ले ली है?**

- (a) BOB Wealth Saver Scheme
- (b) Golden Jubilee Deposit Plan
- (c) Utsav Deposit Scheme
- (d) BOB Retirement Benefit Plan
- (e) Senior Citizen Plus Deposit Scheme

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** BOB launches Square Drive FD with 7.75% interest

Bank of Baroda has introduced a new fixed deposit option called the 'bob Square Drive Deposit Scheme'.

The updated FD interest rates, including the new scheme, came into effect on April 7 and apply to deposits of less than Rs 3 crore. Meanwhile, the bank has also withdrawn its special Utsav Deposit Scheme.

The 'bob Square Drive Deposit Scheme' offers a tenure of 444 days with an interest rate of 7.15 per cent per annum for the general public. Senior citizens will receive a higher interest rate of 7.65 per cent per annum, while super senior citizens (aged 80 years and above) will earn an even higher rate of 7.75 per cent per annum.

**94. The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), launched on 8th April 2015 by PM Narendra Modi, celebrates 10 glorious years of empowering small and micro-entrepreneurs across India. The financial inclusion framework under PMMY is based on three pillars. Which of the following best represents these pillars?**

**8 अप्रैल 2015 को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा शुरू की गई प्रधानमंत्री मुद्रा योजना (PMMY) भारत भर में लघु एवं सूक्ष्म उद्यमियों को सशक्त बनाने के 10 गौरवशाली वर्ष पूरे होने का जश्न मनाती है। PMMY के तहत वित्तीय समावेशन ढांचा तीन स्तंभों पर आधारित है। निम्नलिखित में से कौन इन स्तंभों का सबसे अच्छा प्रतिनिधित्व करता है?**

**(a) Banking the Unbanked, Insuring the Uninsured, Funding the Unfunded**  
**(b) Banking the Unbanked, Securing the Unsecured, Funding the Unfunded**  
**(c) Securing the Unsecured, Insuring the Uninsured, Banking the Unbanked**  
**(d) Funding the Unfunded, Subsidizing the Poor, Banking the Unbanked**  
**(e) Banking the Unbanked, Securing the Unsecured, Insuring the Uninsured**

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) — completes 10 glorious Years of empowering Small and Micro Entrepreneurs

The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), launched on 8th April 2015 by PM Narendra Modi, celebrates 10 glorious years of empowering small and micro-entrepreneurs across India.

Aimed at fostering financial inclusion, PMMY provides easy collateral-free loans up to ₹10 lakh for non-corporate and non-farm income-generating activities.

To strengthen support for aspiring entrepreneurs, the Finance Minister announced an increase in the loan limit to ₹20 lakh during the Union Budget 2024-25 on July 23, 2024. This new limit took effect on October 24, 2024. These loans are extended through Banks, NBFCs, MFIs, and other financial institutions.

The newly announced loan category, Tarun Plus, is designed specifically for those who have previously availed and successfully repaid loans under the Tarun category, allowing them to access funding between ₹10 lakh and ₹20 lakh. Additionally, the Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU) will now provide guarantee coverage for these enhanced loans, further reinforcing the government's commitment to nurturing a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in India.

With over Rs.33.65 lakh crore sanctioned to more than 52 crore MUDRA loan accounts, the scheme has proved to be an important milestone in giving wings to the aspirations of crores of entrepreneurs, particularly those belonging to marginal sections of society.

**The implementation of financial inclusion programme in the country is based on three pillars, namely,**

1. Banking the Unbanked
2. Securing the Unsecured and
3. Funding the Unfunded

#### **Key Features of PMMY:**

- MUDRA loans now will be offered in four categories namely, 'Shishu', 'Kishor', 'Tarun' and newly added category 'Tarun Plus' which signifies the stage of growth or development and funding needs of the borrowers: -
- Shishu: covering loans upto Rs. 50,000/-
- Kishor: covering loans above Rs. 50,000/- and up to Rs. 5 lakhs
- Tarun: covering loans above Rs. 5 lakh and up to Rs. 10 lakhs
- Tarun Plus: Rs. 10 lakh and up to Rs. 20 lakhs

#### **Achievements under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) as on 21.03.2025**

- Women Borrowers: A total of ₹ 8.49 lakh crore was disbursed under the Shishu category, ₹ 4.90 lakh crore under Kishor, and ₹ 0.85 lakh crore under the Tarun category.

- **Minority Borrowers:** The disbursements amounted to ₹ 1.25 lakh crore under Shishu, ₹ 1.32 lakh crore under Kishor, and ₹ 0.50 lakh crore under Tarun.
- **New Entrepreneurs / Accounts:**
- **Shishu category:** 8.21 crore accounts with a sanctioned amount of ₹ 2.24 lakh crore and disbursed amount of ₹ 2.20 lakh crore.
- **Kishor category:** 2.05 crore accounts with ₹ 4.09 lakh crore sanctioned and ₹ 3.89 lakh crore disbursed.
- **Tarun category:** 45 lakh accounts with a sanctioned amount of ₹ 3.96 lakh crore and ₹ 3.83 lakh crore disbursed.

**95. The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has launched the 7th edition of Poshan Pakhwada, being observed from April 8 to 22, as part of the government's intensified efforts to tackle malnutrition. Which of the following is not one of the core themes of the 7th edition of Poshan Pakhwada (2024)?**

**महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय (MWCD) ने कृपोषण से निपटने के लिए सरकार के तीव्र प्रयासों के तहत 8 से 22 अप्रैल तक मनाए जाने वाले पोषण पखवाड़ा के 7वें संस्करण की शुरुआत की है। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा पोषण पखवाड़ा (2024) के 7वें संस्करण का मुख्य विषय नहीं है?**

- (a) Maternal and infant nutrition during the first 1,000 days
- (b) Promotion of Poshan Tracker app
- (c) Promotion of organic Poshan in rural areas
- (d) Community-based management of malnutrition (CMAM)
- (e) Healthy lifestyle to combat childhood obesity

**Ans. c**

**Sol. Poshan Pakhwada 2025: Promoting Nutrition Awareness and Empowerment**  
The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has launched the 7th edition of Poshan Pakhwada, being observed from April 8 to 22, as part of the government's intensified efforts to tackle malnutrition.

Running in collaboration with multiple ministries and state departments, this year's campaign underscores four core themes—maternal and infant nutrition in the first 1,000 days of life, promotion of the Poshan Tracker app, community-based management of malnutrition (CMAM), and encouraging a healthy lifestyle to combat childhood obesity.

States/ UTs will conduct extensive community-level activities to underline the critical role of safe drinking water and sanitation practices in preventing malnutrition and diseases.

Department will also complement the efforts of WCD by promoting the campaign over social media platforms which is an integral part of the campaign, utilizing hashtags #DDWSJoinsPoshanPakhwada and #PoshanPakhwada to maximize outreach and impact.

Through these collective efforts, including WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) initiatives, the Jal Jeevan Mission, and the Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen, Poshan Pakhwada aims to create enduring awareness and drive substantial behavioral change

in rural communities, enabling improved health, sanitation, and nutrition for every child in India.

**96. In April 2025, what is the name of the newly launched fund by PNB MetLife in partnership with Policybazaar?**

**अप्रैल 2025, पॉलिसीबाजार के साथ साझेदारी में पीएनबी मेटलाइफ द्वारा नए लॉन्च किए गए फंड का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) PNB MetLife Retirement Shield Fund
- (b) PNB MetLife Secure Future Fund
- (c) PNB MetLife Pension Premier Multicap Fund
- (d) PNB MetLife Life Secure Multicap Fund
- (e) PNB MetLife Smart Wealth Pension Fund

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** PNB MetLife and Policybazaar Collaborate to Launch Pension Premier Multicap Fund

PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited has partnered with Policybazaar to launch the PNB MetLife Pension Premier Multicap Fund under its Unit-Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs).

This new fund is designed to help customers build a robust retirement corpus while providing life insurance coverage, ensuring financial protection for families in unforeseen circumstances.

The Pension Premier Multicap Fund is available with the PNB MetLife Smart Invest Pension Plan (UIN – 117L137V02), which combines wealth creation with life insurance. The fund is open for subscription from April 1 to April 15, 2025, at an initial Net Asset Value (NAV) of Rs. 10. After this period, it will be available at market value.

**97. Which two organizations have partnered to launch Phase 2 of the “Niveshak Didi” initiative?**

**किन दो संगठनों ने “निवेशक दीदी” पहल के दूसरे चरण को शुरू करने के लिए साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) NITI Aayog and SBI
- (b) RBI and India Post
- (c) Ministry of Corporate Affairs and IPPB
- (d) SEBI and NABARD
- (e) Ministry of Finance and ICICI Bank

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** IEPFA and IPPB Sign MoA to Launch Phase 2 of “Niveshak Didi” to Boost Rural Women’s Financial Literacy

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), operating under the Department of Posts, have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to jointly launch Phase 2 of the “Niveshak Didi” initiative.

This strategic collaboration aims to scale financial literacy among women in rural, semi-urban, and underserved areas through grassroots mobilization and community-driven education.

“Niveshak Didi” is a unique initiative that trains women postal workers and community leaders to act as financial educators within their local regions.

During Phase 1, more than 55,000 beneficiaries participated in IPPB Financial Literacy Camps across India, with approx. 60% female beneficiaries mostly in the youth & economically active age group. Every 2 out of 3 such beneficiaries belonged to deep rural locations ensuring maximum penetration at the grassroots levels.

**98. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), what is the projected GDP growth rate of India for the current fiscal year (FY26)?**

**एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) के अनुसार, चालू वित्त वर्ष (FY26) के लिए भारत की अनुमानित जीडीपी वृद्धि दर क्या है?**

- (a) 6.2%
- (b) 6.4%
- (c) 6.5%
- (d) 6.7%
- (e) 6.9%

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** ADB revises India's FY26 growth forecast to 6.7% amid US tariff risks

India's gross domestic product (GDP) is likely to expand at 6.7 per cent during the current fiscal year spurred by higher domestic demand, rising rural incomes and moderating inflation.

Favourable monetary and fiscal policies are expected to sustain the growth momentum, with GDP projected to increase by 6.8 per cent in FY26 (2026-27).

Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lowered its GDP forecast to 6.5 per cent from 6.7 per cent estimated earlier for the current financial year on account of impact of global trade and policy uncertainties.

**99. Virat Kohli became the first Indian to complete 13,000 runs in T20 cricket history. He achieved the historic milestone during the clash between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Mumbai Indians (MI) at the iconic Wankhede Stadium. Who is the leading run-scorer in T20 cricket?**

**विराट कोहली टी20 क्रिकेट के इतिहास में 13,000 रन पूरे करने वाले पहले भारतीय बने। उन्होंने रॉयल चैलेंजर्स बैंगलुरु (RCB) और मुंबई इंडियंस (MI) के बीच प्रतिष्ठित वानखेड़े स्टेडियम में हुए मुकाबले के दौरान यह ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धि हासिल की। टी20 क्रिकेट में सबसे ज्यादा रन बनाने वाले खिलाड़ी कौन हैं?**

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) Chris Gayle
- (c) Alex Hales
- (d) Shoaib Malik
- (e) Chris Gayle

**Ans. e****Sol.** Virat Kohli Becomes First Indian To Score 13,000 Runs In T20 Cricket

Virat Kohli became the first Indian to complete 13,000 runs in T20 cricket history. He achieved the historic milestone during the clash between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Mumbai Indians (MI) at the iconic Wankhede Stadium.

Virat Kohli became the first Indian and only fifth overall cricketer to score 13,000 runs in T20 cricket.

Virat Kohli became the first Indian and only fifth overall cricketer to score 13,000 runs in T20 cricket. He achieved it with the 17th run he scored during his innings against MI. The list is led by West Indies legend Chris Gayle with 14562 runs, followed by England batter Alex Hales (13,610), former Pakistan skipper Shoaib Malik (13557) and Keiron Pollard (13537).

**100. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a WhatsApp channel that will provide financial information and updates to people, especially those in remote and underserved regions of the country. Which RBI campaign is the WhatsApp channel an expansion of?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने एक व्हाट्सएप चैनल लॉन्च किया है जो लोगों को वित्तीय जानकारी और अपडेट प्रदान करेगा, खासकर देश के दूरदराज और वंचित क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले लोगों को। व्हाट्सएप चैनल RBI के किस अभियान का विस्तार है?**

- (a) RBI Suraksha
- (b) RBI Aapke Saath
- (c) RBI Samvaad
- (d) RBI Kehta Hai
- (e) RBI Jan Seva

**Ans. d****Sol.** RBI launches verified WhatsApp channel to spread financial awareness

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a WhatsApp channel that will provide financial information and updates to people, especially those in remote and underserved regions of the country.

The channel marks an expansion of the regulator's public awareness campaign titled 'RBI Kehta Hai' (RBI Says), which has been actively disseminating key messages about safe banking practices, consumer rights, and responsible financial behavior through multiple channels, including SMS, TV ads, digital media, and print.

The verified WhatsApp account will serve as an additional channel through which the RBI can share timely and relevant information directly with users in a simple, secure, and convenient manner.

The WhatsApp channel will deliver messages related to safe digital transactions, fraud prevention, banking rights, and policy updates. It is also expected to be a useful tool in debunking financial myths and misinformation that often circulate on social media, helping consumers make informed decisions.

**101. What is the total outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the new sub-scheme under PMKSY for 2025-26?**

**2025-26 के लिए पीएमकेएसवाई के तहत नई उप-योजना के लिए केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल द्वारा स्वीकृत कुल परिव्यय क्या है?**

- (a) ₹1,200 crore
- (b) ₹1,400 crore
- (c) ₹1,500 crore
- (d) ₹1,600 crore
- (e) ₹2,000 crore

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Cabinet approves Modernization of Command Area Development and Water Management as a sub-scheme of PMKSY

The Union Cabinet approved a ₹1,600 crore sub-scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) for the 2025-26 period in a bid to strengthen micro-irrigation infrastructure.

The decision will help deliver water from established sources directly to farm gates for fields up to 1 hectare.

The sub-scheme — the Modernisation of Command Area Development and Water Management (M-CADWM) — will run on a pilot basis across 78 sites covering almost 80,000 farmers. This will use underground pressurised piped system to connect irrigation sources with farmland as a last-mile connectivity between water sources and farms.

The scheme also aims to modernise the irrigation water-supply network, directing water from existing canals or other sources to designated clusters.

**102. Padma Shri Ram Sahay Pandey, a legendary figure in Rai folk dance, passed away at 92. In which year was Ram Sahay Pandey awarded the Padma Shri for his contribution to folk art?**

**राई लोक नृत्य के दिग्गज पद्म श्री राम सहाय पांडे का 92 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। लोक कला में उनके योगदान के लिए राम सहाय पांडे को किस वर्ष पद्म श्री से सम्मानित किया गया था?**

- (a) 2018
- (b) 2020
- (c) 2021
- (d) 2022
- (e) 2023

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** Padma Shri Ram Sahay Pandey passes away

Padma Shri Ram Sahay Pandey, a legendary figure in Rai folk dance, passed away at 92. Pandey fought against societal stigma, especially since Rai is linked to the marginalized Bedia community, once targeted by the Criminal Tribes Act.

He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2022 for his work in preserving and promoting Rai dance. He also received the title 'Nritya Shiromani' and was appointed to the Tribal Folk Art Council by the Madhya Pradesh government.

**103. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the doubling of the Tirupati-Pakala-Katpadi railway line, spanning 104 km in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. What is the estimated cost of the Tirupati-Pakala-Katpadi railway line doubling project?**

आर्थिक मामलों की कैबिनेट समिति ने आंध्र प्रदेश और तमिलनाडु में 104 किलोमीटर लंबी तिरुपति-पाकला-कटपडी रेलवे लाइन के दोहरीकरण को मंजूरी दे दी है। तिरुपति-पाकला-कटपडी रेलवे लाइन दोहरीकरण परियोजना की अनुमानित लागत क्या है?

- (a) ₹1,200 crore
- (b) ₹1,332 crore
- (c) ₹1,500 crore
- (d) ₹1,000 crore
- (e) ₹1,275 crore

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Tirupati-Katpadi railway line to be doubled at ₹1,332 crore

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the doubling of the Tirupati-Pakala-Katpadi railway line, spanning 104 km in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, at a cost of approximately ₹1,332 crore.

The project will "improve connectivity to the Tirumala Venkateswara Temple, as well to other prominent destinations such as Sri Kalahasti Shiva Temple, Kanipakam Vinayaka Temple and the Chandragiri Fort, attracting pilgrims and tourists from across the country".

The project covering three districts in the two States will enhance connectivity to approximately 400 villages and benefit about 14 lakh people.

**104. The first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) will be organized by the Government of India from May 1 to 4, 2025 in which city?**

भारत सरकार द्वारा पहला विश्व ऑडियो विजुअल और मनोरंजन शिखर सम्मेलन (WAVES) 1 से 4 मई, 2025 तक किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

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

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Shortlist Announced for 'Make the World Wear Khadi' Challenge Ahead of WAVES Summit 2025

The first World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) will be hosted by the Government of India in Mumbai, Maharashtra, from May 1 to 4, 2025.

WAVES is set to magnify India's creative strength, amplifying its position as a hub for content creation, intellectual property, and technological innovation.

Industries and sectors in focus include Broadcasting, Print Media, Television, Radio, Films, Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, Sound and Music, Advertising, Digital Media, Social Media Platforms, Generative AI, Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), and Extended Reality (XR).

**Shortlisted Candidates:**

- Iman Sengupta & Soham Ghosh – Havas Worldwide India
- Kartik Sankar & Madhumita Basu – 22feet Tribal
- Kajal Tirlotkar – Interactive Avenues
- Tanmay Raul & Mandar Mahadik – DDB Mudra Group
- Akash Mejari & Kajol Jeswani – DDB Mudra Group

**105. World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year on which date?**

**विश्व होम्योपैथी दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?**

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

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 10 April - World Homoeopathy Day

World Homoeopathy Day is observed every year on April 10 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann (Germany), the founder of homoeopathy, born in 1755, honoring his contributions to alternative medicine.

Theme 2025 - Adhyayan, Adhyaapan, Anusandhaan" (Education, Practice, and Research)  
What Is Homeopathy?

Homeopathy is an alternative medical practice based on the principle of "like cures like." It suggests that substances causing symptoms in healthy individuals can, in minute doses, treat similar symptoms in those who are unwell.

Though its roots trace back to ancient Greek medicine, it was in the 19th century that homoeopathy gained widespread recognition across Europe and North America.

In India, World Homeopathy Day is observed under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, to promote awareness and research in the field.

**106. National Safe Motherhood Day is observed on April 11 every year. National Safe Motherhood Day is observed in honor of whose birth anniversary?**

**राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षित मातृत्व दिवस हर साल 11 अप्रैल को मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षित मातृत्व दिवस किसके जन्मदिवस के उपलक्ष्य में मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) Sarojini Naidu
- (b) Kasturba Gandhi
- (c) Indira Gandhi
- (d) Rani Lakshmibai
- (e) Mother Teresa

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** 11 April - National Safe Motherhood Day

National Safe Motherhood Day is observed on April 11 every year.

The day spreads awareness related to a woman's safety during pregnancy. India is the largest country in terms of population in the world but the country still lacks good health infrastructure.

Theme 2025 - Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures

In 1991, the White Ribbon Alliance India, a non-governmental organization, raised awareness about the importance of good maternal health. In 2003, the central government designated National Safe Motherhood Day to be observed on the 90th birth anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi.

This day is dedicated to Kasturba Gandhi, who was deeply committed to the welfare of women and children.

**107. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cut its policy repo rate by 25 basis points (0.25%) to 6%, and the RBI MPC also reduced the SDF rate to 5.75% and the MSF rate to 6.25%. Which of the following is the correct quarterly breakdown of India's GDP growth rate forecast for FY 2025–26 as per RBI's April 2025 update?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने अपनी नीतिगत रेपो दर में 25 आधार अंकों (0.25%) की कटौती करके इसे 6% कर दिया है, और RBI MPC ने SDF दर को भी घटाकर 5.75% और MSF दर को घटाकर 6.25% कर दिया है। RBI के अप्रैल 2025 अपडेट के अनुसार वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 के लिए भारत की GDP वृद्धि दर के पूर्वानुमान का सही तिमाही विवरण निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा है?**

- (a) Q1: 6.5%, Q2: 6.7%, Q3: 6.6%, Q4: 6.3%
- (b) Q1: 6.6%, Q2: 6.5%, Q3: 6.4%, Q4: 6.3%
- (c) Q1: 6.7%, Q2: 6.8%, Q3: 6.9%, Q4: 6.5%
- (d) Q1: 6.4%, Q2: 6.3%, Q3: 6.2%, Q4: 6.0%
- (e) Q1: 6.5%, Q2: 6.6%, Q3: 6.5%, Q4: 6.4%

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** RBI cut repo rate for the second time by 0.25% to 6%

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cut its policy repo rate by 25 basis points (0.25%) to 6%. The RBI MPC reduces the SDF rate to 5.75% and the MSF rate to 6.25%.

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held its 54th meeting from April 7 to 9, 2025, under the chairmanship of Shri Sanjay Malhotra, Governor, Reserve Bank of India.

The MPC members Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Shri Saugata Bhattacharya, Prof. Ram Singh, Dr. Rajiv Ranjan, and Shri M. Rajeshwar Rao attended the meeting.

RBI also reduced the growth rate forecast for India's real gross domestic product (GDP) for the 2025-26 financial year to 6.5 percent from the earlier forecast of 6.7 %.

**RBI Current Policy Rate are as under -**

- Policy Repo Rate – 6%
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) – 5.75%
- Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) - 6.25%
- Bank Rate - 6.25%

- Reverse Repo Rate – 3.35%
- Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) – 4%
- Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) – 18%

**RBI forecasts for the quarterly growth rate for the FY26**

- Q1 (April to June 2025) - 6.5%
- Q2 (July to September 2025) - 6.7%
- Q3 (October to December 2025) - 6.6%
- Q4 (January to March 2026) - 6.3%

**108. The Indian Institute of Management -Ahmedabad and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade will open their first overseas campus in which country?**

**भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थान-अहमदाबाद और भारतीय विदेश व्यापार संस्थान अपना पहला विदेशी परिसर किस देश में खोलेंगे?**

- (a) Abu Dhabi, UAE
- (b) Dubai, UAE
- (c) Sharjah, UAE
- (d) Qatar
- (e) Saudi Arabia

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad to open campus in Dubai

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM)-Ahmedabad and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) will open their overseas campus in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The prestigious Indian Institute of Technology -Delhi already has a campus in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

This was announced during the visit of Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the UAE, to India.

The IIMA Dubai Campus will be developed in two phases. Initially, the institute will operate out of the Dubai International Academic City (DIAC), a leading education hub in the region. The second phase will see the construction of a permanent campus, scheduled to be fully operational by 2029.

**109. BharatPe, a prominent Indian fintech company, has achieved a significant milestone by receiving final approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an online payment aggregator. Under what brand name will BharatPe expand its digital payment services?**

**भारतपे, एक प्रमुख भारतीय फिनटेक कंपनी, ने ऑनलाइन पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर के रूप में काम करने के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) से अंतिम मंजूरी प्राप्त करके एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि हासिल की है। भारतपे किस ब्रांड नाम के तहत अपनी डिजिटल भुगतान सेवाओं का विस्तार करेगी?**

- (a) BharatPe One
- (b) BharatPay

- (c) BharatPe X
- (d) BharatNext
- (e) DigitalPe

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** BharatPe Gets RBI Approval for Payment Aggregator Business

BharatPe, a prominent Indian fintech company, has achieved a significant milestone by receiving final approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an online payment aggregator.

This authorisation, granted to its subsidiary Resilient Payments Private Limited, paves the way for BharatPe to expand its digital payment services under the brand name "BharatPe X."

The company aims to broaden its merchant base and deepen its presence in high-potential markets, particularly in tier 2 and 3 cities. BharatPe is investing in advanced technology infrastructure to ensure seamless and reliable digital payment solutions. Founded in 2018, BharatPe now operates in over 450 cities with a merchant network exceeding 1.3 crore, cementing its role as a leader in India's fintech landscape.

**110. Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a high-level committee to review rules on conflict of interest and disclosures by its board members and officials. Who will chair this committee?**

**बाजार नियामक भारतीय प्रतिभूति एवं विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) ने अपने बोर्ड के सदस्यों और अधिकारियों द्वारा हितों के टकराव और खुलासों पर नियमों की समीक्षा के लिए एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति का गठन किया है। इस समिति की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?**

- (a) Injeti Srinivas
- (b) Madhabi Puri Buch
- (c) Pratyush Sinha
- (d) Uday Kotak
- (e) G Mahalingam

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** Sebi sets up high-level committee to review conflict of interest provisions

Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has constituted a high-level committee to review rules on conflict of interest and disclosures by its board members and officials. The high-level committee (HLC) is chaired by Pratyush Sinha, a retired IAS officer and former Chief Vigilance Commissioner (CVC).

The move follows its March 24 board meeting amid criticism over alleged conflict involving former Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch in Adani Group probes.

The 6-member committee comprises Pratyush Sinha, Injeti Srinivas, Uday Kotak, G Mahalingam, Sarit Jafa and Prof. R Narayanaswamy.

The HLC will comprehensively review and recommend enhancements to the existing framework for managing conflicts of interest, disclosures, and related issues to uphold the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct among Sebi's members and officials.

**111. The National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) has signed an MoU with the New Development Bank (NDB). What is the primary purpose of the MoU signed between NaBFID and the New Development Bank (NDB)?**

नेशनल बैंक फॉर फाइनेंसिंग इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर एंड डेवलपमेंट (NaBFID) ने न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक (NDB) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। NaBFID और न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक (NDB) के बीच हस्ताक्षरित समझौता ज्ञापन का प्राथमिक उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) To merge both financial institutions
- (b) To regulate foreign exchange markets
- (c) To create a sustainable infrastructure financing market
- (d) To manage fiscal deficits
- (e) To fund startups in developed countries

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** NaBFID signs MoU with New Development Bank to accelerate financing infra projects

The National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) has signed an MoU with the New Development Bank (NDB), creating a deep and sustainable infrastructure financing market and developing a supportive ecosystem around it.

The MoU also lays the foundation for both organisations to participate in infrastructure projects through thematic-level collaborations within their respective mandates.

Additionally, NaBFID and NDB will partner in research and capacity-building initiatives, including seminars and workshops, to promote knowledge sharing and enhance institutional capabilities.

The New Development Bank, established by the BRICS nations — Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa — is a multilateral financial institution with a focus on mobilising resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging markets and developing countries (EMDCs).

**112. Who has been appointed as the executive director-president and chief operating officer of TCS?**

टीसीएस के कार्यकारी निदेशक-अध्यक्ष और मुख्य परिचालन अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) N Chandrasekaran
- (b) Rajesh Gopinathan
- (c) Aarthi Subramanian
- (d) Roshni Nadar
- (e) Arundhati Bhattacharya

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** TCS appoints Aarthi Subramanian as executive director-president & COO

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India's largest information technology services firm, has appointed Aarthi Subramanian as executive director-president and chief operating officer of the company.

The appointment is for a term of five years, commencing from May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2030.

She is also a board member of the firm. The last time TCS had a chief operating officer role was before 2009, when N Chandrasekaran, chairman, Tata Sons, was appointed to that position.

### Recent Appointments

- **CEO of Oman India Joint Investment Fund** - Satish Chavva appointed
- **President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** - SC Ralhan (replace Ashwani Kumar).
- **Vice President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** - Ravikant Kapur
- **Additional charge as the NFRA Chairperson** - Ravneet Kaur (Chief of Competition Commission of India); till 30 June
- **MD of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL); a subsidiary of Indian IOC** - H Shankar

**113. Which book by Banu Mushtaq was shortlisted for the International Booker Prize?**

**बानू मुश्ताक की कौन सी किताब अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बुकर पुरस्कार के लिए चुनी गई थी?**

- (a) Haseena and Other Stories
- (b) Heart Lamp
- (c) Light of Karnataka
- (d) Protest Writings
- (e) The Silent Lamp

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** Banu Mushtaq's 'Heart Lamp' becomes first Kannada book on International Booker shortlist

Banu Mushtaq's collection of Kannada stories in translation, Heart Lamp, was shortlisted for the International Booker Prize. The book, among the six featured in this year's shortlist, made history as the first Kannada-language book to be shortlisted.

Heart Lamp, translated by Deepa Bhasthi, is a collection of 12 short stories written by Banu Mushtaq between 1990 and 2023. Earlier, an English translation of a collection of her short stories, Haseena and Other Stories, won the English PEN translation award for the year 2024. That was also translated by Deepa Bhasthi.

Mushtaq, a lawyer and activist from Karnataka, began writing within the progressive protest literary circles in southwestern India.

**114. How many total medals did India win at the ISSF World Cup Buenos Aires 2025?**

**आईएसएफ विश्व कप ब्यूनस आयर्स 2025 में भारत ने कुल कितने पदक जीते?**

- (a) 6
- (b) 7
- (c) 8

**(d) 9**

**(e) 10**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India finishes 2nd after China at the ISSF World Cup Buenos Aires 2025

Indian shooters finished their campaign at the ISSF World Cup Buenos Aires 2025 with 8 medals - four gold, two silver, and two bronze - to finish second behind China on the medal tally.

The ISSF World Cup/Rifle/Shotgun was held at the Argentinian capital, Buenos Aires.

The World Cup was organised by the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF), the world governing body of the sport.

### **Gold medal Winners**

- Vijayveer Sidhu became the first Indian ever to win a gold medal in the men's 25m rapid fire pistol event in ISSF World Cup history.
- Sift Kaur Samra in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions event
- Rudrankksh Patil in the men's 10m air rifle event
- Suruchi Singh in the women's 10m air pistol event

### **Silver Medal Winners**

- Esha Singh in the women's 25m pistol event
- Arya Borse/Rudrankksh Patil in the mixed 10m air rifle event

### **Bronze medal Winners**

- Saurabh Chaudhary/Suruchi Singh in the 10m air pistol mixed team event
- Chain Singh in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions event

**115. The 9th edition of the three-day Global Technology Summit was inaugurated in New Delhi by the External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar. What is the theme of the 9th Global Technology Summit?**

**तीन दिवसीय वैश्विक प्रौद्योगिकी शिखर सम्मेलन के 9वें संस्करण का उद्घाटन विदेश मंत्री डॉ. एस जयशंकर ने नई दिल्ली में किया। 9वें वैश्विक प्रौद्योगिकी शिखर सम्मेलन का विषय क्या है?**

**(a) Viksit Bharat**

**(b) Digital Future**

**(c) Sambhavna**

**(d) Tech for All**

**(e) Innovation@75**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 9th edition of 3-day Global Technology Summit stars in New Delhi

The 9th edition of the three-day Global Technology Summit was inaugurated in New Delhi by the External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar.

The Global Technology Summit is co-organised by the Ministry of External Affairs with New Delhi-based think tank Carnegie India. It is an annual dialogue that was first held in December 2016.

The theme of the 9th Global Technology Summit is "Sambhavna".

**116. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted release trials of the Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB)**

**'Gaurav'. From which aircraft was the 'Gaurav' Glide Bomb released during its trials?**

रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) ने लॉन्ग-रेंज ग्लाइड बम (LRGB) 'गौरव' के सफलतापूर्वक परीक्षण किए हैं। अपने परीक्षण के दौरान 'गौरव' ग्लाइड बम किस विमान से छोड़ा गया?

- (a) Mirage 2000
- (b) Tejas Mk-1
- (c) Jaguar
- (d) Su-30 MKI
- (e) Rafale

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** DRDO conducts release trials of Long-Range Glide Bomb 'Gaurav' from Su-30 MKI. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted release trials of the Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) 'Gaurav' from a Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft.

During the trials, the weapon was integrated to multiple stations in different warhead configurations, with land target on Island. The trials successfully demonstrated range close to 100 kms with pin-point accuracy.

The LRGB is a 1,000-kg class glide bomb, designed and developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat, Armament Research and Development Establishment and Integrated Test Range, Chandipur.

The system has been realised with the support of Development-cum-Production Partners — Adani Defence Systems & Technologies, Bharat Forge and various Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

**117. Where was the 8th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee Meeting hosted?**

8वीं आसियान-भारत वस्तु व्यापार समझौता (AITIGA) संयुक्त समिति की बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की गई?

- (a) Kuala Lumpur
- (b) Bangkok
- (c) Jakarta
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Singapore

**Ans. d**

**Sol.** 8th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement Review Meeting Concludes in New Delhi

India hosted the 8th ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee Meeting at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, co-chaired by Rajesh Agrawal (India) and Dr. Sugumari S. Shanmuga (Malaysia).

The meeting aimed to advance the review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement, making it more modern, effective, and trade-friendly to strengthen economic ties between India and ASEAN nations.

ASEAN is a major trade partner for India, contributing around 11% of India's global trade, with bilateral trade reaching USD 121 billion in FY 2023-24.

The next meeting will be held in June 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**118. NITI Aayog released a comprehensive report analyzing India's automotive sector, with the aim of positioning India as a global player in the automotive value chain. The report was launched by NITI Aayog's Vice Chairman Suman Bery and CEO BVR Subrahmanyam. According to the report, what was India's rank in global vehicle production in 2023?**

नीति आयोग ने भारत के ऑटोमोटिव क्षेत्र का विश्लेषण करते हुए एक व्यापक रिपोर्ट जारी की, जिसका उद्देश्य भारत को ऑटोमोटिव मूल्य शृंखला में एक वैश्विक खिलाड़ी के रूप में स्थापित करना है। रिपोर्ट को नीति आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष सुमन बेरी और सीईओ बीवीआर सुब्रह्मण्यम ने लॉन्च किया। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, 2023 में वैश्विक वाहन उत्पादन में भारत की रैंक क्या थी?

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

**Ans. d**

**Sol. NITI Aayog Releases Report on Automotive Sector's Global Competitiveness**  
NITI Aayog released a comprehensive report analyzing India's automotive sector, aiming to position India as a global player in the automotive value chain. The report was launched by Vice Chairman Suman Bery and CEO BVR Subrahmanyam.

The report classifies auto components into four categories based on complexity and manufacturing maturity: Emerging & Complex, Conventional & Complex, Conventional & Simple, and Emerging & Simple, suggesting targeted fiscal and non-fiscal interventions. In 2023, global automobile production hit 94 million units, with the auto components market valued at USD 2 trillion and the export share reaching approximately USD 700 billion. India's share stood at USD 70 billion, and it emerged as the 4th-largest vehicle producer globally after China, the USA, and Japan.

The report highlights India's strong presence in small cars and utility vehicles, driven by Make in India and a cost-competitive workforce, reinforcing its role as a manufacturing and export hub in the global automotive sector.

**119. The International Day of Human Space Flight is observed every year on 12 April to commemorate the historic achievement of Yuri Gagarin, the first human to journey into outer space. What was the name of the spacecraft in which Yuri Gagarin orbited the Earth?**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मानव अंतरिक्ष उड़ान दिवस हर साल 12 अप्रैल को यूरी गगारिन की ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धि के उपलक्ष्य में मनाया जाता है, जो बाहरी अंतरिक्ष में जाने वाले पहले मानव थे। उस अंतरिक्ष यान का नाम क्या था जिसमें यूरी गगारिन ने पृथ्वी की परिक्रमा की थी?

- (a) Soyuz 1
- (b) Sputnik 1

**(c) Vostok 1**

**(d) Luna 2**

**(e) Apollo 11**

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** 12 April - International Day of Human Space Flight

The International Day of Human Space Flight is observed every year on 12 April to commemorate the historic achievement of Yuri Gagarin, the first human to journey into outer space.

On this day in 1961, Gagarin orbited the Earth aboard the Soviet spacecraft Vostok 1, marking the dawn of a new era in space exploration.

Recognizing the importance of this milestone, the United Nations General Assembly declared 12 April as the International Day of Human Space Flight in 2011.

**120. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda, launched a unified health insurance scheme of the Odisha government in Cuttack, Odisha.**

**What is the name of this scheme?**

**केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा ने ओडिशा के कटक में ओडिशा सरकार की एकीकृत स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना का शुभारंभ किया। इस योजना का नाम क्या है?**

**(a) Ayushman Bharat Yojana**

**(b) Ayushman Vayo-Vandana Yojana**

**(c) Pradhan Mantri Arogya Yojana**

**(d) Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana**

**(e) Shakti Yojana**

**Ans. b**

**Sol.** JP Nadda launches the Unified Health Insurance Scheme of Odisha

The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda, has launched a unified health insurance scheme of the Odisha government in Cuttack, Odisha.

Besides the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, the state government's health scheme, Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana, and the newly introduced Ayushman Vayo-Vandana Yojana, aimed at senior citizens, will also be integrated into this initiative.

With this integration, around 352 lakh people from one crore eight lakh families will be covered under the scheme. Beneficiaries will gain access to free, cashless treatment in more than 29 thousand government and private hospitals across the country. The scheme will provide health coverage of 5 lakh rupees per family per annum, with an additional 5 lakh rupees for women members.

Under the Ayushman Vayo-Vandana Yojana, all persons aged 70 years and above, regardless of income, will be eligible for coverage.

In January 2025, the Odisha government signed an agreement with the National Health Authority, which implements the AB-PMJAY scheme, to implement the scheme in the state. Odisha was the 34th State/Union Territory to join the AB-PMJAY scheme. Recently, Delhi became the 35th state/Union Territory to join the AB-PMJAY scheme.

The previous Naveen Patnaik-led Biju Janata Dal government in Odisha had refused to join the AB-PMJAY and instead launched its health insurance scheme, Biju Swasthya

Kalyan Yojana. After the BJP government came to power in the state in 2024 renamed the Biju Swathya Kalyan Yojana into Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana. With the launch of the AB-PMJAY in the state, the Gopabandhu scheme has been merged with the AB-PMJAY.

**121. Under which programme was the MoU between India and Italy signed for scientific cooperation from 2025 to 2027?**

**भारत और इटली के बीच 2025 से 2027 तक वैज्ञानिक सहयोग के लिए किस कार्यक्रम के तहत समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए?**

- (a) Indo-Italian Scientific Alliance (IISA)
- (b) Indo-EU Research Pact
- (c) Indo-Italian Executive Programme of Cooperation (EPOC)
- (d) G20 Science and Innovation Framework
- (e) Italia-Bharat Innovation Treaty

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** India and Italy signed an MoU under the Indo-Italian Executive Programme of Cooperation (EPOC) 2025–2027, focusing on joint research in emerging areas like quantum technologies, AI, and biotechnology, with funding for 10 research mobility proposals and 10 collaborative projects.

Both nations reaffirmed their commitment to collaborate in green hydrogen, renewable energy, cultural heritage preservation, and the sustainable blue economy, while also exploring new partnerships in Industry 4.0, clean energy, and startups, aligned with the Joint Strategic Action Plan 2025–2029.

**122. Which airport was named the World's Best Airport 2025 by Skytrax?**

**स्काईट्रैक्स द्वारा किस हवाई अड्डे को 2025 का विश्व का सर्वश्रेष्ठ हवाई अड्डा नामित किया गया?**

- (a) Singapore Changi Airport
- (b) Tokyo Haneda Airport
- (c) Doha Hamad International Airport
- (d) Delhi International Airport
- (e) Incheon International Airport

**Ans. a**

**Sol.** Singapore's Changi reclaims world's best airport title

Singapore Changi Airport has been named the World's Best Airport 2025 by air transport rating organization Skytrax. This is the thirteenth time in the history of the awards that Singapore Changi Airport has received this top accolade.

Changi is a destination in itself, where early check-in has been introduced to allow passengers to drop their bags off up to 48 hours before their flight so they can make their time at the airport part of the vacation.

Doha's Hamad International Airport, the former three-times winner of World's Best Airport, was ranked No 2 this year, as well as receiving the award for the World's Best Airport Shopping, and the Best Airport in the Middle East.

Tokyo Haneda Airport was ranked No 3 in the global ranking with further outstanding results receiving the awards as the World's Cleanest Airport (Major Airport), the World's

Best Domestic Airport and as delivering the World's Best Airport PRM & Accessible Facilities.

Although no Indian airport featured in the list of the world's top 20, Delhi International Airport earned the title of Best Airport in India and South Asia. In addition to this, Hyderabad International Airport received the award for Best Airport Staff Service in India & South Asia.

Bangalore International Airport collected the award for the Best Regional Airport in India and South Asia.

Moreover, Goa's Manohar International Airport was recognised as the best airport in the under 5 million passengers category.

**123. Former England fast bowler James Anderson has been awarded a knighthood for his services to Cricket as part of former British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's resignation honours list. What is unique about James Anderson's inclusion in the resignation honours list?**

इंग्लैंड के पूर्व तेज गेंदबाज जेम्स एंडरसन को पूर्व ब्रिटिश प्रधानमंत्री ऋषि सुनक की त्यागपत्र सम्मान सूची के तहत क्रिकेट के लिए उनकी सेवाओं के लिए नाइटहुड की उपाधि से सम्मानित किया गया है। त्यागपत्र सम्मान सूची में जेम्स एंडरसन के शामिल होने के बारे में क्या खास बात है?

- (a) He is the youngest awardee
- (b) He is the only cricketer to ever receive a knighthood
- (c) He is the only sportsperson on the list
- (d) He received two titles in the same year
- (e) He is the oldest person on the list

**Ans. c**

**Sol.** James Anderson receives knighthood for his services to Cricket  
Former England fast bowler James Anderson has been awarded a knighthood for his services to Cricket as part of former British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's resignation honours list. Anderson is the only sportsperson who has made it to the list.

The 42-year-old English seamer retired from Test cricket last summer with 704 wickets, making him England's all-time leading wicket-taker the format.

Anderson is currently playing for his county Lancashire but has missed the start of the County Championship season due to a calf injury.

#### **Recent Award**

- **Key to the City of Lisbon** - President Droupadi Murmu
- **Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana (nation's highest civilian honour for a foreign head of state)** - PM Narendra Modi
- **Fred Darrington Sand Master Award** - Sudarsan Pattnaik (for his outstanding contributions to sand art); first Indian to receive this prestigious award
- **Uttar Pradesh Anmol Ratan Award** - Nikhil Singhal
- **Ugadi Award from the Andhra Pradesh government** - Historian and archaeologist MyNaa Swamy

- **59th Jnanpith Award** - Vinod Kumar Shukla (*for Deewar Mein Ek Khirki Rehti Thi*)

**124. What is NTPC Group's revised thermal capacity addition target by 2031-32?****एनटीपीसी समूह का 2031-32 तक संशोधित ताप क्षमता वृद्धि लक्ष्य क्या है?**

- (a) 25,000 MW
- (b) 26,000 MW
- (c) 28,000 MW
- (d) 30,000 MW
- (e) 32,000 MW

**Ans. d**

Sol. NTPC revises thermal capacity addition target to 30,000 MW by 2032

TPC Group has revised its thermal capacity addition target to 30,000 MW by 2031-32, up from the earlier goal of 26,000 MW by 2030-31.

For FY26, NTPC aims to add 3,580 MW of thermal capacity, a significant rise compared to just 660 MW added in FY24.

In the renewable segment, the group targets 5,000 MW capacity addition in FY26, a 26% increase from 3,312 MW added in the previous fiscal.

NTPC's current total installed capacity stands at 80,020 MW, with a long-term goal of achieving 60 GW renewable energy capacity by 2032.

**125. The Karnataka government has signed an MoU with European companies to start a pilot electric rapid transit (e-RT) project. Which two cities in Karnataka will be connected by the pilot e-RT project?**

**कर्नाटक सरकार ने पायलट इलेक्ट्रिक रैपिड ट्रॉनिट (ई-आरटी) परियोजना शुरू करने के लिए यूरोपीय कंपनियों के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। कर्नाटक के कौन से दो शहर पायलट ई-आरटी परियोजना से जुड़ेंगे?**

- (a) Bengaluru and Mysuru
- (b) Mangaluru and Udupi
- (c) Belagavi and Ballari
- (d) Hubballi and Dharwad
- (e) Shivamogga and Davanagere

**Ans. d**

Sol. Karnataka govt signs MoU with European firms to run e-RT in Hubballi-Dharwad. The Karnataka government has signed an MoU with European companies to start a pilot electric rapid transit (e-RT) project between Hubballi and Dharwad.

This is a fully electric system and will operate on elevated roads in the city and on the ground in other places. In this, 250 people can travel at a time.

This metro-style transportation system is being successfully implemented in many European countries.

**About Karnataka**

- **Capital** - Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** - Siddaramaiah

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

**126. Which entity has imposed a ₹1.06 crore penalty on Flipkart Internet Private Limited for non-compliance with insurance distribution norms?**

**किस संस्था ने बीमा वितरण मानदंडों का पालन न करने के लिए फिलपकार्ट इंटरनेट प्राइवेट लिमिटेड पर ₹1.06 करोड़ का जुर्माना लगाया है?**

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- Competition Commission of India (CCI)
- Ministry of Finance

Ans. c

Sol. IRDAI imposes ₹1.06 cr. penalty on Flipkart for violations of insurance e-com, corporate agent norms

Insurance watchdog IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) has imposed a ₹1.06 crore penalty on Flipkart Internet Private Limited (FIPL) for violating e-commerce and corporate agent norms related to online insurance distribution.

FIPL, acting as a corporate agent and ISNP platform, was found redirecting users to an insurance intermediary, which is against IRDAI guidelines that permit integration only with insurers.

Legal experts highlighted that such redirection blurs accountability and increases risks of mis-selling for consumers in the insurance space.

**127. Telangana government launched the 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025' to promote economic self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship among youth from SC, ST, BC, Minority, and EBC/EWS communities. What is the maximum amount of concessional subsidized loan offered under the Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025?**

**तेलंगाना सरकार ने एससी, एसटी, बीसी, अल्पसंख्यक और ईबीसी/ईडब्ल्यूएस समुदायों के युवाओं के बीच आर्थिक आत्मनिर्भरता और उद्यमशीलता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 'राजीव युवा विकास योजना 2025' शुरू की। राजीव युवा विकास योजना 2025 के तहत दी जाने वाली रियायती सब्सिडी वाले ऋण की अधिकतम राशि क्या है?**

- ₹2 lakh
- ₹3 lakh
- ₹4 lakh
- ₹5 lakh
- ₹6 lakh

sAns. c

Sol. Telangana Launches 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025' to Empower Marginalized Youth

Telangana government launched the 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025' to promote economic self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship among youth from SC, ST, BC, Minority, and EBC/EWS communities.

The scheme is implemented through respective community welfare corporations, aiming to boost financial independence through targeted support.

Eligible beneficiaries can avail concessional subsidized loans of up to ₹4 lakh to start their own businesses and pursue entrepreneurial ventures.

### About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – Revanth Reddy (replace K. Chandrashekhar Rao)
- **Deputy CM** - Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- **Governor** – Jishnu Dev Varma
- **Speaker of Telangana Assembly** – Gaddam Prasad Kumar
- **Legislative Assembly Seats** - 119

128. India has successfully demonstrated a 30-kilowatt laser-based weapon system capable of shooting down fixed-wing aircraft, missiles, and swarm drones at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh. Which of the following countries has India joined in the list of nations possessing such high-power laser Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) capabilities?

भारत ने आध्र प्रदेश के कुरनूल में फिक्स्ड-विंग एयरक्राफ्ट, मिसाइल और स्वार्म ड्रोन को मार गिराने में सक्षम 30 किलोवाट की लेजर-आधारित हथियार प्रणाली का सफलतापूर्वक प्रदर्शन किया है। भारत एसे उच्च-शक्ति वाले लेजर डायरेक्टेड एनर्जी वेपन (DEW) क्षमताओं वाले देशों की सूची में निम्नलिखित में से किस देश में शामिल हुआ है?

- (a) France, Israel, and Germany
- (b) Japan, South Korea, and Israel
- (c) The United States, Israeal, and Russia
- (d) Israel, the United Kingdom, and Brazil
- (e) The United States, China, and Russia

Ans. e

Sol. India becomes 4th nation having capabilities to shoot down fixed wing drone by laser beam

India successfully demonstrated a 30-kilowatt laser-based weapon system, capable of shooting down fixed-wing aircraft, missiles, and swarm drones at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.

The Vehicle-mounted Laser Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) MK-II(A), developed by DRDO's CHESS in Hyderabad, damaged a fixed-wing UAV and disabled swarm drone sensors.

India joins the US, China, and Russia as one of the few nations with proven high-power laser DEW capabilities.

**129. Where was the Symposium on Film Forensics organized by NFSU held?**

एनएफएसयू द्वारा आयोजित फिल्म फोरेंसिक पर संगोष्ठी कहाँ आयोजित की गई थी?

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

Ans. d

Sol. NFSU Hosts Symposium on Film Forensics to Bridge Science and Cinema

National Forensic Sciences University- NFSU organized a Symposium on Film Forensics in New Delhi.

The objective of the symposium is to create a platform for dialogue and collaboration between forensic experts, filmmakers, and students, bridging the gap between science and cinematic storytelling.

It also explores and celebrates the intersection of forensic science and cinema as a means of raising public interest in crime-solving and scientific methods.

**130. In Tamil Nadu, the traditional harvest festival celebrated as the Tamil New Year is known as which of the following?**

तमिलनाडु में तमिल नववर्ष के रूप में मनाया जाने वाला पारंपरिक फसल उत्सव निम्नलिखित में से किस नाम से जाना जाता है?

- (a) Vaisakhi
- (b) Pongal
- (c) Vishu
- (d) Puthandu
- (e) Poila Boishakh

Ans. d

Sol. India Celebrates Traditional Harvest Festivals, Honoring Farmers and Unity Across Regions

Traditional harvest festivals are being celebrated across India, with people in different regions observing festivals like Vaisakhi in Punjab, Vishu in Kerala, Poila Boishakh in West Bengal, Bohag Bihu in Assam, and Puthandu in Tamil Nadu, marking the arrival of the spring harvest season.

These festivals, which celebrate renewal, prosperity, and gratitude, symbolize the rich cultural heritage and agrarian spirit of India, reflecting the nation's commitment to progress and social harmony.

**131. Who has recently been appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh?**

हाल ही में जम्मू-कश्मीर और लद्दाख उच्च न्यायालय के मुख्य न्यायाधीश के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Justice Rajiv Sharma
- (b) Justice S. Muralidhar

- (c) Justice Arun Palli
- (d) Justice Hima Kohli
- (e) Justice T.S. Thakur

Ans. c

Sol. Justice Arun Palli Appointed Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court  
Justice Arun Palli has been appointed Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Previously a judge at the Punjab and Haryana High Court since 2013, Justice Palli was recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium for the role.

Justice Palli, a Senior Advocate since 2007, has served as Executive Chairman of the Haryana State Legal Services Authority and a member of NALSA's Governing Body.

### Recent Appointments

- **Executive Director, President and Chief Operating Officer of TCS - Aarthi Subramanian**
- **CEO of Oman India Joint Investment Fund - Satish Chavva appointed**
- **President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) - SC Ralhan (replace Ashwani Kumar).**
- **Vice President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) - Ravikant Kapur**

132. **Padma Shri awardee D. Ramaiah, who recently passed away, was popularly known by what name for his contribution to environmental protection, and in which year was he honoured with the Padma Shri?**

**पद्म श्री पुरस्कार से सम्मानित डी. रामैया, जिनका हाल ही में निधन हो गया, पर्यावरण संरक्षण में उनके योगदान के लिए किस नाम से लोकप्रिय थे, और उन्हें किस वर्ष पद्म श्री से सम्मानित किया गया था?**

- (a) Green Warrior of Telangana, 2015
- (b) Forest Guardian of South India, 2016
- (c) Tree Man of Telangana, 2017
- (d) Eco Saint of Telangana, 2018
- (e) Sapling Hero of India, 2020

Ans. c

Sol. Tree Man of Telangana, Padma D. Ramaiah passes away

Padma Shri D. Ramaiah, popularly known as the Tree Man of Telangana, passed away in his native village, Reddy Palli, in Khammam district, Telangana.

Ramaiah was honoured with the Padma Shri in 2017 for his exceptional contribution to environmental protection. He planted over one crore saplings during his lifetime and was deeply committed to raising awareness about the importance of trees.

Recently, the Telangana government included his life story in the Class 6 curriculum to inspire young students.

133. **President of India, Droupadi Murmu, was recently honored with an Honorary Doctorate (Honoris Causa) by a prestigious European institution for her**

**outstanding contributions to public service, social justice, women's empowerment, and cultural preservation. Which of the following universities conferred this honor upon her?**

**भारत की राष्ट्रपति द्वारा पदी मुर्मू को हाल ही में सार्वजनिक सेवा, सामाजिक न्याय, महिला सशक्तिकरण और सांस्कृतिक संरक्षण में उनके उत्कृष्ट योगदान के लिए एक प्रतिष्ठित यूरोपीय संस्थान द्वारा मानद डॉक्टरेट (ऑनोरिस कॉसा) से सम्मानित किया गया। निम्नलिखित में से किस विश्वविद्यालय ने उन्हें यह सम्मान प्रदान किया?**

- (a) Charles University, Prague
- (b) University of Vienna
- (c) Constantine the Philosopher University
- (d) University of Sussex
- (e) Bratislava International University

Ans. c

Sol. President Murmu Awarded Honorary Doctorate by Slovakia's Constantine University

President Droupadi Murmu was conferred the Honorary Doctorate (Honoris Causa) by Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra, Slovakia, recognizing her distinguished contributions to public service, social justice, women's empowerment, and cultural diversity.

The award highlights her international recognition for promoting education, inclusion, and democratic values, aligning with the university's mission to honor individuals fostering humanism and global understanding.

Constantine the Philosopher University is a leading Slovakian institution named after Saint Constantine–Cyril, known for honoring exceptional individuals who advance education, science, and intercultural dialogue.

**134. Mauritius recently became the first African nation to sign a Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with which international organization focused on solar energy?**

**मॉरीशस हाल ही में सौर ऊर्जा पर केंद्रित किस अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगठन के साथ देश साझेदारी ढांचे (CPF) पर हस्ताक्षर करने वाला पहला अफ्रीकी देश बन गया है?**

- (a) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- (b) International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- (c) World Solar Council
- (d) International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- (e) Green Climate Fund

Ans. d

Sol. Mauritius becomes first African country to sign ISA's Country Partnership Framework

Mauritius has become the first African country to sign a Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the International Solar Alliance (ISA). It is also the fourth country globally, after Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Cuba, to sign the CPF.

This partnership aims to provide a structured approach for collaboration between ISA and Mauritius on solar energy initiatives, aligning with the country's national priorities. The CPF is a strategic initiative developed by ISA to facilitate long- and medium-term cooperation with its member countries

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization, launched in 2015 by India and France, aimed at promoting solar energy as a sustainable solution for energy access and climate change, with the goal of mobilizing USD 1 trillion in solar investments by 2030.

Director General of ISA - Ashish Khanna

**135. What is the name of Google's newly launched seventh-generation AI chip?**

**गूगल की हाल ही में लॉन्च की गई सातवीं पीढ़ी की AI चिप का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) Redwood
- (b) Firestone
- (c) Ironwood
- (d) ThunderCore
- (e) CloudStone

Ans. c

Sol. Google launches new Ironwood chip to speed AI applications

Google has unveiled its seventh-generation AI chip named "Ironwood", designed to accelerate the performance of AI applications, especially in inference computing like generating chatbot responses.

The Ironwood chip supports Google's ongoing push to create alternatives to Nvidia's dominant AI chips, marking a significant milestone in the company's decade-long, multi-billion-dollar investment in AI hardware.

These Tensor Processing Units (TPUs) are available exclusively to Google engineers or via Google Cloud, giving the company a strategic edge in internal AI development and cloud-based AI services.

**136. Ambedkar Jayanti is celebrated on 14th April every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution and a prominent social reformer. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was born on 14th April in which year?**

**भारतीय संविधान के मुख्य निर्माता और एक प्रमुख समाज सुधारक डॉ. बी.आर. अंबेडकर की जयंती के उपलक्ष्य में हर साल 14 अप्रैल को अंबेडकर जयंती मनाई जाती है। डॉ. बी.आर. अंबेडकर का जन्म 14 अप्रैल को किस वर्ष हुआ था?**

- (a) 1880
- (b) 1891
- (c) 1881
- (d) 1875
- (e) 1874

Ans. b

Sol. 14 April - Ambedkar Jayanti

Ambedkar Jayanti is celebrated on 14th April every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution and a prominent social reformer.

This year marks celebrated 134th birth anniversary.

Dr. Ambedkar was born on 14 April 1891, and he played a vital role in advocating for the rights of Dalits and marginalized communities, along with working for social equality and justice.

From a humble beginning, he went on to become the first law and justice minister of independent India. He was awarded India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna posthumously in 1990.

**137. Who has been re-appointed as the chairperson of the ICC men's cricket committee?**

**ICC पुरुष क्रिकेट समिति के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे फिर से नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Anil Kumble
- (b) Rahul Dravid
- (c) Sourav Ganguly
- (d) Virender Sehwag
- (e) MS Dhoni

Ans. c

Sol. Sourav Ganguly re-appointed as Chairperson of ICC men's cricket committee

Former India captain Sourav Ganguly has been re-appointed as the chairperson of the ICC men's cricket committee and his longtime national teammate VVS Laxman too has been picked again as one the panel members.

Ganguly, who led the Indian team with distinction for five years from 2000 to 2005, was first appointed as the committee's chair in 2021.

Ganguly, 52, has replaced compatriot Anil Kumble, who stepped down after serving a maximum of three, three-year terms.

**138. Which team has won the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 title?**

**इंडियन सुपर लीग (आईएसएल) 2024-25 का खिताब किस टीम ने जीता है?**

- (a) Mumbai City FC
- (b) East Bengal FC
- (c) Hyderabad FC
- (d) Mohun Bagan Super Giant
- (e) Chennaiyin FC

Ans. d

Sol. Mohun Bagan Super Giant clinches Indian Super League 2024-25 title

In Football, Mohun Bagan Super Giant clinched the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 title following a 2-1 victory over Bengaluru FC at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium in Kolkata.

This was Mohun Bagan's second ISL title, following their maiden triumph in the 2022-23 season. They also became only the second team, after Mumbai City

139. **What is the capacity of the third unit of the Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant, whose foundation stone was laid by PM Modi on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the Architect of the Constitution, Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar?**

**दीनबंधु छोटू राम थर्मल पावर प्लांट की तीसरी इकाई की क्षमता कितनी है, जिसका शिलान्यास पीएम मोदी ने संविधान निर्माता बाबा साहेब डॉ. भीमराव अंबेडकर की जयंती के अवसर पर किया?**

- (a) 400 MW
- (b) 600 MW
- (c) 1000 MW
- (d) 800 MW
- (e) 1200 MW

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi launches multiple projects in Haryana as tribute to Babasaheb Ambedkar. On the occasion of the birth anniversary of the Architect of the Constitution, Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, PM Narendra Modi dedicated a host of development projects to the people of Haryana.

He laid the foundation stone for the third unit of 800 MW at Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant in Yamunanagar, which will be built at a cost of 8,469 crore rupees. Additionally, he laid the foundation stone for a GOBAR DHAN Plant in Yamunanagar worth 90 crore rupees and inaugurated the Rewari Bypass built at a cost of 1069 crore rupees.

PM also laid the foundation stone of the new terminal of Maharaja Agrasen Airport and flagged off the first flight for Ayodhya from the Airport.

140. **Which state became the first in India to implement the SC Categorisation of Reservations Act 2025?**

**भारत में अनुसूचित जाति आरक्षण वर्गीकरण अधिनियम 2025 को लागू करने वाला पहला राज्य कौन सा है?**

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Andhra Pradesh

Ans. c

Sol. Telangana Becomes First State to Implement SC Categorisation Act

Telangana becomes the first state in India to implement the Scheduled Caste (SC) Categorisation of Reservations Act 2025, aiming to ensure more equitable distribution of benefits among marginalized SC sub-groups.

The state government has issued a Government Order (GO) categorizing 56 SC communities into three groups, following the Governor's consent and the Bill's passage in the State Legislature.

The move, coinciding with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary, is seen as a major step toward social justice, expected to influence policies on reservations in education, employment, and political representation.

### About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – Revanth Reddy (replace K. Chandrashekhar Rao)
- **Deputy CM** - Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- **Governor** – Jishnu Dev Varma

141. In a historic moment for space tourism and gender representation, which mission launched by Blue Origin marked the first all-women tourist spaceflight since Russian cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova's solo mission in 1963, and included singer Katy Perry among the passengers?

अंतरिक्ष पर्यटन और लैंगिक प्रतिनिधित्व के लिए एक ऐतिहासिक क्षण में, ब्लू ओरिजिन द्वारा लॉन्च किया गया कौन सा मिशन 1963 में रूसी अंतरिक्ष यात्री वैलेंटिना टेरेश्कोवा के एकल मिशन के बाद से पहली महिला पर्यटक अंतरिक्ष उड़ान को चिह्नित करता है, और यात्रियों में गायिका कैटी पेरी भी शामिल थीं?

- (a) NS-17
- (b) NS-21
- (c) NS-27
- (d) NS-31
- (e) NS-33

Ans. d

Sol. First-ever all-women space tourist rocket successfully returns to Earth after a short flight

Blue Origin successfully launched its 11th human flight, NS-31, carrying an all-women crew including singer Katy Perry, marking the first all-women tourist spaceflight since Valentina Tereshkova's solo mission in 1963.

The flight reached over 100 kilometers above Earth, crossing the Karman line, with the fully automated spacecraft completing a 10-minute sub-orbital journey before safely returning to Texas.

The crew included notable figures such as Gayle King, Kerianne Flynn, Aisha Bowe, Amanda Nguyen, and Lauren Sánchez, showcasing a diverse group of women from various professional backgrounds.

New Shepard, the launch vehicle used, is a fully reusable sub-orbital rocket developed by Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin, named in honor of astronaut Alan Shepard.

142. Bihar will host the seventh edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2025 from 4th to 15th May. What is the name of the mascot unveiled for Khelo India Youth Games 2025, symbolizing the power of an elephant and the heart of a lion?

**बिहार 4 से 15 मई तक खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स 2025 के सातवें संस्करण की मेजबानी करेगा। खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स 2025 के लिए अनावरण किए गए शुभंकर का नाम क्या है, जो हाथी की शक्ति और शेर के दिल का प्रतीक है?**

- (a) Sherhathi
- (b) Simhgaj
- (c) Gajsimha
- (d) Bajrarsingh
- (e) Veerhathi

Ans. c

Sol. Mascot and logo of Khelo India Youth Games 2025 to be held in Bihar

Bihar will host the seventh edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2025 from 4th to 15th May. The games will be organised at various cities, including Patna, Gaya, Rajgir, Begusarai and Bhagalpur.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya unveiled the mascot and logo of Khelo India Youth Games 2025.

The mascot Khelo India will be “Gajsimha” which symbolizes the power of elephant and heart of lion. The mascot has been derived from the archival heritage of Pala dynasty from Nalanda and Bodhgaya engraved on temples and their pillars.

The logo of KIYG 2025 has been inspired from the rich cultural heritage of Bihar and the colours orange and depicts enthusiasm and nature.

The games are expected to feature more than 8500 players and 10,000 delegates.

Besides regular games of volleyball, football, basketball, boxing, kabaddi 18 different events of Athletics and Sepak Takraw will be held during the games. Around 27 disciplines of different sports indigenous games like Malkham will also be part of the KIYG games.

**143. AICTE has constituted an expert committee to integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Applied AI across diverse academic programs, including non-technical streams like BBA, BCA, and electrical engineering, aiming to provide foundational AI knowledge to all students regardless of discipline. Who will chair this committee?**

एआईसीटीई ने बीबीए, बीसीए और इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग जैसी गैर-तकनीकी धाराओं सहित विविध शैक्षणिक कार्यक्रमों में आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (एआई) और एप्लाइड एआई को एकीकृत करने के लिए एक विशेषज्ञ समिति का गठन किया है, जिसका उद्देश्य सभी छात्रों को उनके अनुशासन की परवाह किए बिना मूलभूत एआई ज्ञान प्रदान करना है। इस समिति की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Prof. TG Sitharam
- (b) Anand Deshpande
- (c) Prof. Parul Tyagi
- (d) Er. Shivani Sharma
- (e) N. R. Narayana Murthy

Ans. b

Sol. AICTE forms expert committee to integrate AI across all academic streams

AICTE has constituted an expert committee, chaired by Anand Deshpande of Persistent Systems, to integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Applied AI across diverse academic programs, including non-technical streams like BBA, BCA, and electrical engineering, aiming to provide foundational AI knowledge to all students regardless of discipline. Declaring 2025 as the 'Year of Artificial Intelligence', AICTE has launched a nationwide initiative to bring AI education to over 14,000 colleges and 40 million students, which includes faculty development programs, AI awareness campaigns, and partnerships with leading tech firms.

Emphasizing faculty training and curriculum revision, AICTE is updating academic frameworks biennially to align with technological trends and address emerging challenges like AI-generated assignments, ensuring teachers are equipped to teach and evaluate in an AI-driven learning environment.

**144. What is the projected GDP growth rate for India in fiscal year 2026 according to Crisil?**

**क्रिसिल के अनुसार वित्त वर्ष 2026 में भारत के लिए अनुमानित जीडीपी वृद्धि दर क्या है?**

- (a) 5.8%
- (b) 6.2%
- (c) 6.5%
- (d) 6.8%
- (e) 7.0%

Ans. c

Sol. Crisil projects 6.5% GDP growth for India in FY26

Global credit rating agency Crisil projected India's GDP to grow by 6.5% in fiscal 2026, while cautioning that US tariff hikes remain a significant downside risk to the forecast. The agency notes improving economic indicators in the second half of FY25, including stronger output in capital goods, infrastructure, and construction sectors, along with positive signals from RBI surveys reflecting rising consumer confidence and demand in both urban and rural areas.

**145. What is the name of the platform launched by QNu Labs to protect critical infrastructure?**

**महत्वपूर्ण बुनियादी ढांचे की सुरक्षा के लिए QNu Labs द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए प्लेटफॉर्म का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) Q-Secure
- (b) Q-Force
- (c) Q-Shield
- (d) QuantumProtect
- (e) CyberShield

Ans. c

Sol. QNu Labs Unveils World's First Quantum-Safe Platform 'Q-Shield' to Safeguard Critical Infrastructure

Startup QNu Labs launches world's 1st unique platform Q-Shield empowering enterprises to protect critical infrastructure

QNu Labs, one of the startups selected by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) under the National Quantum Mission, has launched the world's first unique platform, Q-Shield.

It empowers enterprises to protect their critical infrastructure. It also enables seamless cryptography management across any environment, including cloud, on-premises, or hybrid, on the occasion of World Quantum Day.

Q-Shield enables various services like Qosmos for key generation, QConnect for secured connectivity and QVerse for secured collaboration.

Selected under the National Quantum Mission and incubated at IIT Madras, QNu Labs is strengthening India's position in global quantum cybersecurity innovation.

**146. Who has won the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam 2025 in Paris?**

**पेरिस में फ्रीस्टाइल शतरंज ग्रैंड स्लैम 2025 किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Hikaru Nakamura
- (b) Fabiano Caruana
- (c) Magnus Carlsen
- (d) Arjun Erigaisi
- (e) Vincent Keymer

Ans. c

Sol. Magnus Carlsen clinches Freestyle Chess Grand Slam 2025

In Chess, world number one Magnus Carlsen of Norway clinched the Freestyle Chess Grand Slam 2025 in Paris, France. He defeated American Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura with a 1.5-0.5 match victory.

With this, Carlsen won the 2 lakh US Dollars, followed by Nakamura, who won 1 lakh 40 thousand US Dollars. Moreover, Italian-American Fabiano Caruana crushed German Grandmaster Vincent Keymer in the battle of third place and took 1 lakh US Dollars, along with a spot in the Las Vegas Grand Slam.

Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi defeated Maxime Vacquier-Lagrave of France by 1.5-0.5 points and bagged fifth spot with 50 thousand US Dollar prize money.

**150. Eminent Kathak exponent and choreographer Kumudini Lakhia passed away at the age of 95. Which prestigious civilian award was conferred upon Kumudini Lakhia in 2025?**

**प्रख्यात कथक प्रतिपादक और कोरियोग्राफर कुमुदिनी लाखिया का 95 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। 2025 में कुमुदिनी लाखिया को कौन सा प्रतिष्ठित नागरिक पुरस्कार प्रदान किया गया?**

- (a) Padma Shri
- (b) Bharat Ratna
- (c) Padma Bhushan
- (d) Padma Vibhushan
- (e) Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

Ans. d

Sol. Padma Vibhushan Kathak pioneer Kumudini Lakhia passes away  
Eminent Kathak exponent and choreographer Kumudini Lakhia passed away at the age of 95.

Lakhia was conferred with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian award, on the Republic Day this year in recognition of her lifelong dedication to Kathak. She was honored with Padma Vibhushan in 2025, Padma Bhushan in 2010, Padma Shri in 1987, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1982, and Kalidasa Samman (2022-03) by the Madhya Pradesh government for her contribution to Kathak.

**160. Former Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi passed away recently at the age of 85. Abdullah Ahmad Badawi served as the Prime Minister of which country?**  
**पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अब्दुल्ला अहमद बदावी का हाल ही में 85 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। अब्दुल्ला अहमद बदावी किस देश के प्रधानमंत्री रह चुके हैं?**

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Singapore
- (c) Malaysia
- (d) Thailand
- (e) Philippines

Ans. c

Sol. Former Malaysian PM Abdullah Ahmad Badawi dies at 85

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi passed away at the age of 85. Abdullah, Malaysia's fifth leader, served from 2003 to 2009, when he was pressured to resign to take responsibility for the governing coalition's dismal results in national elections.

**161. World Chagas Disease Day is observed every year on 14 April to raise awareness about Chagas disease, a potentially life-threatening illness caused by the Trypanosoma cruzi parasite. What is the theme of World Chagas Disease Day 2025?**

**विश्व चागास रोग दिवस हर साल 14 अप्रैल को चागास रोग के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए मनाया जाता है, जो ट्रिपैनोसोमा क्रूज़ी परजीवी के कारण होने वाली संभावित रूप से जानलेवा बीमारी है। विश्व चागास रोग दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Save Lives: Stop Chagas
- (b) Chagas Disease: Time to Act
- (c) Fight the Silent Killer
- (d) Prevent, Control, Care: Everyone's role in Chagas disease
- (e) End Chagas Now

Ans. d

Sol. 14 April - World Chagas Disease Day

World Chagas Disease Day is observed every year on 14 April to raise awareness about Chagas disease, a potentially life-threatening illness caused by the Trypanosoma cruzi parasite.

The disease is mostly found in Latin America, but cases have also been reported in other parts of the world due to global migration.

Theme 2025 - Prevent, Control, Care: Everyone's role in Chagas disease

The first World Chagas Disease Day was celebrated in 2020, and the date commemorates April 14, 1909, when the disease was first diagnosed in a human by Brazilian doctor Carlos Chagas, after whom the disease is named.

**162. Who won the presidential election in Ecuador, securing a second four-year term?**

**इकाडोर में राष्ट्रपति चुनाव किसने जीता, जिससे उन्हें दूसरा चार साल का कार्यकाल मिला?**

- (a) Luisa González
- (b) Rafael Correa
- (c) Daniel Noboa
- (d) Leonidas Iza
- (e) Guillermo Lasso

Ans. c

Sol. Ecuadorean President Noboa re-elected for second term

Incumbent Ecuadorean President Daniel Noboa has secured a second four-year term in the country's presidential elections. He won 55.85 percent of the vote against his left-wing challenger, Luisa González.

The 37-year-old right-wing leader hailed his victory as historic and reaffirmed his commitment to continuing Ecuador's war on drugs.

More than 13 million people were eligible to vote, which is mandatory for adults up to age of 65. It is options for people aged 16 and 17 and over 65. Failure to vote results in a \$46 fine. Ecuador has one of the highest homicide rates in South America.

#### **Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President**

- First woman president of Namibia - Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah (replace Nangolo Mbumba)
- PM of Trinidad and Tobago - Stuart Young (replace Dr. Keith Rowley)
- PM of Canada - Mark Carney (replace Justin Trudeau)
- Chancellor of Austria - Christian Stocker
- Romania's Interim President - Ilie Bolojans
- 72nd US Secretary of State in the Trump Administration - Marco Rubio

**163. World Quantum Day is celebrated every year on April 14 to raise awareness about quantum science and its impact on society. What is the theme of World Quantum Day 2025?**

**क्वांटम विज्ञान और समाज पर इसके प्रभाव के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए हर साल 14 अप्रैल को विश्व क्वांटम दिवस मनाया जाता है। विश्व क्वांटम दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Quantum Future: Shaping Tomorrow
- (b) Think Quantum, Act Quantum
- (c) Quantum for All
- (d) One World, One Quantum

(e) Every Day in 2025

Ans. e

Sol. 14 April - World Quantum Day

World Quantum Day is celebrated every year on April 14 to raise awareness about quantum science and its impact on society.

It promotes public understanding of quantum technologies like quantum computing, cryptography, and sensing.

Theme 2025 - Every Day in 2025

World Quantum Day was first celebrated in 2021 and was originally started as a decentralised initiative by scientists around the world.

**164. Former Vice Chairman of Bajaj Auto, Madhur Bajaj, passed away at the age of 73. Madhur Bajaj was the grandson of Jamnalal Bajaj, who founded which company?**

**बजाज ऑटो के पूर्व उपाध्यक्ष मधुर बजाज का 73 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। मधुर बजाज जमनालाल बजाज के पोते थे, जिन्होंने किस कंपनी की स्थापना की थी?**

- (a) Bajaj Auto
- (b) Bajaj Finance
- (c) Bajaj Electricals
- (d) Bajaj Housing
- (e) Bajaj Group

Ans. a

Sol. Bajaj Auto non-executive director Madhur Bajaj passes away

Former Vice Chairman of Bajaj Auto, Madhur Bajaj, passed away at the age of 73.

Born on August 19, 1952, he also served as Chairman of Maharashtra Scooters and as a Director of Bajaj Electricals, Bajaj Finance, and other companies within the Bajaj Group. Madhur Bajaj was the grandson of Jamnalal Bajaj, founder of the Bajaj Group, and cousin of the late Rahul Bajaj.



**165. Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan is leading the Indian delegation to the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in 2025. What is the theme of the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting?**

**केंद्रीय मंत्री श्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान 2025 में 15वीं ब्रिक्स कृषि मंत्रियों की बैठक में भारतीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व कर रहे हैं। 15वीं ब्रिक्स कृषि मंत्रियों की बैठक का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Food Security through Innovation through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries
- (b) Advancing Rural Development through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries
- (c) Sustainable Agriculture for the Future through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries
- (d) Agricultural Trade and Economic Growth through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries

(e) Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries

Ans. e

Sol. Shivraj Singh Chouhan to attend 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers Meeting at Brasilia, Brazil

Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, is leading the Indian delegation to the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting (AMM), scheduled to be held on 17th April, 2025 in Brasilia, Brazil.

The theme of 15th BRICS AMM is "Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperation, Innovation, and Equitable Trade among BRICS Countries".

Agriculture Ministers and senior officials from BRICS member countries, including Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia, Indonesia, and Iran are expected.

**166. Who has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Cashfree Payments?**

**कैशफ्री पेमेंट्स के मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी (सीएफओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Akash Sinha
- (b) Piyush Anchliya
- (c) Reeju Datta
- (d) Nitin Chugh
- (e) Kunal Shah

Ans. b

Sol. Cashfree Payments appoints Piyush Anchliya as CFO

Payments company Cashfree Payments has appointed Piyush Anchliya as its chief financial officer.

In his new role, Anchliya will be responsible for driving financial strategy, optimising operations, and supporting the company's next phase of strategic growth, according to a statement issued by the firm.

Founded in 2015 by Akash Sinha and Reeju Datta, Cashfree operates a full-stack digital payments solutions platform that helps businesses collect online payments and make payouts.

The startup recently piloted cross-border payments in partnership with platforms like Swiggy, Zepto, Nykaa, BookMyShow, and Vedantu to enable overseas customers to transact in India using UPI.

**167. The International Cricket Council (ICC) declared Shreyas Iyer and Georgia Voll as the ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for March 2025, respectively. Georgia Voll is from which country?**

**अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट परिषद (ICC) ने श्रेयस अव्वर और जॉर्जिया वॉल को क्रमशः मार्च 2025 के लिए ICC पुरुष और महिला खिलाड़ी के रूप में घोषित किया। जॉर्जिया वॉल किस देश से हैं?**

- (a) England
- (b) New Zealand

- (c) Australia
- (d) South Africa
- (e) Netherlands

Ans. c

Sol. Shreyas Iyer bags the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for March 2025  
The International Cricket Council (ICC) declared India batter Shreyas Iyer and young Australian batter Georgia Voll as ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for March 2025, respectively.

Both wins extend Player of the Month winning streaks for their respective countries. Iyer makes it successive honours for India following Shubman Gill's win in February, and Voll becomes the fourth consecutive Australian female to be named the Women's Player of the Month.

This is Iyer's second ICC Men's Player of the Month award after leading India's run charts and playing a key role in their historic ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025 triumph.

Voll meanwhile celebrates her first ever ICC Women's Player of the Month award, securing the accolade after explosive batting exploits in Australia's victorious T20I sweep of New Zealand.

**168. State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) launched 34 new products, including 12 customer-centric deposit schemes and 10 digital transformation products on its \_\_\_\_ foundation day.**

**राज्य के स्वामित्व वाले पंजाब नेशनल बैंक (पीएनबी) ने अपने \_\_\_\_ स्थापना दिवस पर 12 ग्राहक-केंद्रित जमा योजनाओं और 10 डिजिटल परिवर्तन उत्पादों सहित 34 नए उत्पाद लॉन्च किए।**

- (a) 129th
- (b) 130th
- (c) 131st
- (d) 132nd
- (e) 133rd

Ans. c

Sol. PNB launches 34 new products on its 131st foundation day

State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) launched 34 new products, including 12 customer-centric deposit schemes and 10 digital transformation products.

These innovative products were launched on the occasion of its 131st foundation day in the presence of Financial Services Secretary M Nagaraju.

Among the deposit products rolled out are schemes for salaried professionals, women, defence personnel, farmers, NRIs, senior citizens, pensioners, students and youth.

PNB came into existence on April 12, 1895, as part of the Swadeshi movement with its first branch in Lahore, now in Pakistan. A maiden dividend of 4 percent was declared after only 7 months of operation.

Great freedom fighter Lala Lajpat Rai was the first to open an account with the bank.

**169. How many blocks were awarded under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) Bid Round Nine?**

**ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (ओएलपी) बिड राउंड नौ के तहत कितने ब्लॉक दिए गए?**

- (a) 18
- (b) 22
- (c) 28
- (d) 35
- (e) 40

Ans. c

Sol. 28 blocks awarded under OALP Round-IX to help India reach untapped energy potential

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has awarded 28 blocks under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy Bid Round Nine with an area of over 1 lakh 36 thousand square kilometres.

This will help India reach its untapped energy potential and reduce import dependency.

**170. What was India's retail inflation rate (CPI) in March 2025?**

**मार्च 2025 में भारत की खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति दर (CPI) क्या थी?**

- (a) 4.25%
- (b) 3.75%
- (c) 3.61%
- (d) 3.34%
- (e) 2.69%

Ans. d

Sol. India's retail inflation eases to 3.34% in March

India's retail inflation further eased to 3.34 per cent in March from a seven-month low of 3.61 per cent in February.

This is the lowest year-on-year inflation reading since August 2019, according to the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation said.

Food inflation, measured by the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), fell to 2.69 per cent in March from 3.75 per cent in February-- the lowest level since November 2021. Prices of vegetables, eggs, pulses, meat and fish, cereals, and milk products contributed most to the decline.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation remains comfortably within the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) medium-term target of 4 per cent and well inside the 2-6 per cent tolerance band.

**171. What was India's WPI-based inflation rate in March 2025?**

**मार्च 2025 में भारत की WPI-आधारित मुद्रास्फीति दर क्या थी?**

- (a) 1.96%
- (b) 2.38%
- (c) 2.05%
- (d) 3.10%

(e) 2.75%

Ans. c

Sol. India's wholesale inflation eases to 2.05% in March on food, fuel prices

India's wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation in March eased to 2.05 per cent from 2.38 per cent in February, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The marginal decline in inflation was driven by falling prices in food and fuel & power segments, even as prices of manufactured products continued to edge up.

WPI is used to measure the average changes in the prices of goods sold in bulk at the wholesale level, reflecting the supply and demand in industries like manufacturing and construction.

**172. Which city will host the 5th Asian Youth Para Games in 2025?**

**2025 में ५वें एशियाई युवा पैरा खेलों की मेजबानी कौन सा शहर करेगा?**

- (a) Tashkent
- (b) Abu Dhabi
- (c) Doha
- (d) Dubai
- (e) Muscat

Ans. d

Sol. Dubai named host city for 2025 Asian Youth Para Games

Dubai has been named the host city for the 5th Asian Youth Para Games, to be held from December 7-14, 2025, after Tashkent withdrew as the original host.

This is Dubai's second time hosting the event, having first organized it in 2017.

An estimated 1350 athletes from 30-40 countries will participate across 10 para-sports, making it the largest edition of the Games in terms of athlete and country participation. The Dubai Club for People of Determination will host 6 out of the 10 sports, continuing the city's strong record in organizing major para-sport events like the FAZZA Championships.

**173. What is the name of the new land record management portal launched by the Telangana government?**

**तेलंगाना सरकार द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए नए भूमि रिकॉर्ड प्रबंधन पोर्टल का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) Dharani
- (b) Bhu Sewa
- (c) Bhu Setu
- (d) Bhu Bharati
- (e) Land Connect

Ans. d

Sol. Telangana Government Launches Bhu Bharati Portal for Land Record Management The Telangana government has launched the Bhu Bharati portal to make land record management simple, transparent, and accessible to the public.

The portal was launched by Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on the occasion of the 135th birth anniversary of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

The portal replaces the Dharani portal, which was introduced by the previous BRS government led by K. Chandrashekhar Rao.

The previous BRS government had launched the Dharani portal on November 2, 2020, as an integrated platform for agricultural land registration and mutations.

### About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – Revanth Reddy (replace K. Chandrashekhar Rao)
- **Deputy CM** - Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- **Governor** – Jishnu Dev Varma

174. **World Art Day is celebrated every year on April 15 to promote awareness about creative expression and to highlight the importance of art and artists in society. What is the theme of World Art Day 2025?**

रचनात्मक अभिव्यक्ति के बारे में जागरूकता को बढ़ावा देने और समाज में कला और कलाकारों के महत्व को उजागर करने के लिए हर साल 15 अप्रैल को विश्व कला दिवस मनाया जाता है। **विश्व कला दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Art for Climate Action
- (b) Art and Culture for Peace
- (c) Creative Expression for All
- (d) Art for Unity and Transformation
- (e) Art for Future Generations

Ans. d

Sol. 15 April - World Art Day

World Art Day is celebrated every year on April 15 to promote awareness about creative expression and to highlight the importance of art and artists in society.

Theme 2025 - Art for Unity and Transformation

The date April 15 marks the birth anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci (born in 1452), who is widely considered a symbol of creativity, freedom of expression, and innovation.

The day was proclaimed by the International Association of Art (IAA) and first celebrated in 2012. Since then, it has grown into a global event involving museums, schools, artists, and art institutions around the world.

175. **Who has been elected as the chairperson of the Athletes' Commission of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF)?**

भारतीय भारोत्तोलन महासंघ (IWLF) के एथलीट आयोग के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) S. Sathish Kumar
- (b) Mirabai Chanu
- (c) P.V. Sindhu
- (d) Mary Kom
- (e) Vinesh Phogat

Ans. b

Sol. Mirabai Chanu named chairperson of IWLF Athletes' Commission

Olympic silver medallist Mirabai Chanu and Commonwealth Games gold medallist S. Sathish Kumar have been elected chairperson and vice-chairperson, respectively, of the Athletes' Commission of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWF). Their term will last four years.

Mirabai is one of India's most decorated weightlifters, holding multiple national records and historic milestones to her name. Her personal best in the total lift is 205kg — 86kg in snatch and 119kg in clean and jerk — which also stands as the national record. Sathish had clinched a gold medal in weightlifting at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast. Competing in the men's 77kg category, he lifted a total of 317kg — 144kg in snatch and 173kg in clean and jerk. This marked his second consecutive Commonwealth Games gold, having won the title earlier in Glasgow in 2014.

### Recent Appointments

- **Chairperson of the ICC men's cricket committee** - Sourav Ganguly
- **Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh HC** - Justice Arun Palli
- **Executive Director, President and Chief Operating Officer of TCS** - Aarthi Subramanian
- **CEO of Oman India Joint Investment Fund** - Satish Chavva appointed
- **President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** - SC Ralhan (replace Ashwani Kumar).

176. **Chennai Super Kings captain M.S. Dhoni added another feather to his cap in his illustrious career by becoming the first player in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL) to complete 200 fielding dismissals. Against which team did M.S. Dhoni achieve this milestone?**

चेन्नई सुपर किंग्स के कप्तान एम.एस. धोनी ने अपने शानदार करियर में एक और उपलब्धि हासिल की है, जब वे इंडियन प्रीमियर लीग (आईपीएल) के इतिहास में 200 फील्डिंग आउट पूरे करने वाले पहले खिलाड़ी बन गए। एम.एस. धोनी ने यह उपलब्धि किस टीम के खिलाफ हासिल की?

(a) Mumbai Indians  
(b) Gujarat Titans  
(c) Kolkata Knight Riders  
(d) Lucknow Super Giants  
(e) Delhi Capitals

Ans. d

Sol. Dhoni becomes first keeper to complete 200 dismissals in IPL history

Chennai Super Kings captain M.S. Dhoni added another feather to his cap in his illustrious career by becoming the first player in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL) to complete 200 fielding dismissals.

Dhoni achieved the feat during the Chennai Super Kings encounter against Lucknow Super Giants at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium. Former wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik occupies the second spot with 182 dismissals under his belt. Royal Challengers Bengaluru icon AB de Villiers sits in the third spot with 126 dismissals to his name.

177. **Who has been appointed as the Vice President of Investment Solutions at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)?**

एशियाई अवसंरचना निवेश बैंक (AIIB) में निवेश समाधान के उपाध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Shaktikanta Das
- (b) Nandan Nilekani
- (c) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- (d) Arvind Subramanian
- (e) Rajiv Kumar

Ans. c

Sol. Former Finance Secretary Pandey appointed vice-president at AIIB

Ajay Bhushan Pandey, former Finance Secretary and CEO of Aadhaar, has been appointed as the Vice President of Investment Solutions at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), headquartered in Beijing.

In his new role, Pandey will lead and oversee three major departments: Sectors, Themes and Finance Solutions (STF), Sustainability and Fiduciary Solutions (SFD), and Portfolio Management Department (PMD).

India is the second-largest shareholder in AIIB, following China.

According to the bank's official data, China is the largest shareholder of AIIB with 26.54 per cent voting shares. India is the second largest shareholder with 7.58 per cent, followed by Russia, 5.9 per cent and Germany with 4.1 per cent.

#### Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Chairperson of Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** - Sivasubramanian Ramann (replace Deepak Mohanty)
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Poonam Gupta; for 3 years (replace Michael Patra)
- **MD & CEO of SBI Card** - Salila Pande (replace Abhijeet Chakravorty)
- **Whole-time Member (Life) of IRDAI** - Swaminathan S. Iyer
- **Secretary of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)** - B Ramesh Babu

178. **What is Morgan Stanley's GDP growth estimate for India for FY26?**

वित्त वर्ष 26 के लिए मॉर्गन स्टेनली का भारत के लिए जीडीपी वृद्धि अनुमान क्या है?

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.1%
- (c) 5.9%
- (d) 6.7%
- (e) 6.3%

Ans. b

Sol. Morgan Stanley prunes FY26 India growth forecast to 6.1%

The RBI revised India's FY26 GDP growth forecast from 6.7% to 6.5%, while Morgan Stanley further lowered it to 6.1%, citing global trade and policy uncertainties affecting business sentiment and capex cycles.

Morgan Stanley expects growth to bottom out at 5.7% in Q3 FY26, down from 6.2% in Q3 FY25, with a slower recovery projected for FY27 at 6.3%.

Inflation is expected to average around 4% in FY26, and RBI may implement a cumulative 100 bps rate cut, with two more cuts expected in 2025 to support the economy amidst slower growth.

**179. In April 2025, NITI Aayog launched a report on Hand and Power tools sectors - 'Unlocking \$25+ Billion Export Potential - India's Hand & Power Tools Sector'. According to the report, what is the current estimated global trade value of the power and hand tools market?**

**अप्रैल 2025 में, नीति आयोग ने हाथ और बिजली उपकरण क्षेत्रों पर एक रिपोर्ट लॉन्च की - 'भारत के हाथ और बिजली उपकरण क्षेत्र में 25 बिलियन डॉलर से अधिक की निर्यात क्षमता को अनलॉक करना'। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, बिजली और हाथ उपकरण बाजार का वर्तमान अनुमानित वैश्विक व्यापार मूल्य क्या है?**

- (a) \$100 billion
- (b) \$134 billion
- (c) \$60 billion
- (d) \$200 billion
- (e) \$190 billion

Ans. a

Sol. NITI Aayog launches Report on 'Unlocking \$25+ Billion Export Potential - India's Hand & Power Tools Sector'

NITI Aayog launched a report on Hand and Power tools sectors - 'Unlocking \$25+ Billion Export Potential - India's Hand & Power Tools Sector'.

The report suggests that the global trade market for power and hand tools, currently valued at approximately \$ 100 billion, is projected to grow significantly, reaching around \$ 190 billion by 2035.

Within this market, hand tools account for \$ 34 billion and are expected to expand to \$ 60 billion by 2035, while power tools, including tool accessories, represent \$ 63 billion and are anticipated to surge to \$ 134 billion, with electrical tools comprising the majority.

The report observes that the tools industry serves as a foundational pillar of the global manufacturing ecosystem. The Hand and Power Tools sector will help enhance our domestic manufacturing and expand our global footprint by \$ 25 billion in the next 10 years.

**180. With which company did the Ministry of Labour & Employment sign an MoU via the National Career Service (NCS) portal to boost employment in the gig and logistics sectors?**

**श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय ने गिग और लॉजिस्टिक्स क्षेत्रों में रोजगार को बढ़ावा देने के लिए राष्ट्रीय कैरियर सेवा (एनसीएस) पोर्टल के माध्यम से किस कंपनी के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए?**

- (a) Zomato
- (b) Amazon
- (c) Swiggy
- (d) Flipkart
- (e) Uber

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Labour Signs MoU with Swiggy to Boost Gig Economy Jobs and Expand Employment Opportunities through NCS Platform

The Ministry of Labour & Employment signed an MoU with Swiggy via the National Career Service (NCS) portal to boost employment in the gig and logistics sectors, especially for youth in urban and semi-urban areas.

The NCS platform currently has over 1.25 crore active job seekers and 40 lakh registered employers, aiming to become a one-stop solution for employment, skilling, counselling, and hyperlocal job matching.

Swiggy has committed to mobilizing over 12 lakh job opportunities through the NCS portal over the next 2-3 years, enhancing access to flexible, location-based jobs.

The collaboration is seen as a mutually beneficial public-private model, aligning with the government's vision of inclusive growth and empowering India's digital and gig economy workforce.

**181. Where is the India-Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK-VI' being held?**

**भारत-उज्बेकिस्तान संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास 'डस्टलिक-VI' कहाँ आयोजित किया जा रहा है?**

- (a) Pithoragarh, India
- (b) Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- (c) Pune, India
- (d) Termez, Uzbekistan
- (e) Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Ans. c

Sol. India-Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK-VI' Kicks Off in Pune, Focusing on Counter-Terrorism and Interoperability

The India-Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK-VI' commenced on April 16 at the Foreign Training Node, Aundh in Pune, Maharashtra, focusing on developing interoperability and counter-terrorism capabilities.

The exercise will run until April 28, with the Uzbekistan Army personnel participating, and is based on joint multi-domain sub-conventional operations in a semi-urban scenario, addressing terrorist actions involving territorial capture.

'DUSTLIK-VI' is an annual event conducted alternately between India and Uzbekistan, with the previous edition held in Termez District, Uzbekistan, in April 2024.

**Recent Exercise**

- Indian Air Force (IAF) participate in the **multinational air exercise INIOCHOS-25** in Greece's Hellenic Air Force.
- 14th edition of **Exercise Indra** between India and Russia -Chennai
- 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of bilateral naval exercise, **Varuna 2025** between India and France - Arabian Sea
- INS Ranvir participates in **Exercise Bongosagar 2025** between India and Bangladesh
- **12th edition** of Exercise **KHANJAR-XII** between India and Kyrgyzstan - Tokmok, Kyrgyzstan

182. **Who has been recommended as the 52nd Chief Justice of India by Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna?**

**मुख्य न्यायाधीश संजीव खन्ना ने भारत के 52वें मुख्य न्यायाधीश के रूप में किसे अनुशासित किया है?**

- (a) Justice Hema Kohli
- (b) Justice Surya Kant
- (c) Justice Vikram Nath
- (d) Justice B.R. Gavai
- (e) Justice B.V. Nagarathna

Ans. d

Sol. Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna names Justice BR Gavai as his successor

Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna has recommended Justice B.R. Gavai to the government for appointment as the 52nd Chief Justice of India. Chief Justice Khanna is scheduled to retire on May 13.

Born on November 24, 1960 at Amravati, Justice Gavai joined the Bar on March 16, 1985. Justice Gavai's father, Ramakrishna Suryabhan Gavai, also known as 'Dadasaheb', was a former Governor of Bihar and a prominent Dalit leader.

He was elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court on May 24, 2019 and is due to retire on November 23, 2025.

Justice Gavai, as a Supreme Court judge, was part of many impactful decisions, including the upholding of abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and the striking down of the electoral bonds scheme. The judge laid down pan-India guidelines against illegal demolitions or the 'bulldozer culture' of States.

He was part of a Constitution Bench which held that States have a right to sub-classify Scheduled Castes notified in the Presidential List in order to provide them more preferential treatment in public employment and education.

Justice Gavai's judgment in the Manish Sisodia bail case had fortified the right to personal liberty. He headed the Bench which had ordered the release of Perarivalan, a convict in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case.

Justice Gavai practised in the Bombay High Court from 1987 and appeared in Constitutional and Administrative Law cases. He was elevated as Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court in 2003 and was appointed a Permanent Judge in November 2005.

183. **Which company has signed a partnership with SIDBI to offer customized insurance products for the MSME sector?**

**किस कंपनी ने SIDBI के साथ मिलकर MSME सेक्टर के लिए कस्टमाइज्ड इंश्योरेंस प्रोडक्ट्स प्रदान करने के लिए साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- (b) National Insurance Company
- (c) United India Insurance Company Ltd
- (d) New India Assurance
- (e) ICICI Lombard General Insurance

Ans. c

Sol. United India Insurance, SIDBI in pact to offer insurance products for MSMEs United India Insurance Company Ltd (UIICL), a public sector non-life insurer, has partnered with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to distribute general insurance products tailored for the MSME sector.

The tie-up aims to provide comprehensive insurance solutions — including home, health, motor, and engineering products — to SIDBI's customer base across its 123 branches nationwide.

This partnership marks a significant move towards offering customized insurance solutions to MSMEs, a sector central to India's economic growth.

#### Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- India Post Partners with Nippon India Mutual Fund to Enhance KYC Verification Services
- Central Bank of India Partners with PSB Alliance for Digital Supply Chain Finance
- SEBI Partners with DigiLocker to Tackle Unclaimed Assets in Securities Market
- DPIIT and YES BANK Partner to Strengthen India's Startup Ecosystem
- Piramal Finance partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to make loans more accessible to middle and low-income borrowers, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.
- SIDBI signs MoU with Federal Bank to foster growth of MSME ecosystem

184. **Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw commemorated the 172nd anniversary of India's first train journey, recalling the historic moment when the inaugural train departed from Bori Bunder to Thane in Maharashtra on 16th April 1853. The train consisted of 14 coaches carrying 400 invited passengers. What were the names of the engines that hauled the first train in India?**

**रेल मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने भारत की पहली ट्रेन यात्रा की 172वीं वर्षगांठ मनाई, जब उद्घाटन ट्रेन ने 16 अप्रैल 1853 को मुंबई के बोरीबंदर से ठाणे की यात्रा शुरू की थी। ट्रेन में 14 कोच थे, जिसमें 400 विशेष निमंत्रित यात्री सवार थे। भारत की पहली ट्रेन को खींचने वाले इंजनों के नाम क्या थे?**

- (a) Indus, Maratha, Rajput
- (b) Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati
- (c) Sindh, Sultan, Saheb

- (d) Agni, Vayu, Jal
- (e) Bharat, Ashoka, Akbar

Ans. c

Sol. Railways Minister commemorates 172nd anniversary of India's 1st train journey  
 Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has commemorated the 172nd anniversary of India's first train journey, recalling the historic moment when the inaugural train departed from Bori Bunder to Thane in Maharashtra on the 16th of April in 1853. The train consisted of 14 coaches carrying 400 invited passengers. The train was hauled by three engines named Sindh, Sultan, and Saheb and covered a distance of 34 kilometers in 1 hour and 15 minutes.

**185. Which bank has partnered with the Central Railway to install India's first onboard ATM on the Mumbai-Manmad Panchavati Express as part of the Innovative and Non-Fare Revenue Ideas Scheme (INFRIS)?**

**किस बैंक ने इनोवेटिव और नॉन-फेयर रेवेन्यू आइडियाज स्कीम (INFRIS) के तहत मुंबई-मनमाड पंचवटी एक्सप्रेस पर भारत का पहला ऑनबोर्ड एटीएम लगाने के लिए सेंट्रल रेलवे के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

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

Ans. c

Sol. Mumbai's Panchavati Express gets India's first train ATM  
 The Bank of Maharashtra has installed an ATM on board the Mumbai-Manmad Panchavati Express, in collaboration with the Bhusawal division of Central Railway (CR), to enhance passenger convenience.

The ATM installation is part of Indian Railways' Innovative and Non-Fare Revenue Ideas Scheme (INFRIS), aimed at increasing non-fare revenue and improving amenities for passengers.

Following the successful trial run, the ATM installation will be extended to other trains, with the necessary upgrades carried out at the Manmad Railway Workshop.

The ATM is located in the train's pantry car, providing passengers with easy access to cash during their journey.

**186. The quick-commerce startup Zepto has officially changed the name of its parent company from Kiranakart Technologies Private Limited to Zepto Private Limited, a move aimed at preparing for a potential stock market debut. Which regulatory body approved the rebranding of Zepto's parent company?**

**किक-कॉर्मस्टार्टअप Zepto ने आधिकारिक तौर पर अपनी मूल कंपनी का नाम किरानाकार्ट टेक्नोलॉजीज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड से बदलकर Zepto Private Limited कर दिया है, यह कदम संभावित शेयर बाजार में पदार्पण की तैयारी के उद्देश्य से उठाया गया है। किस नियामक निकाय ने Zepto की मूल कंपनी के रीब्रांडिंग को मंजूरी दी?**

- (a) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- (b) Registrar of Companies (RoC)
- (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (d) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- (e) National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

Ans. b

Sol. Zepto renames parent entity Kiranakart Tech, ahead of possible IPO

The quick-commerce startup Zepto has officially changed the name of its parent company from Kiranakart Technologies Private Limited to Zepto Private Limited, a move aimed at preparing for a potential stock market debut.

The rebranding, approved by the Registrar of Companies (RoC) in Mumbai, adheres to the legal procedure for changing a company's name in India, which includes receiving shareholder approval, filing with the RoC, and obtaining clearance from the central government.

This move aligns with similar rebranding efforts by competitors like Swiggy and Zomato, who changed their corporate names ahead of their IPOs or platform diversifications, while maintaining their brand identities.

**187. South California city of Pomona will host the cricket competition during the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. How many teams will compete in each category (men's and women's) in the cricket event at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics?**

**दक्षिण कैलिफोर्निया का पोमोना शहर 2028 लॉस एंजिल्स ओलंपिक के दौरान क्रिकेट प्रतियोगिता की मेजबानी करेगा। 2028 लॉस एंजिल्स ओलंपिक में क्रिकेट प्रतियोगिता में प्रत्येक श्रेणी (पुरुष और महिला) में कितनी टीमें प्रतिस्पर्धा करेंगी?**

- (a) 4 teams
- (b) 5 teams
- (c) 6 teams
- (d) 8 teams
- (e) 10 teams

Ans. c

Sol. South California city of Pomona to host cricket in LA 2028 Olympics

South California city of Pomona will host the cricket competition during the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

The cricket event, which will feature six teams each in men's and women's categories, will be held at the Fairgrounds in Pomona with the sport set to be a part of the Olympics after 128 years.

Cricket joined five new sports at LA28, including baseball/softball, flag football, lacrosse (sixes) and squash.

The T20 format, recognised as the vehicle for the growth of the game by the ICC, has also featured in other multi-sport events in recent years.

The Asian Games in 2010, 2014 and 2023 featured both men's and women's T20 competitions while the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games staged a women's competition.

188. **As of December 31, 2024, what is the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) total cumulative loan commitment to India?**

**31 दिसंबर, 2024 तक एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) की भारत के लिए कुल ऋण प्रतिबद्धता कितनी है?**

- (a) \$49.2 billion
- (b) \$52.7 billion
- (c) \$55.3 billion
- (d) \$59.5 billion
- (e) \$61.1 billion

Ans. d

Sol. ADB's cumulative loan commitment to India reaches \$59.5 billion in 2024

Asian Development Bank's cumulative loan commitment to India as of December 31, 2024, increased to reach \$59.5 billion as against \$55.3 billion in 2023.

In support of the Government of India catalysing robust, climate-resilient, and inclusive growth, it committed financing worth \$4.25 billion for 21 projects in 2024.

ADB's cumulative assistance to India, as of December 31 2024, includes 657 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totalling \$59.5 billion to India. ADB's current sovereign portfolio in India includes 78 loans worth \$16.23 billion.

#### **About Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masato Kanda (replace Masatsugu Asakawa)
- **Vice President** - Ashok Lavasa
- **Director of ADB for India** - Mio Oka (replace Takeo Konishi)
- **Executive Director** - Vikas Sheel
- **Adviser to the Executive Director** - Smita Sarangi
- **Member Countries** - 69 (Israel)

189. **On which date is World Haemophilia Day observed, and what is its theme for the year 2025?**

**वर्ल्ड हीमोफिलिया डे किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है, और 2025 की थीम क्या है?**

- (a) April 16 – Close the Gap
- (b) April 18 – Step Up for Bleeding Disorders
- (c) April 17 – Access for All: Women and Girls Bleed Too
- (d) April 19 – One World, One Voice
- (e) April 15 – Care for All

Ans. c

Sol. 17 April - World Haemophilia Day

World Haemophilia Day is observed every year on April 17 to spread awareness about haemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

The day commemorates the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel, founder of the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH).

Theme 2025 - Access for All: Women and Girls Bleed Too

World Haemophilia Day was founded in 1989 by the World Federation of Haemophilia to honour its founder Frank Schnabel, who played a pivotal role in raising awareness about haemophilia and dedicated his life to serving people suffering from the disorder.

### What is Hemophilia?

- Hemophilia is a rare genetic bleeding disorder in which the blood doesn't clot properly due to a deficiency or absence of certain clotting factors (proteins needed for blood clotting).

190. **Where was the 3rd edition of the Indian Navy's Meteorological and Oceanological Symposium - Meghayan 25 held?**

**भारतीय नौसेना के मौसम विज्ञान और महासागर विज्ञान संगोष्ठी - मेघयान 25 का तीसरा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया था?**

- (a) Nausena Bhawan, Delhi
- (b) Indian Navy Headquarters, Mumbai
- (c) Space Applications Center, Ahmedabad
- (d) Indian Meteorological Department, Pune
- (e) Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

Ans. a

Sol. The 3rd edition of Meghayan, the Indian Navy's Meteorological and Oceanological Symposium, was held at Nausena Bhawan, Delhi, to mark World Meteorological Day. The event was virtually inaugurated by Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of Naval Staff.

The symposium brought together premier institutions like IMD, IITM, INCOIS, NIOT, ISRO, and IIT-M, featuring two technical sessions, expert panels, and discussions focused on the WMO Day 2025 theme: "Closing the Early Warning Gap Together."

Key highlights included the launch of MOSDAC-IN, a satellite weather data platform developed jointly by the Indian Navy and ISRO's SAC Ahmedabad, and the revival of the Navy's meteorological journal "Sagarmanthan" after nearly 10 years.

191. **The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) India successfully organised a conference on "Building Together a Clean Sport Ecosystem" at the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi. The conference organised by NADA India was part of which international observance?**

**राष्ट्रीय डोपिंग रोधी एजेंसी (NADA) भारत ने इंडिया इंटरनेशनल सेंटर (IIC), नई दिल्ली में "एक साथ मिलकर स्वच्छ खेल पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र का निर्माण" विषय पर एक सम्मेलन का सफलतापूर्वक आयोजन किया। NADA इंडिया द्वारा आयोजित यह सम्मेलन किस अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समारोह का हिस्सा था?**

- (a) International Sports Week
- (b) Fair Play Week
- (c) World Sports Integrity Week
- (d) Play True Week 2025

(e) Anti-Doping Awareness Week

Ans. d

Sol. NADA India Hosts National Conference on 'Building Together a Clean Sport Ecosystem'

The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) India successfully organised a conference on "Building Together a Clean Sport Ecosystem" at the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi.

The event, held as part of Play True Week 2025, brought together a wide spectrum of stakeholders committed to fostering a clean, fair, and values-based sporting environment in India.

One of the key moments of the inaugural session was the unveiling of "NADA India's Fair Play Guide" in ten different regional languages, aimed at making clean sport education more accessible to athletes and stakeholders across the nation.

Participants also engaged in a pledge signing ceremony to reaffirm their commitment to fair play and doping-free sport.

**192. The Ministry of Ayush, in collaboration with the Capacity Building Commission, organised a special session of the Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme at Ayush Bhawan to enhance employees' service orientation and professional skills. Under which framework was the session conducted?**

**आयुष मंत्रालय ने क्षमता निर्माण आयोग के सहयोग से कर्मचारियों के सेवा उन्मुखीकरण और व्यावसायिक कौशल को बढ़ाने के लिए आयुष भवन में राष्ट्रीय कर्मयोगी जन सेवा कार्यक्रम का एक विशेष सत्र आयोजित किया। यह सत्र किस ढंगे के तहत आयोजित किया गया?**

- (a) Mission Swasthya
- (b) Ayushman Bharat
- (c) Mission Karmayogi
- (d) Digital India Mission
- (e) Skill India Programme

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Ayush Organises Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme

The Ministry of Ayush, in collaboration with the Capacity Building Commission under Mission Karmayogi, organised a special session of the Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme at Ayush Bhawan to enhance employees' service orientation and professional skills.

The second phase of the programme, led by Dr. Subodh Kumar and facilitated by Shipra Singh, featured interactive, team-based learning modules focusing on self-awareness, motivation, leadership, and real-world case studies from Ayurveda, Yoga, and traditional medicine.

The initiative reflects the Ministry's ongoing commitment to building a responsive and efficient workforce, encouraging officials to apply training insights for improved public service delivery.

193. **As per the new guidelines for establishing Centres of Excellence (CoEs) under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), what is the required outcome for the R&D activities carried out by these Centres?**

**राष्ट्रीय महत्वपूर्ण खनिज मिशन (एनसीएमएम) के तहत उक्तष्टा केंद्र (सीओई) स्थापित करने के लिए नए दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार, इन केंद्रों द्वारा किए जाने वाले अनुसंधान एवं विकास गतिविधियों के लिए अपेक्षित परिणाम क्या हैं?**

- (a) Achieving basic laboratory research outcomes
- (b) Scaling technologies to reach Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 1-3
- (c) Developing technologies and conducting pilot plant demonstrations to reach TRL 7/8
- (d) Focusing on theoretical innovations only without practical deployment
- (e) Limiting research to environmental sustainability techniques

Ans. c

Sol. Govt issues guidelines for setting up Excellence centres under Critical Mineral Mission

The Ministry of Mines has released guidelines for establishing Centres of Excellence (CoE) under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) to boost research and technology development in critical minerals vital for clean energy, mobility, defence, and strategic sectors.

These CoEs will focus on R&D to develop, demonstrate, and deploy extraction and beneficiation technologies for critical minerals, aiming to reach Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 7/8 and facilitate pre-commercial demonstrations.

Reputed academic and R&D institutions will be selected as CoEs through a proposal-based evaluation and will be tasked with undertaking cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research in the field of critical minerals.

Each CoE will follow a Hub & Spoke consortium model, with the main institute (Hub) partnering with at least two industry partners and two academic/R&D partners, to consolidate expertise and strengthen India's critical mineral research ecosystem.

194. **In the 10 metre Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the ISSF World Cup 2025, which country did the Indian pair of Inder Singh Suruchi and Saurabh Chaudhary defeat to win the gold medal?**

**आईएसएफ विश्व कप 2025 में 10 मीटर एयर पिस्टल मिक्स्ड टीम स्पर्धा में इंदर सिंह सुरुचि और सौरभ चौधरी की भारतीय जोड़ी ने किस देश को हराकर स्वर्ण पदक जीता?**

- (a) Japan
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) USA
- (e) Germany

Ans. c

Sol. Inder Singh Suruchi and Saurabh Chaudhary win mixed Team Gold

In Shooting, the Indian pair of Inder Singh Suruchi and Saurabh Chaudhary clinched a gold medal beating Chinese duo of Qianxun Yao and Kai Hu by 17-9 in the finals of 10 metre Air Pistol Mixed Team event at ISSF World Cup 2025 in Lima, Peru.

Earlier, the Indian mixed duo of Olympic medalist Manu Bhakar and Ravinder Singh missed out on a podium finish after losing to Chinese pair of Qianke Ma and Yifan Zhang in the crucial bronze medal match.

**195. Where was the world's 17th Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU) inaugurated by Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya?**

**केंद्रीय मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने दुनिया की 17वीं एथलीट पासपोर्ट प्रबंधन इकाई (एपीएमयू) का उद्घाटन कहां किया?**

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

Ans. b

Sol. Mansukh Mandaviya Inaugurates World's 17th Athlete Passport Management Unit in New Delhi

Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the world's 17th Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU) at the National Dope Testing Laboratory in New Delhi.

The Athlete Passport Management Unit is a specialised unit dedicated to monitoring and managing athletes' biological passports, ensuring fair play and upholding the integrity of clean sport.

APMU a key milestone in the country's fight against doping, enabling the longitudinal tracking of Athletes' Biological profiles through the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) system. This innovative mechanism will help in detecting doping patterns and protect the fairness of sports by identifying unethical practices.

**196. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), what is India's projected GDP growth in 2025?**

**संयुक्त राष्ट्र व्यापार एवं विकास सम्मेलन (UNCTAD) के अनुसार, 2025 में भारत की अनुमानित जीडीपी वृद्धि क्या है?**

- (a) 7.5%
- (b) 6.5%
- (c) 5.6%
- (d) 8.0%
- (e) 6.9%

Ans. b

Sol. India to Grow 6.5% in 2025, Maintain Fastest-Growing Economy Tag: UNCTAD

India's economy is projected to grow by 6.5% in 2025, supported by strong public spending and continuing monetary easing, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Despite a slowdown from the estimated 6.9% growth in 2024, India is forecast to be the fastest-growing economy.

In its new report, 'Trade and Development Foresights 2025 - Under Pressure: Uncertainty Reshapes Global Economic Prospects', UNCTAD stated that global growth is projected to slow to 2.3% in 2025, placing the world economy on a recessionary path. UNCTAD projects that the South Asia region will expand by 5.6% in 2025, as declining inflation opens the way for monetary loosening across most of the region.

**197. What is the projected GDP growth rate for India in FY27, as per Fitch Ratings?**

**फिच रेटिंग्स के अनुसार, वित्त वर्ष 27 में भारत के लिए अनुमानित जीडीपी विकास दर क्या है?**

- (a) 6.5%
- (b) 6.4%
- (c) 6.3%
- (d) 6.2%
- (e) 6.1%

Ans. c

Sol. Fitch projects India's GDP growth at 6.4% for FY26, retains 6.3% for FY27. Fitch Ratings revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY26 to 6.4%, citing global economic uncertainties, while maintaining its projection of 6.3% for FY27. The global ratings agency also lowered its estimates for FY25 and FY26 by 10 basis points to 6.2% and 6.4%, respectively, attributing the downgrade to rising concerns over a potential global trade war.

**198. What is the total investment IDFC FIRST Bank is set to receive from Warburg Pincus and ADIA?**

**आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक को वारबर्ग पिंक्स और एडीआईए से कुल कितना निवेश मिलने वाला है?**

- (a) ₹5,000 crore
- (b) ₹6,000 crore
- (c) ₹7,500 crore
- (d) ₹8,200 crore
- (e) ₹7,200 crore

Ans. c

Sol. IDFC FIRST Bank to Get ₹7,500 Crore Investment Boost from Warburg Pincus & ADIA

IDFC FIRST Bank will receive a major capital infusion of around ₹7,500 crore from Warburg Pincus and the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) to support its growth plans.

The bank's board has approved a preferential equity issue of ₹4,876 crore to Warburg Pincus affiliate Currant Sea Investments B.V. and ₹2,624 crore to Platinum Invictus B 2025 RSC Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of ADIA.

The investment deal is subject to approvals from shareholders and regulators, as stated in the bank's stock exchange filing.

**199. What type of license did Revolut receive from the RBI in April 2025?**

**अप्रैल 2025 में रेवोल्यूट को आरबीआई से किस प्रकार का लाइसेंस मिला?**

- (a) License to issue Prepaid Payment Instruments
- (b) License for banking operations
- (c) License for cryptocurrency transactions
- (d) License for stock exchange services
- (e) License for insurance underwriting

Ans. a

Sol. Revolut Gets RBI Nod to Launch UPI-Enabled Digital Wallets in India

UK fintech giant Revolut has received full approval from the RBI (April 2025) to issue Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) like digital wallets and prepaid cards, enabling UPI-based transactions across India.

With this license, Revolut can now operate as a domestic payment provider, competing with major players like PhonePe, Google Pay, and Paytm, offering instant bank transfers and peer-to-peer payments via its mobile wallet.

Revolut India, already licensed for forex and cross-border remittances, will now integrate domestic UPI payments with international services, aiming to serve tech-savvy and globally mobile Indian consumers.

The company, with 50+ million global users across 38 countries and a \$45B valuation, plans to double its user base to 100 million, leveraging India's rapidly growing \$2.1 trillion digital payments market by 2030.

**200. What significant approval did Zaggle recently receive from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?**

**Zaggle ने हाल ही में राष्ट्रीय भुगतान निगम भारत (NPCI) से कौन-सी महत्वपूर्ण मंजूरी प्राप्त की है?**

- (a) Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) approval
- (b) Credit card issuance approval
- (c) Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) approval
- (d) Digital Wallet license
- (e) Merchant Payment Gateway license

Ans. c

Sol. Zaggle Secures NPCI Approval to Offer UPI Payment Solutions

Listed fintech company Zaggle has received Third-Party Application Provider (TPAP) approval from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

This significant development enables Zaggle to offer Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based payment solutions directly through its platform, empowering over 3 million users across its digital ecosystem.

With UPI rapidly becoming the preferred transaction mode in India, Zaggle's entry into the TPAP space marks a major step toward delivering a unified, cashless, and fully integrated financial experience for businesses and individuals alike.

The TPAP license allows Zaggle to provide a comprehensive financial suite that combines payments, expense management, tax-saving tools, and value-added financial services within a single interface.

**201. Who won the 2025 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics for their contribution to the ALICE collaboration at CERN?**

**CERN में ALICE सहयोग में उनके योगदान के लिए फंडामेंटल फिजिक्स में 2025 का ब्रेकथ्रू पुरस्कार किसने जीता?**

- (a) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
- (b) Bose Institute's High-Energy Physics Team
- (c) Indian Space Research Organisation
- (d) Indian Institute of Science
- (e) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre

Ans. b

Sol. Bose Institute's High-Energy Physics Team Wins 2025 Breakthrough Prize for Contribution to ALICE Collaboration at CERN

Scientists from Bose Institute's Experimental High Energy Physics group were awarded the 2025 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics for their contribution to the ALICE collaboration at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC).

Over 13,500 researchers across four LHC experiments shared a total prize of \$3 million, with \$500,000 allocated to the ALICE collaboration to fund a Breakthrough Prize studentship program for PhD students at CERN.

The institute contributed significantly to the ALICE experiment, including the development of the Photon Multiplicity Detector (PMD) and the upgrade of ALICE's Time Projection Chamber (TPC), improving particle detection and analysis capabilities.

#### Recent Award

- **Knighthood for his services to Cricket** - James Anderson
- **Key to the City of Lisbon** - President Droupadi Murmu
- **Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana (nation's highest civilian honour for a foreign head of state)** - PM Narendra Modi
- **Fred Darrington Sand Master Award** - Sudarsan Pattnaik (for his outstanding contributions to sand art)
- **Uttar Pradesh Anmol Ratan Award** - Nikhil Singhal
- **Ugadi Award from the Andhra Pradesh government** - Historian and archaeologist MyNaa Swamy

202. Which of the following countries became the second South Asian nation to sign the Artemis Accords, after India?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश भारत के बाद अर्टेमिस समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर करने वाला दूसरा दक्षिण एशियाई राष्ट्र बन गया?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Bangladesh becomes the 54th country to join NASA's Artemis Accord

Bangladesh has become the second South Asian country, after India, and the 54th in the world to join the Artemis Accord of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States.

India joined the Artemis Accords as the 27th country on 21st June 2023.

Artemis is a NASA-led effort to explore the moon, establish a human settlement on the moon and explore the planet Mars and beyond.

#### About the Artemis Accord

- Artemis is a NASA-led effort to explore the moon, establish a human settlement on the moon and explore the planet Mars and beyond.
- NASA established the Artemis Accord in coordination with the United States government's State Department (the foreign ministry) on 13 October 2020.
- The seven founding countries of the Artemis Accord were Canada, Italy, Japan, Australia, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America.

203. The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi has been ranked the 97th best hospital in the world by Newsweek and Statista in their 'World's Best Hospitals 2025' report. Aside from AIIMS, two other Indian hospitals made the top 250 list. Two other institutions — Medanta - The Medicity in Gurgaon and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh — also featured prominently, ranked 146th and 228th, respectively. Which hospital topped the 'World's Best Hospitals 2025' list?

नई दिल्ली स्थित अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एम्स) को न्यूज़वीक और स्टेटिस्टा ने अपनी 'विश्व के सर्वश्रेष्ठ अस्पताल 2025' रिपोर्ट में दुनिया का 97वाँ सर्वश्रेष्ठ अस्पताल माना है। एम्स के अलावा, दो अन्य भारतीय अस्पतालों ने शीर्ष 250 की सूची में जगह बनाई है। दो अन्य संस्थान - गुडगांव में मेदांता - द मेडिसिटी और चंडीगढ़ में पोस्टग्रेजुएट इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मेडिकल एजुकेशन एंड रिसर्च (PGIMER) - भी प्रमुखता से शामिल हैं, जिन्हें क्रमशः 146वाँ और 228वाँ स्थान मिला है। 'विश्व के सर्वश्रेष्ठ अस्पताल 2025' की सूची में कौन सा अस्पताल शीर्ष पर है?

- (a) Johns Hopkins Hospital
- (b) Mayo Clinic
- (c) Cleveland Clinic
- (d) Toronto General

(e) Karolinska University Hospital

Ans. b

Sol. AIIMS Delhi Ranks 97th Among World's Best Hospitals in 2024

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi has been ranked the 97th best hospital in the world by Newsweek and Statista in their 'World's Best Hospitals 2025' report.

This is a major improvement for the institute that was ranked 122nd in the same report in 2023, moving up nine spots to 113th rank in 2024, and now another 16 spots to the 97th rank.

The annual ranking, now in its sixth year, evaluated over 2,400 hospitals across 30 countries, measuring performance through patient satisfaction, clinical outcomes, hygiene standards, and peer recommendations from thousands of medical professionals.

Aside from AIIMS, two other Indian hospitals made the top 250 list. Two other institutions — Medanta - The Medicity in Gurgaon and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh — also featured prominently, ranked 146th (ranked 166th in 2024) and 228th (ranked 246th in 2024), respectively.

Topping the 2024 list are the Mayo Clinic and Cleveland Clinic in the United States, followed by Toronto General in Canada and Johns Hopkins Hospital, while Sweden's Karolinska University Hospital rounded out the top five.

**204. When is World Heritage Day (International Day for Monuments and Sites) observed annually?**

**विश्व धरोहर दिवस (अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्मारक और स्थल दिवस) हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?**

(a) 21 March

(b) 22 April

(c) 18 April

(d) 15 May

(e) 12 June

Ans. c

Sol. 18 April - World Heritage Day

World Heritage Day, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites (IDMS), is observed every year on 18 April to promote awareness about the diversity of cultural heritage, the vulnerability of monuments and sites, and the efforts required to preserve them.

theme 2025 - Heritage under Threat from Disasters and Conflicts: Preparedness and Learning from 60 Years of ICOMOS Actions

It was proposed by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in 1982, and later approved by UNESCO in 1983. The day encourages local communities and governments to recognize the importance of preserving historical sites and celebrating the rich heritage of civilizations around the world.

205. A book titled **Sanskriti Ka Paanchva Adhyay**, which is a compilation of speeches delivered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on various occasions, was launched in New Delhi. Who launched the book 'Sanskriti Ka Paanchva Adhyay'?  
**संस्कृति का पांचवा अध्याय नामक पुस्तक, जो विभिन्न अवसरों पर प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा दिए गए भाषणों का संकलन है, नई दिल्ली में लॉन्च की गई। 'संस्कृति का पांचवा अध्याय' पुस्तक का विमोचन किसने किया?**

- (a) Harivansh Narayan Singh
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Swami Avdheshanand Giri
- (d) Venkaiah Naidu
- (e) Om Birla

Ans. c

Sol. Compilation of PM Modi's Speeches on Culture 'Sanskriti Ka Paanchva Adhyay'  
 Launched

A book titled **Sanskriti Ka Paanchva Adhyay**, which is a compilation of speeches delivered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on various occasions, was launched in New Delhi.

The head of the Juna Akhara, Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Swami Avdheshanand Giri, launched the book.

Presiding over the event, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Harivansh, lauded Prime Minister Modi's efforts in preserving the country's culture, traditions, spiritual values, and cultural heritage.

206. Which coal PSU is set to become the first in India to adopt paste fill technology?

**भारत में पेस्ट फिल टेक्नोलॉजी को अपनाने वाली पहली कोल पीएसयू कौन बनने जा रही है?**

- (a) Coal India Limited
- (b) Northern Coalfields Limited
- (c) Western Coalfields Limited
- (d) South Eastern Coalfields Limited
- (e) Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

Ans. d

Sol. SECL to Become First Coal PSU to Use Paste Fill Technology for Mining

South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) is set to become the first coal PSU in India to adopt paste fill technology for coal mining, marking a major step toward sustainable and environmentally friendly mining practices.

To implement this innovative underground mining technology, SECL has signed a Rs. 7040 crore agreement with TMC Mineral Resources Private Limited.

Under this agreement, large-scale coal production will be undertaken using paste fill technology in the Singhali underground coal mine located in SECL's Korba area. Over a period of 25 years, the project is expected to produce approximately 8.4 million tonnes (84.5 lakh tonnes) of coal.

CMD of SECL - Harish Duhan

## What is Paste Fill Technology?

- Paste filling is a modern underground mining method that eliminates the need to acquire surface land. After coal extraction, the mined-out voids are filled with a specially prepared paste made from fly ash, crushed overburden from opencast mines, cement, water, and binding chemicals.
- This process prevents land subsidence and ensures the structural stability of the mine.
- Importantly, the paste utilizes industrial waste materials, making the process environmentally sustainable and promoting waste recycling.

## Background of Singhali Mine-

- The Singhali underground mine was approved in 1989 for a production capacity of 0.24 million tonnes per year and commenced operations in 1993. Presently, the mine has 8.45 million tonnes of extractable reserves of G-7 grade non-coking coal.
- It was developed using the Bord and Pillar method, employing Load Haul Dumpers (LHDs) and Universal Drilling Machines (UDMs) for underground operations.
- However, the surface area above the mine is densely occupied—with villages, high-tension electricity lines, and a Public Works Department (PWD) road—rendering traditional caving methods unfeasible due to safety concerns.

207. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs has notified new rules under the Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011, mandating verification and stamping of radar-based speed measurement devices to enhance road safety and enforcement accuracy. From which date will the new Legal Metrology rules regarding radar-based speed measurement come into effect?

उपभोक्ता मामलों के मंत्रालय ने विधिक माप विज्ञान (सामान्य) नियम, 2011 के तहत नए नियम अधिसूचित किए हैं, जिसमें सड़क सुरक्षा और प्रवर्तन सटीकता बढ़ाने के लिए रडार-आधारित गति माप उपकरणों के सत्यापन और मुहर लगाना अनिवार्य किया गया है। रडार-आधारित गति माप के संबंध में नए विधिक माप विज्ञान नियम किस तारीख से लागू होंगे?

- (a) August 1, 2025
- (b) April 1, 2025
- (c) June 1, 2025
- (d) July 1, 2025
- (e) September 1, 2025

Ans. d

Sol. Centre notifies rules for Radar equipment for the measurement of the speed of vehicles

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs has notified new rules under the Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011, mandating verification and stamping of radar-based speed measurement devices to enhance road safety and enforcement accuracy.

These rules will come into effect from July 1, 2025, giving sufficient time for industries and enforcement agencies to align with the new regulatory requirements.

The regulations apply to microwave Doppler radar equipment, widely used to measure vehicle speeds, and include specifications for technical standards, calibration, tamper protection, and environmental stability.

The initiative is a move toward data-driven traffic governance, aiming to reduce road accidents, promote disciplined driving, and minimise social and economic losses related to road mishaps and infrastructure damage.

#### Impact on Stakeholders:

- **For citizens:** Ensures accurate speed readings and helps avoid unfair penalties.
- **For industries:** Provides a clear regulatory framework aligned with international standards.
- **For law enforcement:** Enhances credibility and operational efficiency with verified equipment.

208. **India participated in Africa's largest tech and startup show, GITEX Africa 2025, held in Marrakesh, Morocco. Who represented India at the GITEX Africa 2025 summit?**

भारत ने मोरक्को के माराकेश में आयोजित अफ्रीका के सबसे बड़े टेक और स्टार्टअप शो, GITEX अफ्रीका 2025 में भाग लिया। GITEX अफ्रीका 2025 शिखर सम्मेलन में भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व किसने किया?

(a) Narendra Modi  
 (b) Amit Shah  
 (c) Jayant Chaudhary  
 (d) Nitin Gadkari  
 (e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. c

Sol. India Showcases Digital Innovation and Skilling Leadership at GITEX Africa 2025  
 India participated in Africa's largest tech and startup show, GITEX Africa 2025, held in Marrakesh, Morocco.

The event provided a platform for policy leaders, changemakers, and visionaries to collectively discuss and deliberate on opportunities for collaboration and to advance the imperative of inclusive and equitable growth in the global economy.

Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Jayant Chaudhary, represented the Republic of India at the summit. He participated in high-level bilateral meetings, panel discussions, and interacted with Indian startups showcasing their innovations.

209. **The Shrimad Bhagavad Gita (a noted Hindu scripture) and Natyashastra (Indian treatise on performing arts) have been officially included in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register, recognising their exceptional universal value and global significance. Who wrote the Natyashastra?**

**श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता (एक प्रसिद्ध हिंदू धर्मग्रंथ) और नाट्यशास्त्र (प्रदर्शन कलाओं पर भारतीय ग्रंथ) को आधिकारिक तौर पर यूनेस्को की मेमोरी ऑफ द वर्ल्ड रजिस्टर में शामिल किया गया है, जिससे उनके असाधारण सार्वभौमिक मूल्य और वैश्विक महत्व को मान्यता मिली है। नाट्यशास्त्र किसने लिखा था?**

- (a) Bharat Muni
- (b) Chanakya
- (c) Kalidasa
- (d) Veda Vyasa
- (e) Tulsidas

Ans. a

Sol. Bhagavad Gita and Natyashastra added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. The Shrimad Bhagavad Gita (a noted Hindu scripture) and Natyashastra (Indian treatise on performing arts) have been officially included in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register, recognising their exceptional universal value and global significance.

The UNESCO Memory of the World Register honours documentary heritage that is deemed to hold exceptional universal value. It includes texts, manuscripts, and documents that have significantly shaped human history and continue to influence generations.

The Shrimad Bhagavad Gita, part of the Mahabharata, is a profound spiritual text composed of 700 verses that address crucial philosophical questions on life, duty, and devotion.

The Natyashastra, attributed to Bharat Muni, serves as the foundational text for Indian performing arts, including theatre, dance, and music, influencing classical art forms for centuries. These works have become the basis for not only India's cultural practices but also its modes of thought, expression, and living.

**210. The government has procured 3,40,000 tonnes of tur (pigeon pea) under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) to support farmers, with Karnataka contributing the largest share at 1,30,000 tonnes. According to Budget 2025, until what year has the government committed to 100% procurement of tur, masur, and urad relative to state production?**

**सरकार ने किसानों को सहायता देने के लिए मूल्य समर्थन योजना (PSS) के तहत 3,40,000 टन तुअर (कबूतर) खरीदी है, जिसमें कर्नाटक का योगदान सबसे अधिक 1,30,000 टन है। बजट 2025 के अनुसार, किस वर्ष तक सरकार ने राज्य उत्पादन के सापेक्ष तुअर, मसूर और उड़द की 100% खरीद करने की प्रतिबद्धता जताई है?**

- (a) 2026-27
- (b) 2027-28
- (c) 2028-29
- (d) 2029-30
- (e) 2030-31

Ans. c

Sol. Govt procures 3,40,000 tonnes of tur under price support scheme

The government has procured 3,40,000 tonnes of tur (pigeon pea) under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) to support farmers, with Karnataka contributing the largest share at 1,30,000 tonnes.

The minimum support price (MSP) for tur is set at Rs 7,550 per quintal, and farmers in Karnataka are receiving an additional state bonus of Rs 450 per quintal above the MSP. The government aims to maintain a buffer stock of 10 lakh tonnes of tur to regulate market prices and prevent price hikes.

Other contributing states include Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh.

The government has also procured 17,000 tonnes of chana (gram) primarily from Telangana and Madhya Pradesh.

In Budget 2025, the government committed to 100 per cent procurement of tur, masur and urad relative to state production through central agencies until 2028-29.

**211. What is the primary objective of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) to strengthen the implementation of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) और वित्तीय खुफिया इकाई-भारत (FIU-IND) के बीच मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग रोकथाम अधिनियम (PMLA) के कार्यान्वयन को मजबूत करने के लिए हस्ताक्षरित समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) का प्राथमिक उद्देश्य क्या है?**

- (a) To facilitate the development of new digital payment systems for regulated entities
- (b) To enhance cooperation through intelligence sharing and skill development for Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Combating Financing of Terrorism (CFT)
- (c) To establish a joint task force for regulating cryptocurrency transactions in India for Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Combating Financing of Terrorism (CFT)
- (d) To promote financial inclusion by providing low-cost loans to small businesses
- (e) To create a centralized database for tracking foreign direct investments

Ans. b

Sol. RBI and FIU-IND Join Forces to Tackle Money Laundering

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen collaboration for implementing the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and its rules more effectively.

The MoU facilitates cooperation through sharing of relevant intelligence from their databases and enhancing Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Combating Financing of Terrorism (CFT) skills among regulated entities.

RBI and FIU-IND will jointly conduct outreach and training for regulated institutions and assess money laundering and terror financing risks across various financial sub-sectors.

Director of FIU-IND - Vivek Aggarwal

**212. Who has been appointed as the new Revenue Secretary in the recent bureaucratic reshuffle?**

## हाल ही में नौकरशाही में हुए फेरबदल में किसे नया राजस्व सचिव नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Vivek Aggarwal
- (b) Rajesh Agarwal
- (c) Arvind Shrivastava
- (d) Ajay Seth
- (e) Parul Tyagi

Ans. c

Sol. Arvind Shrivastava Appointed as New Revenue Secretary in Major Bureaucratic Reshuffle

The central government has appointed senior IAS officer Arvind Shrivastava (1994 batch, Karnataka cadre) as the new Revenue Secretary, shifting him from the Prime Minister's Office to the Ministry of Finance. The reshuffle also includes key appointments:

Anuradha Thakur as Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs

Vumlung Vualnam as Secretary, Department of Expenditure

Vivek Aggarwal as Secretary, Ministry of Culture

Santosh Kumar Sarangi as Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

Rajesh Agarwal as Special Secretary, Department of Commerce

Samir Kumar Sinha as Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation

Vandana Gurnana as Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment

Rakesh Kumar Verma as Director General, India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management

213. **The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of four senior Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officers as Members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). Who was not appointed as a member of the CBDT?**

**कैबिनेट की नियुक्ति समिति ने चार वरिष्ठ भारतीय राजस्व सेवा (आईआरएस) अधिकारियों को केंद्रीय प्रत्यक्ष कर बोर्ड (सीबीडीटी) के सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्त करने को मंजूरी दे दी है। सीबीडीटी के सदस्य के रूप में किसे नियुक्त नहीं किया गया?**

- (a) Pankaj Kumar Mishra
- (b) Sanjay Bahadur
- (c) L. Rajasekhar Reddy
- (d) G. Aparna Rao
- (e) Rajesh Agarwal

Ans. e

Sol. Government Appoints Four Senior IRS Officers as Members of the CBDT

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of four 1989-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officers as Members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

The new CBDT members are Pankaj Kumar Mishra, Sanjay Bahadur, L. Rajasekhar Reddy, and G. Aparna Rao, each previously holding senior income tax roles across different regions.

These appointments fill key vacancies in the CBDT, which oversees the implementation of direct tax laws and policy formulation in India.

The move comes as the government aims to boost tax compliance and widen the tax base, with experienced officers leading these strategic efforts.

**214. India won a total of 11 medals at the 6th Asian U18 Athletics Championship 2025, which included 1 gold, 5 silver, and 5 bronze medals. In which event did Hinmanshu secure India's only gold at the 6th Asian U18 Athletics Championship 2025?**

**भारत ने 6वीं एशियाई अंडर 18 एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2025 में कुल 11 पदक जीते, जिसमें 1 स्वर्ण, 5 रजत और 5 कांस्य पदक शामिल हैं। 6वीं एशियाई अंडर 18 एथलेटिक्स चैंपियनशिप 2025 में भारत के लिए एकमात्र स्वर्ण पदक हिनमांशु ने किस स्पर्धा में जीता?**

- (a) Shot Put
- (b) High Jump
- (c) Javelin Throw
- (d) 400m Sprint
- (e) Long Jump

Ans. c

Sol. India finished 6th Asian U-18 Athletics Championship 2025 with 11 medals. The Indian athletes concluded their campaign at the 6th Asian U18 Athletics Championship 2025 with 11 medals: one gold, five silver, and five bronze.

The 6th Asian U18 Athletics Championship was organised by the Asian Athletics Association at the Prince Naif Bin Abdulaziz Sports City, Saudi Arabia.

In the 5th edition of the Asian U18 Athletics Championships held at Tashkent, Uzbekistan in 2023, India won 24 medals.

Athletes below the age of 18 years from 31 Asian countries participated in the event. Hinmanshu won the solitary gold for India in the 6th U18 Asian Championship in the javelin throw event. His opening throw of 67.57 meters was good enough to fetch him gold ahead of China's Lu Hao.

It was the first time India won a gold medal in the boys' javelin throw event in the Asian U18 Athletics Championship.

**215. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of how much to fund industrial infrastructure in Tripura?**

**एशियाई विकास बैंक (ADB) ने त्रिपुरा में औद्योगिक बुनियादी ढांचे को वित्तपोषित करने के लिए कितने ऋण को मंजूरी दी है?**

- (a) \$75.3 million
- (b) \$90.2 million
- (c) \$85.4 million
- (d) \$80.6 million
- (e) \$95.5 million

Ans. c

Sol. ADB sanctions \$85.4 million loan for Tripura Industrial Infra Development

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$85.4 million loan to finance critical industrial infrastructure in the nine industrial estates of Tripura.

The nine Industrial estates of the Tripura government to be funded are Bodhjungnagar Industrial Estate, Kumarghat Industrial Estate, R.K. Nagar Industrial Estate, Dharmanagar Industrial Estate, Dhajanagar Industrial Estate, Dukli Industrial Estate, Deewanpasma Industrial Estate, Nagicherra Industrial Estate and Sarasima Industrial Estate.

### **About Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masato Kanda (replace Masatsugu Asakawa)
- **Vice President** - Ashok Lavasa
- **Director of ADB for India** - Mio Oka (replace Takeo Konishi)
- **Member Countries** - 69 (Israel)

216. In April 2025, which bank was fined ₹61.4 lakh by the RBI for non-compliance with loan delivery and statutory guidelines?

अप्रैल 2025 में, RBI द्वारा ऋण वितरण और वैधानिक दिशानिर्देशों का अनुपालन न करने के लिए किस बैंक पर ₹61.4 लाख का जुर्माना लगाया गया था?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) IDFC First Bank
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) ICICI Bank

Ans. c

Sol. RBI imposes penalty on Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank, PNB

RBI has imposed monetary penalties on Kotak Mahindra Bank, IDFC First Bank, and Punjab National Bank for deficiencies in regulatory compliance.

Kotak Mahindra Bank was fined ₹61.4 lakh for non-compliance with RBI guidelines related to loan system delivery and statutory restrictions on loans and advances.

IDFC First Bank received a penalty of ₹38.6 lakh for violating RBI's Know Your Customer (KYC) norms.

Punjab National Bank was penalized ₹29.6 lakh for lapses in following RBI directions on customer service in banks.

217. World Liver Day is observed every year on 19 April to spread awareness about liver health and prevent liver-related diseases. What is the theme of World Liver Day 2025?

विश्व लिवर दिवस हर साल 19 अप्रैल को लिवर के स्वास्थ्य के बारे में जागरूकता फैलाने और लिवर से जुड़ी बीमारियों को रोकने के लिए मनाया जाता है। विश्व लिवर दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Keep Your Liver Safe

- (b) Healthy Liver, Healthy Life
- (c) Food is Medicine
- (d) Say No to Alcohol
- (e) Detox for a Day

Ans. c

Sol. 19 April - World Liver Day

World Liver Day is observed every year on 19 April to spread awareness about liver health and prevent liver-related diseases.

Theme 2025 - Food is Medicine

The liver performs over 500 vital functions, including detoxifying the blood, producing bile, and regulating metabolism.

**218. India's first satellite, Aryabhata, completed 50 years on 19 April 2025. Launched on this day in 1975, the satellite was named after the ancient Indian mathematician and astronomer, Aryabhata. From where was the Aryabhata satellite launched?**

**भारत के पहले उपग्रह आर्यभट्ट ने 19 अप्रैल 2025 को 50 साल पूरे किए। 1975 में इसी दिन लॉन्च किए गए उपग्रह का नाम प्राचीन भारतीय गणितज्ञ और खगोलशास्त्री आर्यभट्ट के नाम पर रखा गया था। आर्यभट्ट उपग्रह कहाँ से प्रक्षेपित किया गया था?**

- (a) Sriharikota
- (b) Baikonur
- (c) Thumba
- (d) Kapustin Yar
- (e) Chandipur

Ans. b



Sol. India's first satellite, Aryabhata, completes 50 years

India's first satellite, Aryabhata, completed 50 years on 19 April 2025. Launched on this day in 1975, the satellite was named after the ancient Indian mathematician and astronomer, Aryabhata.

The satellite, built by the Indian Space Research Organisation, was launched from Kapustin Yar with the assistance of the USSR. The purpose of the satellite was defined to explore areas including Solar Physics, Aeronomy, and X-ray Astronomy.

Aryabhata was designed as a 26-sided polyhedron, measuring 1.4 metres in diameter and weighing 360 kilograms. Except for the top and bottom, all the remaining 24 faces of the satellite were covered with solar panels.

Aryabhata marked India's entry into space exploration and laid the foundation for the country's future space missions. With its successful launch, India was recognized as the 11th country in the world to send a satellite into orbit.

**219. Which companies have signed an agreement with the Telangana government to set up an AI data centre cluster in Hyderabad?**

**तेलंगाना सरकार के साथ हैदराबाद में एआई डेटा सेंटर क्लस्टर स्थापित करने के लिए किन कंपनियों ने समझौता किया है?**

- (a) Infosys and TCS
- (b) Google and Microsoft
- (c) NTT DATA and Neysa Networks
- (d) IBM and Wipro
- (e) HCL and Oracle

Ans. c

Sol. Telangana govt signs MoU with Japanese company Neysa Networks to set up AI data centre cluster

Japan-based global digital transformation and IT services company, NTT DATA, cloud platform company Neysa Networks, and the Telangana government have signed an agreement to set up an Artificial Intelligence data centre cluster in Hyderabad with an investment of 10 thousand 500 crore rupees.

The upcoming facility in Hyderabad will feature a 400 MegaWatt data centre cluster, designed to host the country's most powerful AI supercomputing infrastructure with 25,000 GPUs (Graphics Processing Units).

The project aligns with Telangana's vision to be the AI capital of India, offering sovereign, scalable, and sustainable compute capabilities to support public and enterprise AI workloads. The collaboration combines NTT DATA's global data centre leadership with Neysa's AI acceleration platform, enabling joint development of AI-first solutions.

**220. Which Indian company is involved in the first defence MoU signed between India and Slovakia?**

**भारत और स्लोवाकिया के बीच पहले रक्षा समझौते में कौन सी भारतीय कंपनी शामिल है?**

- (a) Bharat Electronics Ltd.
- (b) DRDO

- (c) Larsen & Toubro
- (d) Airbornics Defence & Space Pvt. Ltd.
- (e) Tata Advanced Systems

Ans. d

Sol. India Signs First Defence MoU with Slovakia Through JCBL Group

India and Slovakia signed their first defence Memorandum of Understanding, with JCBL Group's Airbornics Defence & Space Pvt. Ltd. (ADSL) tasked with co-developing next-generation combat vehicle technologies, aligning with India's Make-in-India initiative.

The agreement emphasises indigenous manufacturing of light tank systems, including turrets, active protection systems, remote-controlled weapon systems, and human-machine interface modules.

The collaboration aims to facilitate technology transfer and co-development of combat platforms suited for complex terrains, with all manufacturing in India, potentially enabling future defence exports by leveraging Slovakia's expertise and India's industrial base.

**221. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Day was officially declared by the mayor of which city on April 14, 2025?**

**14 अप्रैल 2025 को डॉ. बी.आर. अंबेडकर दिवस किस शहर के मेयर द्वारा आधिकारिक रूप से घोषित किया गया था?**

- (a) Chicago
- (b) Toronto
- (c) London
- (d) New York City
- (e) San Francisco

Ans. d

Sol. New York City declares April 14 as Dr B.R. Ambedkar Day

New York City Mayor Eric Adams declared April 14, 2025, as Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Day, honouring the 135th birth anniversary of the Indian Constitution's architect.

Born in 1891, Dr. Ambedkar, known as Babasaheb, led the drafting of India's Constitution, served as Minister of Law and Justice, advocated for Dalit rights, and earned a PhD from Columbia University in 1927, followed by an honorary degree in 1952.

**222. In April 2025, SBI Card has collaborated with which company to introduce Neu SBI Card, a co-branded credit card designed to provide customers with a rewarding shopping experience?**

अप्रैल 2025 में, एसबीआई कार्ड ने किस कंपनी के साथ मिलकर न्यू एसबीआई कार्ड पेश किया है, जो ग्राहकों को एक पुरस्कृत खरीदारी अनुभव प्रदान करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया एक सह-ब्रांडेड क्रेडिट कार्ड है?

- (a) Visa
- (b) Master Card
- (c) Tata Neu
- (d) RuPay
- (e) American Express

Ans. c

Sol. SBI Card unveils co-branded Tata Neu credit card with exclusive rewards

SBI Card has collaborated with Tata Digital to introduce the Tata Neu SBI Card, a co-branded credit card designed to provide customers with a rewarding shopping experience. The card comes in two variants: Tata Neu Infinity SBI Card and Tata Neu Plus SBI Card.

Cardholders can earn NeuCoins on all purchases, whether online or in-store, both domestically and internationally. These rewards are credited monthly to the NeuPass account within the Tata Neu app. They can be redeemed for a variety of products and services, including groceries, travel, fashion, and electronics.

The Tata Neu Infinity SBI Card offers up to 10% rewards on purchases, while the Tata Neu Plus SBI Card provides up to 7%. The card also offers additional rewards, including up to 1.5% back on UPI transactions and up to 5% back on bill payments made via Tata Neu.

**223. Who has been appointed as the new Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)?**

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद (ICAR) के नए महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Dr Ramesh Chand
- (b) Dr Himanshu Jain
- (c) Dr Mangi Lal Jat

(d) Dr Trilochan Mohapatra

(e) Dr Parul Tyagi

Ans. c

Sol. Government appoints Mangi Lal Jat as Director General of the ICAR

Noted agronomist Dr Mangi Lal Jat has been appointed as the Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

The appointment of Dr Mangi Lal Jat was approved by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a meeting in New Delhi.

Dr Mangi Lal Jat will take the place of Dr Himanshu Jain, who was earlier appointed as the Director General of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). The government has appointed Mangi Lal Jat for three years, commencing from the date he assumes office.

Dr Mangi Lal Jat will also be the Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE).

#### About Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

- Established- 16 July 1929
- Headquarters- New Delhi
- Director General- Dr Mangi Lal Jat

224. Which Indian state has recently approved a draft Ordinance to implement the sub-categorisation of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the state, aiming for equitable development by dividing 59 SC communities into three categories based on population, backwardness, and social cohesion?

भारत के किस राज्य ने हाल ही में अनुसूचित जातियों (SCs) के उपवर्गीकरण को लागू करने के लिए एक मसौदा अध्यादेश को मंजूरी दी है, जिसका उद्देश्य 59 SC समुदायों को जनसंख्या, पिछ़ड़ापन और सामाजिक एकता के आधार पर तीन श्रेणियों में विभाजित कर समान विकास सुनिश्चित करना है?

(a) Tamil Nadu

(b) Telangana

(c) Andhra Pradesh

(d) Karnataka

(e) Odisha

Ans. c

Sol. Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approves draft Ordinance on sub-categorisation of Scheduled Castes

The Andhra Pradesh State Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, approved the draft Ordinance to implement the sub-categorisation of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the State.

Aimed at integrated and equitable development of the sub-castes, the Cabinet, following a proposal from the Social Welfare Department, approved the classification of the 59 SC communities in the State into three categories based on their population, backwardness, and social cohesion.

12 castes were brought under Group-I, and 1% reservation was earmarked for them. Similarly, 18 castes that form part of Group-II would get 6.5% reservation. The third group comprised of 29 castes with 7.5% reservation.

The Ordinance is aimed at ensuring equitable access to education and job opportunities among the SC communities, and will be implemented across all the 26 districts.

### About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – N Chandrababu Naidu
- **Deputy CM** – Pawan Kalyan
- **Governor** – Abdul Nazeer
- **Legislative Assembly Seat** – 175

225. South India's first AC EMU (Electric Multiple Unit) train was launched on the Chennai Beach-Chengalpattu corridor, offering Metro-like comfort, and marking a major advancement in the region's suburban rail network. Which factory manufactured the AC EMU train introduced in Chennai?

दक्षिण भारत की पहली एसी ईएमयू (इलेक्ट्रिक मल्टीपल यूनिट) ट्रेन चेन्नई बीच-चेंगलपट्टू कॉरिडोर पर शुरू की गई, जो मेट्रो जैसी सुविधा प्रदान करती है और इस क्षेत्र के उपनगरीय रेल नेटवर्क में एक बड़ी प्रगति को चिह्नित करती है। चेन्नई में शुरू की गई एसी ईएमयू ट्रेन का निर्माण किस फैक्ट्री ने किया?

- (a) BEML, Bengaluru
- (b) Integral Coach Factory
- (c) Modern Coach Factory, Rae Bareli
- (d) Chittaranjan Locomotive Works
- (e) Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala

Ans. b

Sol. Chennai launches South India's first AC EMU train on suburban route

South India's first AC EMU (Electric Multiple Unit) train was launched on the Chennai Beach-Chengalpattu corridor, offering Metro-like comfort, and marking a major advancement in the region's suburban rail network.

The 12-car train, manufactured by Integral Coach Factory, features modern amenities such as automatic sliding doors, air conditioning, GPS-based displays, CCTV, stainless steel seating, and an energy-saving regenerative braking system.

The service operates six days a week (except Sundays) with six total services daily: 4 between Chennai Beach-Chengalpattu and 2 between Chennai Beach-Tambaran, with fares ranging from Rs. 35 to Rs. 105 depending on distance.

This initiative by Southern Railway's Chennai division aims to provide a comfortable, safe, and efficient travel experience, especially beneficial during summer and for daily commuters, echoing the success of Mumbai's AC EMU model.

**226. Who has been appointed as the Deputy CFO at IndusInd Bank?**

**इंडसइंड बैंक में डिएटी सीएफओ के रूप में किसे पदोन्नत किया गया है?**

- (a) Gobind Jain
- (b) Arun Khurana
- (c) Santosh Kumar
- (d) Ramesh Krishnan
- (e) Anil Mehta

Ans. c

Sol. IndusInd Bank names Santosh Kumar as Deputy CFO

Santosh Kumar, Chief Accountant at IndusInd Bank, has been elevated as Deputy CFO, Special Officer – Finance & Accounts, and designated as a Key Managerial Personnel.

Arun Khurana, who was given the additional charge of CFO in January after the resignation of former CFO Gobind Jain, will now continue solely as the Deputy CEO of the bank.

Santosh Kumar will lead the finance and accounts functions of the bank in his new role until a full-time CFO is appointed, as per the exchange filing.

#### **Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector**

- **Vice President of Investment Solutions at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** – Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- **Chairperson of Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** – Sivasubramanian Ramann (replace Deepak Mohanty) effect from May 2025
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** – Poonam Gupta; for 3 years (replace Michael Patra)
- **MD & CEO of SBI Card** – Salila Pande (replace Abhijeet Chakravorty)
- **Whole-time Member (Life) of IRDAI** – Swaminathan S. Iyer

## 227. Who inaugurated the Sansad Khel Mahakumbh at K.D. Singh Babu Stadium in Lucknow?

**के.डी. सिंह बाबू स्टेडियम, लखनऊ में संसद खेल महाकुंभ का उद्घाटन किसने किया?**

(a) Narendra Modi

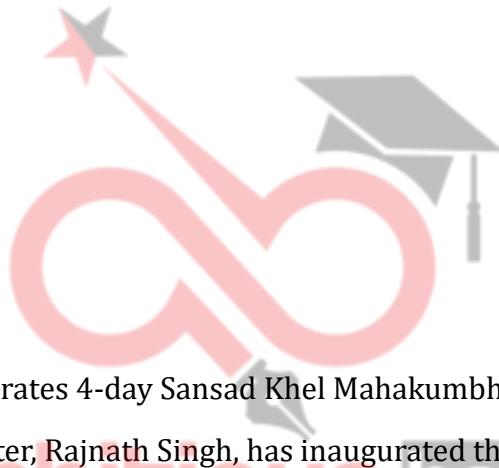
(b) Amit Shah

(c) Droupadi Murmu

(d) Rajnath Singh

(e) Yogi Adityanath

Ans. d



Sol. Rajnath Singh inaugurates 4-day Sansad Khel Mahakumbh in Lucknow

The union Defence minister, Rajnath Singh, has inaugurated the 4-day Sansad Khel Mahakumbh at the K.D. Singh Babu Stadium in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

A demonstration of indigenous sports, Kalaripayattu, Yoga, and Mallakhamba, were also performed during the inaugural ceremony.

During the inaugural ceremony, Rajnath Singh honoured 10 senior athletes and five coaches from the city who had represented the country in the Olympics and other international events. The minister also honoured five sports management professionals of the city.

Approximately 2,500 sportspeople are participating in the four-day sporting event. They will compete in eight events- Athletics, Kabaddi, Basketball, Volleyball, Football, Hockey, Boxing and Taekwondo.

The events will be held in the junior and senior categories. Students of classes 9-12 are participating in the junior category, while the senior category is for students of degree colleges and universities.

The winners will be honoured with a cash prize of Rs eight lakhs.

**228. Where has the Indian Air Force contingent reached to participate in Exercise Desert Flag-10?**

**एक्सरसाइज डेजर्ट फ्लैग-**

**10 में भाग लेने के लिए भारतीय वायुसेना का दल किस स्थान पर पहुँचा है?**

- (a) Riyadh Air Base, Saudi Arabia
- (b) Doha Air Base, Qatar
- (c) Muscat Air Base, Oman
- (d) Al Dhafra Air Base, UAE
- (e) Hamad Air Base, Bahrain

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Air Force Joins Multinational 'Desert Flag-10' Exercise in UAE

A contingent of the Indian Air Force reached Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates to participate in Exercise Desert Flag-10.

The exercise is being hosted by the UAE Air Force, with participating contingents from the air forces of Australia, Bahrain, France, Germany, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, the UAE, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America in addition to the Indian Air Force.

The primary aim of the exercise is to undertake complex and diverse fighter engagements, with the exchange of operational knowledge and best practices with some of the most capable air forces in the world.

**229. When is Civil Services Day observed in India?**

**भारत में सिविल सेवा दिवस कब मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 25th April
- (b) 22nd April
- (c) 21st April
- (d) 26th April
- (e) 23rd April

Ans. c

Sol. 21 April – Civil Services Day

Civil Services Day in India is observed annually on 21st April to recognise and appreciate the contributions of civil servants in nation-building.

The day holds great significance as it honors the role of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers and other civil services officers who play a crucial part in public administration and governance.

21st April is celebrated as Civil Services Day because it marks the day in 1947 when Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the first batch of IAS officers at Metcalfe House, Delhi.

On this day, the government honors civil servants through the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration, which is given to officials and departments for exceptional work and innovative efforts in governance.

**230. What material has ISRO indigenously developed as an alternative to imported Columbium for PSLV's fourth stage nozzle divergent?**

**ISRO ने PSLV के चौथे चरण के नोजल डायवर्जेट के लिए आयातित कोलंबियम के विकल्प के रूप में किस सामग्री को स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित किया है?**

- (a) Titanium
- (b) Inconel
- (c) Stellite
- (d) Graphene
- (e) Aluminium

Ans. c

Sol. ISRO Develops Indigenous Stellite Nozzle Divergent for PSLV

ISRO has indigenously developed a Stellite-based nozzle divergent as an alternative to the imported Columbium for the fourth stage of the PSLV, promoting self-reliance in space technology.

Stellite, a cobalt-based alloy with elements like Chromium, Nickel, Tungsten, and Iron, can withstand high temperatures up to 1150°C, proven through a successful hot test lasting 665 seconds on April 8 at the ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri (Tamil Nadu).

Using the Stellite nozzle will help reduce costs by 90% compared to importing Columbium, boosting ISRO's efficiency in future PSLV missions.

The Mahendragiri facility has also successfully tested the human-rated Vikas Engine for the Gaganyaan mission; this engine, developed in India and named after Vikram Sarabhai, will be used in clustered form in LVM3-G to carry astronauts into space.

**231. In which event did Arjun Babuta win a silver medal at the ISSF World Cup 2025?**

**ISSF वर्ल्ड कप 2025 में अर्जुन बबूता ने किस स्पर्धा में रजत पदक जीता?**

- (a) 25m Rapid Fire Pistol
- (b) 50m Rifle 3 Positions
- (c) 10m Air Pistol
- (d) 10m Air Rifle
- (e) Skeet Shooting

Ans. d

Sol. Arjun Babuta wins silver at ISSF World Cup 2025

Arjun Babuta won a silver medal in the 10m Air Rifle final at the ISSF World Cup 2025 in Lima, Peru, finishing just 0.1 points behind Olympic champion Lihao Sheng of China in a thrilling match.

In the 10m Air Pistol events, Suruchi Inder Singh claimed two gold medals — one in the women's individual category and another in the mixed team event with Saurabh Chaudhary, while Manu Bhaker secured silver in the women's final.

**232. What is the main objective of the State Bank of India's initiative to deploy 'Grahak Mitras' at selected branches across the country?**

**देश भर में चयनित शाखाओं में 'ग्राहक मित्र' तैनात करने की भारतीय स्टेट बैंक की पहल का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?**

- (a) To promote sales of new loan products at rural branches
- (b) To provide in-depth investment advisory to premium customers
- (c) To encourage the use of alternate banking channels and reduce overcrowding at branches
- (d) To conduct internal audits of daily branch operations
- (e) To replace existing branch staff with outsourced employees

Ans. c

Sol. SBI to Deploy 'Grahak Mitras' at 4,500 Branches to Promote Alternate Banking Channels

State Bank of India will deploy personnel from its subsidiary SBOSS as 'Grahak Mitras' to guide customers towards alternate banking channels.

These Grahak Mitras will offer first-level assistance and promote the use of self-service options like ATMs, kiosks, YONO app, and WhatsApp banking.

They will be stationed at around 4,500 SBI branches, covering roughly 20% of the bank's total 22,740 branches across India.

The move aims to reduce overcrowding in branches that handle government salary accounts, pensions, and direct benefit transfers.

**233. Luxury brand Chanel has appointed Ananya Panday as its first-ever brand ambassador from India. Which country is the luxury brand Chanel originally from?**

लक्जरी ब्रांड चैनल ने अनन्या पांडे को भारत से अपना पहला ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है।  
लग्जरी ब्रांड चैनल मूल रूप से किस देश का है?

- (a) Italy
- (b) France
- (c) Germany
- (d) United States
- (e) Switzerland

Ans. b

Sol. Ananya Panday Becomes Chanel's First-Ever Brand Ambassador from India  
French luxury brand Chanel has appointed Ananya Panday as its first-ever brand ambassador from India, following her appearance at the Chanel Spring/Summer 2025 show in Paris.

Ananya Panday, known for her roles in Gehraiyaan, Kho Gaye Hum Kahan, CTRL, and Call Me Bae, has emerged as a Gen Z fashion icon, with 25.9 million Instagram followers showcasing her Chanel looks.

Ananya represents a generation with evolving tastes and independent identities, aligning well with the brand's values and image.

#### Recent Brand Ambassador

- Kartik Aaryan - Thomas Cook India Limited for its foreign exchange business
- Salman Khan - 10X Zarda King rices
- Vidya Balan - Federal Bank
- Shubman Gill - Tyre brand MRFs
- Punjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh - American clothing brand, Levi's
- PV Sindhu - PUMA India

**234. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the 23rd Law Commission of India?**

भारत के 23वें विधि आयोग के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Hitesh Jain
- (b) Prof. D P Verma
- (c) Dinesh Maheshwari
- (d) Ranjan Gogoi
- (e) Uday Umesh Lalit

Ans. c

Sol. Former SC judge Dinesh Maheshwari appointed law commission chairperson  
Dinesh Maheshwari has been appointed as the chairperson of the 23rd Law Commission  
of India, with approval from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The 23rd Law Commission was established on September 3, 2023, for a three-year term,  
with Hitesh Jain and Prof. D P Verma appointed as full-time members.

The commission will examine important issues, including the potential introduction of a  
uniform civil code in India.

Justice Dinesh Maheshwari retired from the Supreme Court in May 2023, and has  
previously served in various high court positions, including Chief Justice of Meghalaya  
and Karnataka High Courts.

### Recent Appointments

- **DG of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** - Dr Mangi Lal Jat  
(replace Dr Himanshu Jain); for 3 years
- **Members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** - Pankaj Kumar Mishra,  
Sanjay Bahadur, L. Rajasekhar Reddy, and G. Aparna Rao
- **52nd Chief Justice of India** - Justice B.R. Gavai (replace Justice Sanjiv Khanna)
- **Chairperson of Athletes' Commission of the Indian Weightlifting Federation**  
- Mirabai Chanu
- **Vice-chairperson of Athletes' Commission of the Indian Weightlifting  
Federation** - S Sathish Kumar
- **Chairperson of the ICC men's cricket committee** - Sourav Ganguly

235. **By how much has LIC increased its stake in Bank of Baroda?**

**एलआईसी ने बैंक ऑफ बडौदा में अपनी हिस्सेदारी को कितने प्रतिशत बढ़ाया है?**

- (a) 1.5%
- (b) 2%
- (c) 3%
- (d) 4%
- (e) 5%

Ans. b

Sol. LIC hikes its stake in Bank of Baroda to 7.05%

Insurance behemoth LIC has increased its stake in state-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) by  
nearly 2 per cent to 7.05 per cent.

The life insurance company has acquired additional 10.45 crore shares from open  
market over a period of one-and-a-half year.

With the acquisition done between November 20, 2023 and April 16, 2025, LIC's stake  
in the Mumbai-based bank has increased from 5.03 per cent to 7.05 per cent.

236. **What is the name of the bond launched by Mirae Asset to provide exposure to  
international markets?**

**अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजारों में निवेश उपलब्ध कराने के लिए मिरे एसेट द्वारा लॉन्च किए गए बॉन्ड का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) Mirae Asset Global Allocation Bond
- (b) Mirae Asset International Investment Bond
- (c) Mirae Asset Global Allocation Fund IFSC
- (d) Mirae Asset Global Growth Bond
- (e) Mirae Asset High-Growth Bond

Ans. c

Sol. Mirae Asset launches \$200M global investment fund targeting AI & semicon  
Mirae Asset has launched a new fund, Mirae Asset Global Allocation Fund IFSC, to help Indian investors gain exposure to international markets and high-growth sectors like artificial intelligence (AI) and semiconductors.

The fund, launched through the company's IFSC branch at GIFT City, aims to provide long-term capital appreciation by investing in a portfolio of global equity exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

These ETFs will be based on broad market indices and high-growth sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI) and semiconductors.

The fund will allocate 90–100 per cent of its net asset value (NAV) to global ETFs across developed markets like the US and China.

**237. Earth Day is observed every year on 22nd April to raise awareness about various environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and conservation. What is the theme for Earth Day in 2025?**

**जलवायु परिवर्तन, प्रदूषण और संरक्षण जैसे विभिन्न पर्यावरणीय मुद्दों के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए हर साल 22 अप्रैल को पृथ्वी दिवस मनाया जाता है। 2025 में पृथ्वी दिवस का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Our Planet, Our Future
- (b) Restore Our Earth
- (c) Our Power, Our Planet
- (d) Save the Environment
- (e) Green Earth, Green Future

Ans. c

Sol. 22 April - Earth Day

Earth Day is observed every year on 22 April to raise awareness about environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and conservation, inspiring individuals and communities to take action.

Theme 2025 - Our Power, Our Planet

The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970, when industries were releasing smoke and sludge without much concern about the legal or public repercussions.

**238. Pope Francis recently passed away at the age of 88 at his residence in Casa Santa Marta, near St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. In which country was Pope Francis born?**

पोप फ्रांसिस का हाल ही में 88 वर्ष की आयु में वेटिकन में सेंट पीटर बेसिलिका के पास कासा सांता मार्टा में उनके निवास पर निधन हो गया। पोप फ्रांसिस का जन्म किस देश में हुआ था?

- (a) Italy
- (b) Brazil
- (c) Spain
- (d) Argentina
- (e) Mexico

Ans. d

Sol. Pope Francis Head of Roman Catholic Church Pased Away

Pope Francis passed away at the age of 88, following a serious illness caused by pneumonia. He died at his residence in Casa Santa Marta, near St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

Pope Francis was the first Latin American Cardinal to be elected as the leader of the Roman Catholics.

Pope Francis, born Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Argentina, became the first Latin American and southern hemisphere Cardinal to be elected as the Pope in 2013, following the retirement of Pope Benedict XVI — the first pope in 600 years to voluntarily step down.

Before Pope Francis, the last non-European to hold the papacy was Gregory III, a Syrian-born Pope who died in 741 AD, making Pope Francis a significant figure in the history of the Roman Catholic Church.

### Who is the Pope?

- Pope, which in Greek means Father, is a title given to the Bishop of Rome and the leader of the Roman Catholic Church.
- The Pope is the sovereign leader of the Vatican City, an enclave within Rome, Italy.
- Saint Peter, one of Jesus Christ's 12 disciples, is considered the first Pope by the Roman Catholic Church

239. The Vizhinjam International Seaport, a monumental infrastructure project in India, is set to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 2, 2025.

Where is the Vizhinjam International Seaport located?

भारत में एक स्मारकीय बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजना, विझिनजाम अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बंदरगाह का उद्घाटन 2 मई, 2025 को प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा किया जाएगा। विझिनजाम अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बंदरगाह कहाँ स्थित है?

- (a) Kochi, Kerala
- (b) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- (c) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- (d) Mangaluru, Karnataka
- (e) Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi to inaugurate Vizhinjam International Seaport on May 2

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Vizhinjam International Seaport in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, on May 2, 2025.

This port will be India's first semi-automated deep-water international container transhipment port, marking a historic development in maritime infrastructure.

Vizhinjam port is the first Greenfield port project in India, initiated by a state government with an investment exceeding ₹18,000 crore.

Developed under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, it stands as one of the largest initiatives in the country's port sector.

The project was allotted to APSEZ after the Government of Kerala and Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Ltd. (AVPPL) agreed to a concession agreement in 2015.

#### 240. Who won the Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award in 2025?

**2025 में लॉरेयस वर्ल्ड कमबैक ऑफ द ईयर अवार्ड किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Rebeca Andrade
- (b) Rishabh Pant
- (c) Simone Biles
- (d) Armand Duplantis
- (e) Lamine Yamal

Ans. a

Sol. Laureus Awards 2025: Andrade beats Rishabh Pant to win Comeback of the Year  
The 2025 Laureus World Sports Awards celebrated its 25th anniversary with a grand ceremony in Madrid, honoring outstanding athletes and teams for their exceptional performances over the past year.

The Laureus World Sports Awards, often dubbed the "Oscars of Sports", celebrated the most remarkable athletes and sporting achievements of the past year.

Held in the vibrant city of Madrid, the 2025 edition of the event brought together legends, rising stars, and game-changers across various disciplines.

Full List Of Winners at Laureus Sports Awards 2025-

- Laureus World Sportsman of the Year Award- Armand Duplantis
- Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year Award- Simone Biles
- Laureus World Team of the Year Award- Real Madrid
- Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award- Lamine Yamal
- Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award- Rebeca Andrade
- Laureus World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award- Jiang Yuyan
- Laureus World Action Sportsperson of the Year Award- Tom Pidcock
- Laureus Sport for Good Award- Kick4Life
- Laureus Sporting Icon Award- Rafael Nadal
- Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award- Kelly Slater

#### 241. Who inaugurated the International Conclave on "Buddha Dhamma and the Culture of North-East India" in Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh?

**नामसाई, अरुणाचल प्रदेश में "बुद्ध धर्म और उत्तर-पूर्व भारत की संस्कृति" पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?**

- (a) Pema Khandu
- (b) Chowna Mein
- (c) Kiren Rijiju
- (d) Sarbananda Sonowal
- (e) Himanta Biswa Sarma

Ans. b

Sol. Arunachal CM inaugurates International Conclave on 'Buddha Dhamma & Culture of North-East India'

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein inaugurated the International Conclave on the theme Buddha Dhamma and the Culture of North-East India" in Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh.

The two-day conference is being organised by the International Buddhist Confederation in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Buddhist monks and scholars from India and several other countries, including Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Bhutan, are participating in the two-day conference.

### **About Arunachal Pradesh**

- **Capital** – Itanagar
- **Chief Minister** – Pema Khandu
- **Governor** – LG (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
- **Legislative Assembly Seat** - 60

**242. Simranpreet Kaur Brar recently won her first senior international medal in which sport?**

**Simranpreet Kaur Brar ने हाल ही में किस खेल में अपना पहला सीनियर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पदक जीता है?**

- (a) Archery
- (b) Shooting
- (c) Weightlifting
- (d) Wrestling
- (e) Boxing

Ans. b

Sol. Simranpreet Kaur wins maiden senior international medal with silver in 25m pistol In Shooting, India's Simranpreet Kaur Brar has clinched her maiden senior international medal with a silver in the women's 25m pistol event at the International Shooting Sport Federation, ISSF World Cup in Lima, Peru.

The Indian shooter shot a total of 33 hits in the 10-series of five rapid-fire shots final, finishing one hit behind China's Sun Yujie, who won back-to-back World Cup golds in the event.

A second Chinese, Yao Qianxun, won bronze with 29 hits to her name. Meanwhile, Paris Olympics double medallist Manu Bhaker finished fourth.

**243. Where is the IAF Surya Kiran aerobatic air show being held?**

**IAF Surya Kiran का एरोबेटिक एयर शो कहां आयोजित किया जा रहा है?**

- (a) Ranchi
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) Patna
- (d) Kolkata
- (e) Guwahati

Ans. c

Sol. IAF Surya Kiran team to begin aerobatic airshow in Patna

In Bihar, the Surya Kiran team of the Indian Air Force begins its aerobatic air show at Patna.

The two-day programme will comprise a splendid show and manoeuvre of IAF Surya Kiran aircraft between 10 am to 11 am over the Ganga River in Patna.

The programme is being organised on the occasion of Vijayotsav of Babu Kunwar Singh, the freedom fighter of the 1857 revolution in Bhojpur in Bihar.

### About Bihar

- **Capital** – Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar (9<sup>th</sup> time)
- **Deputy CM** - Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha
- **Governor** – Arif Mohammed Khan

### 244. When is World Creativity and Innovation Day observed annually?

**विश्व रचनात्मकता और नवाचार दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) April 18
- (b) April 19
- (c) April 20
- (d) April 21
- (e) April 22

Ans. d

Sol. 21 April - World Creativity and Innovation Day

World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) is celebrated every year on April 21 to raise awareness about the importance of creativity and innovation in problem-solving and driving sustainable development across the globe.

Theme 2025 - Step out and innovate

### 245. With the aim of protecting the Indian steel sector, how much percentage of safeguard duty has the Centre imposed on the import of certain non-alloy and alloy steel flat products?"

**भारतीय इस्पात क्षेत्र की रक्षा के उद्देश्य से, केंद्र ने कुछ गैर-मिश्र धातु और मिश्र धातु इस्पात प्लैट उत्पादों के आयात पर कितने प्रतिशत सुरक्षा शुल्क लगाया है?"**

**भारत सरकार ने कुछ स्टील आयातों पर कितने प्रतिशत सुरक्षा शुल्क लगाया है?**

- (a) 10%
- (b) 15%
- (c) 12%
- (d) 8%

(e) 20%

Ans. c

Sol. Centre imposes 12% safeguard duty to shield Indian steel sector

The Centre has imposed a 12 per cent safeguard duty on the import of certain non-alloy and alloy steel flat products with a view to shielding the Indian steel sector.

This measure is a timely and necessary step to protect domestic steel manufacturers from the adverse impact of import surges and to ensure fair competition in the market. This move will provide critical relief to domestic producers, especially small and medium-scale enterprises, who have faced immense pressure from rising imports of steel. The safeguard duty will help restore market stability and reinforce the confidence of the domestic industry.

**246. The Reserve Bank of India permitted banks to allow minors above the age of 10 years to open and operate savings/term deposit accounts independently. By what date must banks align their policies with the revised RBI guidelines for minor accounts?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने बैंकों को 10 वर्ष से अधिक आयु के नाबालिगों को स्वतंत्र रूप से बचत/सावधि जमा खाते खोलने और संचालित करने की अनुमति दी है। बैंकों को किस तिथि तक नाबालिग खातों के लिए संशोधित RBI दिशानिर्देशों के साथ अपनी नीतियों को संरेखित करना होगा?**

- (a) May 1, 2025
- (b) June 1, 2025
- (c) July 1, 2025
- (d) August 1, 2025
- (e) September 1, 2025

Ans. c

Sol. RBI permits minors above 10 years to operate bank accounts independently

The Reserve Bank of India permitted banks to allow minors above the age of 10 years to open and operate savings/term deposit accounts independently.

Minors of any age may be allowed to open and operate savings and term deposit accounts through his/her natural or legal guardian, the RBI said in a circular addressed to commercial banks and cooperative banks. They may also be allowed to open such accounts with their mother as guardian.

Minors above such an age limit not less than 10 years and up to such amount and such terms as may be fixed by the banks keeping in view their risk management policy, may be allowed to open and operate savings/term deposit accounts independently, if they so desire, and such terms shall be duly conveyed to the account holder.

Further, on attaining the age of majority, fresh operating instructions and specimen signature of the account holder should be obtained and kept on record.

The banks are free to offer additional banking facilities like internet banking, ATM/ debit cards, cheque book facility, etc, to the minor account holders basis their risk management policy, product suitability and customer appropriateness.

The banks will have to ensure that accounts of minors, whether operated independently or through a guardian, are not allowed to be overdrawn and that these always remain in a credit balance.

Also, the banks shall perform customer due diligence for opening of deposit accounts of minors and undertake ongoing due diligence. The RBI has asked banks to make new or amend existing policies to align them with the revised guidelines, latest by July 1, 2025.

**247. Which NBFC has partnered with MobiKwik to offer instant personal loans through the fintech platform's ZIP EMI service?**

**किस NBFC ने फिनटेक प्लेटफॉर्म की ZIP EMI सेवा के माध्यम से तत्काल व्यक्तिगत ऋण की पेशकश करने के लिए MobiKwik के साथ साझेदारी की है?**

- (a) Bajaj Finserv / बजाज फिनसर्व
- (b) Tata Capital / टाटा कैपिटल
- (c) Poonawalla Fincorp / पूनावाला फिनकॉर्प
- (d) HDFC Ltd / एचडीएफसी लिमिटेड
- (e) Mahindra Finance / महिंद्रा फाइनेंस

Ans. c

Sol. Poonawalla Fincorp and MobiKwik Collaborate to Revolutionise Instant Personal Loans

Poonawalla Fincorp, a leading NBFC backed by the Cyrus Poonawalla Group, has joined forces with MobiKwik to launch instant personal loans through the fintech platform's ZIP EMI service.

This partnership enables users across India, including Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, to access loans ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹15 lakh, significantly expanding MobiKwik's previous loan limits of up to ₹2 lakh offered via other NBFC partnerships.

The collaboration integrates Poonawalla Fincorp's lending expertise with MobiKwik's digital reach, allowing borrowers to secure funds within minutes through a fully digital process.

Users can select flexible repayment tenures spanning 6 to 36 months, a notable extension from MobiKwik's earlier 3-24-month options. The initiative targets diverse financial needs, including education, healthcare, and travel, while promoting credit score improvement through timely repayments.

**248. As per the BCCI's latest annual player retainership announcement for the 2024-25 season, Indian cricketing legends Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli—despite announcing their retirement from the T20I format—have continued to remain in the top-tier contract group, i.e., Grade A+. What is the annual retainership amount provided to players listed under Grade A+?**

**BCCI द्वारा घोषित 2024-25 सत्र के वार्षिक खिलाड़ी अनुबंधों के अनुसार, भारतीय क्रिकेट दिग्गज रोहित शर्मा और विराट कोहली—T20I प्रारूप से संन्यास लेने के बावजूद—शीर्ष श्रेणी यानी ग्रेड A+ में बने हुए हैं। ग्रेड A+ में सूचीबद्ध खिलाड़ियों को वार्षिक रूप से कितनी राशि दी जाती है?**

- (a) ₹5 crore / ₹5 करोड़
- (b) ₹6 crore / ₹6 करोड़
- (c) ₹3 crore / ₹3 करोड़
- (d) ₹1 crore / ₹1 करोड़
- (e) ₹7 crore / ₹7 करोड़

Ans. e

Sol. Rohit, Kohli retain top BCCI annual contract as Iyer, Kishan return

Indian team stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli have retained their A+ category contracts despite retiring from the T20I format, as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the annual player retainership for the men's team for the 2024–25 season.

New additions to the central contracts list—all placed in Grade C—include Nitish Kumar Reddy, Dhruv Jurel, Abhishek Sharma, Sarfaraz Khan, Akash Deep, Varun Chakravarthy, and Harshit Rana.

Shivam Dube, Jitesh Sharma, KS Bharat, and Avesh Khan—who were part of the C category last season—have been excluded from the contract list altogether.

A total of 34 players have been awarded annual retainerships for the 2024–25 season, covering the period from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

Grade A+: Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja

Grade A: Mohammed Siraj, KL Rahul, Shubman Gill, Hardik Pandya, Mohammed Shami, Rishabh Pant

Grade B: Suryakumar Yadav, Kuldeep Yadav, Axar Patel, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shreyas Iyer

Grade C: Rinku Singh, Tilak Varma, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Shivam Dube, Ravi Bishnoi, Washington Sundar, Mukesh Kumar, Sanju Samson, Arshdeep Singh, Prasidh Krishna, Rajat Patidar, Dhruv Jurel, Sarfaraz Khan, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Ishan Kishan, Abhishek Sharma, Akash Deep, Varun Chakravarthy, Harshit Rana

The BCCI pays the Grade A+ players an annual remuneration of Rs. 7 crore, while Grade A players receive 5 crore. Grade B cricketers get 3 crore, Grade C category get 1 cr. each.

249. **The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the Fire Safety Week in collaboration with all States/UTs as well as relevant central**

**Ministries/Departments from \_\_\_\_\_.**

**केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय ने सभी राज्यों/केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के साथ-साथ संबंधित केंद्रीय मंत्रालयों/विभागों के सहयोग से \_\_\_\_\_ तक आग्नि सुरक्षा सप्ताह की शुरुआत की है।**

- (a) 21st to 25th April
- (b) 22nd to 26th April
- (c) 23rd to 27th April
- (d) 24th to 28th April
- (e) 23rd to 29th April

Ans. a

Sol. Union Health Ministry observes Pan-India 'Fire Safety Week' from 21st to 25th April

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the Fire Safety Week in collaboration with all States/UTs as well as relevant central Ministries/Departments from 21st to 25th April, 2025.

Over 3,000 participants from public and private health facilities virtually joined the pledge ceremony and webinar on "Emergency evacuation and patient safety strategies" and "Fire prevention in high-risk areas of healthcare facilities".

Various activities have been planned throughout the country during the Fire Safety Week in order to raise awareness regarding importance of prevention and mitigation of fire hazards in all healthcare facilities across the country.

**250. In the ISSF World Cup Lima 2025, how many medals did the Indian shooters secure across all events, and what was the breakdown of these medals?**

**ISSF विश्व कप लीमा 2025 में भारतीय शूटरों ने सभी इवेंट्स में कुल कितने पदक जीते और इन पदकों का विवरण क्या था?**

- (a) 7 (Two gold, three silver, two bronze)
- (b) 8 (Two gold, four silver, two bronze)
- (c) 7 (Two gold, four silver, one bronze)
- (d) 6 (Two gold, four silver)
- (e) 9 (three gold, four silver, two bronze)

Ans. c

Sol. India finishes 2025 ISSF World Cup Lima Campaign with 7 medals

Indian shooters concluded their campaign at the ISSF World Cup Lima 2025 with seven medals - two gold, four silver, and one bronze - to finish third behind China and the USA on the medal tally.

The ISSF World Cup/Rifle/Shotgun was held at the Peruvian capital city of Lima from 13-22 April 2022. It was the second World Cup of the 2025 ISSF calendar, with the first World Cup being held at Buenos Aires, Argentina from 1-10 April 2025.

At the Buenos Aires event, the Indian shooting contingent won eight medals —four gold, two silver, and two bronze—to finish second behind China.

Medal winners for India

India won 7 medals - two gold, four silver, and one bronze medal at the Lima event.

#### **Gold medal winners**

- Suruchi Singh in the women's 10m air pistol event. She had also won the gold at the Buenos Aires event.
- Saurabh Chaudhary & Suruchi Singh in the 10m air pistol mixed team event.

#### **Silver Medal winners**

- Manu Bhaker in the women's 10m air pistol event. She failed to win a medal at the Buenos Aires event.
- Arjun Babuta in the men's 10m air rifle event
- Simranpreet Kaur Brar in the women's 25m pistol event. It was Simranpreet's first-ever medal at the World Cup.
- Rudrannksh Patil & Arya Borse in the 10m air rifle mixed team event.

#### **Bronze medal winner**

- Saurabh Chaudhary in the men's 10m air pistol event.

251. **The Maharashtra government has launched the Pink E-Rickshaw Scheme to empower women and make them financially independent. Which company is partnering with the Maharashtra government in the Pink E-Rickshaw Scheme to provide electric three-wheelers to the beneficiaries?**

महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने और उन्हें आर्थिक रूप से स्वतंत्र बनाने के लिए पिंक ई-रिक्शा योजना शुरू की है। लाभार्थियों को इलेक्ट्रिक तिपहिया वाहन उपलब्ध कराने के लिए पिंक ई-रिक्शा योजना में कौन सी कंपनी महाराष्ट्र सरकार के साथ साझेदारी कर रही है?

- (a) Tata Motors
- (b) Bajaj Auto
- (c) Kinetic Green Energy
- (d) Hero Electric
- (e) Mahindra Electric

Ans. c

Sol. Maharashtra launches Pink E Rickshaw Scheme with Kinetic Green

The Maharashtra government has launched the Pink E-Rickshaw Scheme to empower women and make them financially independent.

The Pink E Rickshaw Scheme was officially launched by the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Ajit Pawar, at a function in Pune, where electric three-wheelers were distributed to selected beneficiaries.

The Pink E Rickshaw Scheme is being administered by the state government's Women & Child Development Department.

The Kinetic Green Energy company is a partner with the state government in this initiative. The Kinetic Green company will provide the electric three-wheeler to the beneficiaries.

Under the initiative, 10,000 e-rickshaws will be distributed in eight districts: Nagpur, Ahmednagar, Solapur, Kolhapur, Amravati, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, Pune, and Nashik of Maharashtra.

#### About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Devendra Fadnavis (3<sup>rd</sup> time)
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe & Ajit Pawar
- **Governor** - C P Radhakrishnan
- **Legislative Assembly Speaker** - Rahul Narwekar

252. **In April 2025, what was the amount of the penalty imposed by the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) on Union Bank of India for discrepancies in reporting suspicious transactions for 2011-2014?**

अप्रैल 2025 में, वित्तीय खुफिया इकाई (FIU) ने 2011-2014 के लिए संदिग्ध लेन-देन की रिपोर्टिंग में गड़बड़ी के लिए यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया पर कितना जुर्माना लगाया?

- (a) ₹10 lakh

- (b) ₹25 lakh
- (c) ₹50 lakh
- (d) ₹37 lakh
- (e) ₹40 lakh

Ans. d

Sol. Financial Intelligence Unit imposes ₹37 lakh penalty on Union Bank of India  
The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has slapped a ₹37 lakh penalty on Union Bank of India for discrepancies in reporting suspicious transactions for 2011-2014.

Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) in its order dated April 15 imposed a penalty of ₹37 lakh for "discrepancies observed in a matter for the year 2011 to 2014 in reporting of suspicious transaction".

### Recent Penalties imposed on Banks

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank (₹61.4 lakh) by RBI** - for non-compliance with RBI guidelines related to loan system delivery and statutory restrictions on loans and advances.
- **IDFC First Bank (₹38.6 lakh) by RBI** - for violating RBI's Know Your Customer (KYC) norms.
- **Punjab National Bank (₹29.6 lakh) by RBI** - for lapses in following RBI directions on customer service in banks
- **Flipkart Internet Private Limited (1.06 crore) by IRDAI** - for violating e-commerce and corporate agent norms related to online insurance distribution.
- **Penalty on HDFC Bank (₹75 lakh) by RBI** - Violation of KYC (Know Your Customer) norms.
- 

253. **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will sign an agreement with the Green Climate Fund in mid-May to support small businesses in adopting low-emission and climate-resilient technologies. How much funding will SIDBI infuse into the project to support small businesses?**

**भारतीय लघु उद्योग विकास बैंक (सिडबी) मई के मध्य में ग्रीन क्लाइमेट फंड के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर करेगा, ताकि छोटे व्यवसायों को कम उत्सर्जन और जलवायु-लचीली प्रौद्योगिकियों को अपनाने में सहायता मिल सके। सिडबी छोटे व्यवसायों को सहायता देने के लिए परियोजना में कितना धन लगाएगा?**

- (a) \$500 million
- (b) \$1 billion
- (c) \$800 million
- (d) \$400 million
- (e) \$600 million

Ans. c

Sol. SIDBI plans to infuse \$800 million in Climate Fund for small businesses  
Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will sign an agreement with the Green Climate Fund in mid-May to support small businesses in adopting low-emission and climate-resilient technologies.

The bank would infuse \$800 million, a major portion of which will be raised to build a \$1 billion fund, including the existing Global Climate Fund (GCF) for the project. Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), which the Economic Survey 2024-25 estimated to contribute about 30% of India's GDP, are a significant emitter of greenhouse gases and vulnerable to extreme weather events.

**254. Amaravati, the planned capital city of Andhra Pradesh, has set an ambitious goal to become the world's first city powered entirely by renewable energy. What is the target capacity for renewable energy that the city aims to harness through sources like solar, wind, and hydropower?**

आंध्र प्रदेश की योजना के तहत अमरावती शहर ने पूरी तरह से नवीनीकरणीय ऊर्जा से संचालित होने का एक महत्वाकांक्षी लक्ष्य रखा है। शहर किस नवीनीकरणीय ऊर्जा क्षमता को प्राप्त करने का लक्ष्य रखता है, जो सौर, पवन और जलविद्युत जैसे स्रोतों से होगी?

- (a) 1,500 MW
- (b) 2,000 MW
- (c) 3,000 MW
- (d) 2,700 MW
- (e) 3,500 MW

Ans. d

Sol. Amaravati to be world's first fully renewable-powered city

Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh's planned capital city, aims to become the world's first city powered entirely by renewable energy, targeting a 2,700 MW capacity through sources like solar, wind, and hydropower.

The foundation stone for the capital city is expected to be laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi this month, with the project covering 217 square kilometers, a part of the larger 8,352 sq km Andhra Pradesh Capital Region.

Amaravati will serve as a global model for urban sustainability, showcasing India's leadership in clean energy while setting a benchmark for future cities in the green urban planning domain.

#### About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – N Chandrababu Naidu
- **Deputy CM** – Pawan Kalyan
- **Governor** – S. Abdul Nazeer
- **Legislative Assembly Seat** - 175

**255. Recently, which state has launched the Mahila Samvad campaign—an ambitious, statewide drive to connect women with welfare schemes and elevate their voices in governance?**

हाल ही में, किस राज्य ने महिला संवाद अभियान शुरू किया है - जो महिलाओं को कल्याणकारी योजनाओं से जोड़ने और शासन में उनकी आवाज को बुलंद करने के लिए एक महत्वाकांक्षी, राज्यव्यापी अभियान है?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Bihar CM Nitish Kumar launches 'Mahila Samvad' campaign targeting women empowerment

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has launched the Mahila Samvad campaign—an ambitious, statewide drive to connect women with welfare schemes and elevate their voices in governance.

The campaign is a state-wide outreach programme that aims to engage with over two crore women across 70,000 locations in Bihar.

A total of 600 'Mahila Samvad raths' will eventually cover all the 38 districts and 48,000 villages of Bihar.

### About Bihar

- **Capital** – Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar (9<sup>th</sup> time)
- **Deputy CM** - Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha
- **Governor** – Arif Mohammed Khan

256. **At the 2025 NWU Potch Invitational held in South Africa, what was the distance of Neeraj Chopra's winning throw, which secured him the gold medal?**

**दक्षिण अफ्रीका में आयोजित 2025 NWU पॉट इनविटेशनल में, नीरज चोपड़ा के विजयी थ्रो की दूरी क्या थी, जिसने उन्हें स्वर्ण पदक दिलाया?**

- (a) 82.44m
- (b) 84.52m
- (c) 85.00m
- (d) 80.00m
- (e) 81.22m

Ans. b

Sol. Neeraj Chopra Clinches Gold with 84.52 m at NWU Potch Invitational

Neeraj Chopra, the two-time Olympic medallist, started his 2025 season by winning the gold medal at the NWU Potch Invitational in South Africa with an impressive throw of 84.52m.

His throw of 84.52m secured the top spot, placing him ahead of South Africa's Douw Smit (82.44m) and Duncan Robertson (71.22m).

257. **When is World Book and Copyright Day celebrated annually?**

**हर साल वर्ल्ड बुक एंड कॉपीराइट डे कब मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 22 April
- (b) 23 April
- (c) 24 April

(d) 21 April

(e) 19 April

Ans. d

Sol. 23 April - World Book and Copyright Day,

World Book and Copyright Day is observed every year on 23 April.

This global event, organised by UNESCO, aims to promote the importance of reading, encourage lifelong learning, and highlight the value of literature.

Established by UNESCO in 1995, the day honors authors, encourages literacy, and highlights the importance of books in fostering knowledge and creativity.

What is copyright?

Copyright is a legal term that grants exclusive rights to the original works of authors, including literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works.

Copyright is a type of intellectual property that protects the rights of creators of original works of authorship. It gives them exclusive rights to control how their work is used.

**258. Who was awarded the Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma Award 2025 for contributions in education and social empowerment?**

**2025 में शिक्षा और सामाजिक सशक्तिकरण में योगदान के लिए गुरुदेव कालीचरण ब्रह्मा पुरस्कार किसे प्रदान किया गया?**

(a) Kailash Satyarthi

(b) Achyuta Samanta

(c) Sonam Wangchuk

(d) Bindeshwar Pathak

(e) Gaurav Gogoi

Ans. b

Sol. Achyuta Samanta Conferred Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma Award 2025

Achyuta Samanta, the visionary founder of KIIT and KISS, was honored with the prestigious Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma Award 2025 in Kokrajhar, Assam.

The award, instituted by the Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma Trust, celebrates individuals who have made substantial contributions to society, especially in the fields of education and social empowerment.

This recognition comes on the occasion of the 166th birth anniversary of Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma, a revered social reformer and spiritual leader of the Bodo community.

As part of the honour, Dr Samanta received a citation, a memento, and a cash award of Rs. 1 lakh. In a noble gesture, Dr Samanta donated the entire award money back to the Trust for its development.

### Recent Award

- **Breakthrough Prize 2025 for Contribution to ALICE Collaboration at CERN -** Bose Institute's High-Energy Physics Team
- **Knighthood for his services to Cricket -** James Andersons
- **Key to the City of Lisbon -** President Droupadi Murmu

- **Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana (nation's highest civilian honour for a foreign head of state)** - PM Narendra Modi
- **Fred Darrington Sand Master Award** - Sudarsan Pattnaik (for his outstanding contributions to sand art)

259. **What is the name of the skilling initiative launched by MSDE and Microsoft aimed at empowering women in AI careers?**

**MSDE और Microsoft द्वारा महिलाओं को AI करियर में सशक्त बनाने के लिए शुरू की गई कौशल पहल का नाम क्या है?**

- AI Shakti
- Women in Tech
- AI Careers for Women
- Digital Daughters
- TechSakhi

Ans. c

Sol. MSDE and Microsoft Launch 'AI Careers for Women' Initiative to Empower Women in Emerging Tech

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Microsoft have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to launch AI Careers for Women—a pioneering skilling initiative aimed at empowering women in higher education institutions to pursue careers in Artificial Intelligence (AI).

This strategic collaboration seeks to bridge the gender gap in emerging tech by equipping women with industry-aligned AI skills, enabling them to participate meaningfully in the digital economy and become active contributors to India's innovation-led growth.

As part of this collaboration, Microsoft will provide 240-hours training curriculum under AI skilling and Innovation framework for women, aligned to the industry standards, and developed in consultation with the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET).

260. **Which government body took the lead in organizing the official launch of the 'I Am Circular' Coffee Table Book, showcasing India's advancements in the circular economy?**

**भारत की सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी में प्रगति को प्रदर्शित करने वाली 'आई एम सर्कुलर' कॉफी टेबल बुक के आधिकारिक विमोचन का नेतृत्व किस सरकारी संस्था ने किया?**

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- NITI Aayog
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- Ministry of Science and Technology
- Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ans. c

Sol. MeitY Launches 'I Am Circular' Coffee Table Book

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, hosted the release of the 'I Am Circular' Coffee Table Book, curated by the International Council for Circular Economy (ICCE).

The book is a vibrant celebration of India's innovative spirit in driving the circular economy forward.

This Coffee Table Book features 30 of India's most promising innovations identified through the nationwide 'I Am Circular' Challenge, an initiative designed to discover and amplify breakthrough solutions rooted in the principles of the circular economy.

The selected innovations are based on three key themes: Design to Last, Work with Nature, and Use Existing Resources.

**261. For the first time, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj introduces the Special Category National Panchayat Awards-2025, presented during the National Panchayati Raj Day celebration at Lohna Uttar Gram Panchayat, Madhubani, Bihar. These awards recognise outstanding contributions by Gram Panchayats in advancing national priorities such as Climate Action and Atmanirbharta (Self-Reliance) through enhanced Own Source Revenue (OSR). Which Gram Panchayat secured Rank 1 under the Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award (ANPSA) for 2025?**

पहली बार, पंचायती राज मंत्रालय ने विशेष श्रेणी के राष्ट्रीय पंचायत पुरस्कार-2025 की शुरुआत की, जो लोहना उत्तर ग्राम पंचायत, मधुबनी, बिहार में राष्ट्रीय पंचायती राज दिवस समारोह के दौरान प्रस्तुत किया गया। ये पुरस्कार बढ़े हुए स्वयं के स्रोत राजस्व (ओएसआर) के माध्यम से जलवायु कार्रवाई और आत्मानिर्भरता (आत्मनिर्भरता) जैसी राष्ट्रीय प्राथमिकताओं को आगे बढ़ाने में ग्राम पंचायतों के उत्कृष्ट योगदान को मान्यता देते हैं। किस ग्राम पंचायत ने 2025 के लिए आत्म निर्भर पंचायत विशेष पुरस्कार (ANPSA) के तहत रैंक 1 हासिल किया?

- (a) Hatbadra Gram Panchayat, Odisha
- (b) Gollapudi Gram Panchayat, Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Mall Gram Panchayat, Telangana
- (d) Motipur Gram Panchayat, Bihar
- (e) Biradahalli Gram Panchayat, Karnataka

Ans. c

Sol. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj Unveils Special Category National Panchayat Awards-2025

For the first time, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj introduces the Special Category National Panchayat Awards-2025, presented during the National Panchayati Raj Day celebration at Lohna Uttar Gram Panchayat, Madhubani, Bihar. These awards recognize outstanding contributions by Gram Panchayats in advancing national priorities such as Climate Action and Atmanirbharta (Self-Reliance) through enhanced Own Source Revenue (OSR).

### Three Special Award Categories

- CASPA – Climate Action Special Panchayat Award
- ANPSA – Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award
- PKNSSP – Panchayat Kshamta Nirman Sarvottam Sansthan Puraskar (for excellence in capacity building institutions)

### Climate Action Special Panchayat Award (CASPA)

- Rank 1: Dawwa S Gram Panchayat, Gondia District, Maharashtra

- Rank 2: Biradahalli Gram Panchayat, Hassan District, Karnataka
- Rank 3: Motipur Gram Panchayat, Samastipur District, Bihar

**Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award (ANPSA)**

- Rank 1: Mall Gram Panchayat, Rangareddi District, Telangana
- Rank 2: Hatbadra Gram Panchayat, Mayurbhanj District, Odisha
- Rank 3: Gollapudi Gram Panchayat, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh

**Panchayat Kshamta Nirman Sarvottam Sansthan Puraskar (PKNSSP)**

- Rank 1: Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Kerala
- Rank 2: State Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Odisha
- Rank 3: State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam
- Each award includes a financial incentive of Rs.1 crore (Rank 1), Rs.75 lakh (Rank 2), and Rs.50 lakh (Rank 3) respectively. The awardees will be presented with specially designed trophies and certificates. Notably, 3 of the 6 awardee Gram Panchayats – from Bihar (Motipur Gram Panchayat), Maharashtra (Dawwa S Gram Panchayat), and Odisha (Hatbadra Gram Panchayat) – are headed by women Sarpanches.

262. **The Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has launched a next-generation Health Management Information System (HMIS). Who has developed the new Health Management Information System (HMIS) for CGHS?**

**स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत आने वाली केंद्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना (CGHS) ने अगली पीढ़ी की स्वास्थ्य प्रबंधन सूचना प्रणाली (HMIS) शुरू की है। CGHS के लिए नई स्वास्थ्य प्रबंधन सूचना प्रणाली (HMIS) किसने विकसित की है?**

- (a) NIC
- (b) ISRO
- (c) C-DAC
- (d) DRDO
- (e) Infosys

Ans. c

Sol. CGHS launched modernised Health Management Information System

The Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has launched a next-generation Health Management Information System (HMIS), developed by C-DAC.

The revamped HMIS will offer faster, transparent, and user-friendly services like PAN-based beneficiary identification, digital verification, contribution tracking, online card modification, and real-time tracking of applications.

Beneficiaries will receive SMS and email alerts at every stage of application processing, ensuring greater transparency and minimising the need for physical follow-ups.

263. **When is National Panchayati Raj Day observed in India every year?**

**भारत में राष्ट्रीय पंचायती राज दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) April 22
- (b) April 23
- (c) April 24
- (d) April 25
- (e) April 26

Ans. c

Sol. 24 April - National Panchayati Raj Day

National Panchayati Raj Day is marked every year on April 24 in India. The day is observed to commemorate the historic occasion of April 24, 1993, when the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992, came into force.

It celebrates the importance of grassroots democracy, strengthens local governance and helps empower rural communities. The Panchayati Raj system is a three-tier structure where local bodies or Gram Panchayats are given the authority to govern themselves and make decisions for their community's development.

The first National Panchayati Raj Day, also called Panchayati Raj Diwas, was celebrated in 2010. It was officially declared by the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

**264. Who has approved the acquisition of the Target Business by Kandhari Global Beverages Private Limited?**

**किसने कंधारी ग्लोबल बेवरेजेस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड द्वारा लक्षित व्यवसाय की अधिग्रहण को मंजूरी दी?**

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- (c) Reserve Bank of India
- (d) Competition Commission of India
- (e) Ministry of Commerce

Ans. d

Sol. CCI approves the proposed acquisition of the Target Business by Kandhari Global Beverages Private Limited

The Competition Commission of India has approved the proposed acquisition of the Target Business by Kandhari Global Beverages Private Limited.

Kandhari Global Beverages Private Limited (Acquirer) is an authorized bottler of The Coca-Cola Company (TCCC) and Schweppes Holdings Limited (SHL), and is engaged in the business of supplying and distributing non-alcoholic beverage (NAB) products in Rajasthan.

The Target Business comprise of Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Private Limited's business of preparing, packaging, supplying and distributing NAB products in North Gujarat and the Union Territory of Diu (Target Business).

**265. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a circular directing all banks to migrate their existing domains to the exclusive 'bank.in' domain by October 31, 2025. Which institution will facilitate the migration process for banks to the 'bank.in' domain?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने एक परिपत्र जारी कर सभी बैंकों को 31 अक्टूबर, 2025 तक अपने मौजूदा डोमेन को अनन्य 'bank.in' डोमेन में माइग्रेट करने का निर्देश दिया है। कौन सी संस्था बैंकों के लिए 'bank.in' डोमेन में माइग्रेशन प्रक्रिया को सुगम बनाएगी?**

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology
- (c) Ministry of Finance
- (d) National Internet Exchange of India
- (e) Securities and Exchange Board of India

Ans. b

Sol. RBI asks banks to complete migration to bank.in domain by October 31, 2025  
 The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a circular directing all banks to migrate their existing domains to the exclusive 'bank.in' domain by October 31, 2025.  
 The migration process will be facilitated through the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), which has been authorised by the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI).  
 This move aims to address the rising concerns over cybersecurity threats, particularly in digital payments, by providing banks with a secure and trusted domain for online banking operations.  
 Banks can initiate the registration process by contacting IDRBT at sahyog@idrbt.ac.in, where they will receive support for the application and migration to the new domain. A similar domain, 'fin.in', is also planned for non-bank financial entities to enhance security and trust in digital financial services.

**266. In line with its commitment to environmental sustainability and as part of its ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) policy unveiled on Earth Day 2025, Bank of Baroda has announced an ambitious goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions. This target aligns with the global push for climate responsibility and reflects the bank's strategic shift towards greener operations. By what year does Bank of Baroda aim to achieve this net-zero emissions target?**

पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता के अनुरूप और पृथ्वी दिवस 2025 पर अनावरण की गई अपनी ईएसजी (पर्यावरण, सामाजिक और शासन) नीति के हिस्से के रूप में, बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा ने शुद्ध-शून्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन प्राप्त करने के लिए एक महत्वाकांक्षी लक्ष्य की घोषणा की है। यह लक्ष्य जलवायु जिम्मेदारी के लिए वैश्विक प्रयास के अनुरूप है और हरित परिचालन की दिशा में बैंक के रणनीतिक बदलाव को दर्शाता है। बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा का लक्ष्य किस वर्ष तक इस शुद्ध-शून्य उत्सर्जन लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करना है?

- (a) 2030
- (b) 2040
- (c) 2057
- (d) 2060
- (e) 2070

Ans. c

Sol. Bank of Baroda aims to achieve net-zero target by 2057.

Bank of Baroda unveiled its Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) policy on Earth Day 2025, setting a goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by the year 2057. The bank has planted over 30,000 trees in 2025 under its 'Plant a Tree' program, linked to auto and home loan disbursements, emphasizing its commitment to a greener planet. In line with the Earth Day 2025 theme "Our Power, Our Planet," the bank will prioritize renewable energy financing and offer products like green deposits, residential rooftop solar loans, and a green hydrogen financing scheme.

To further its sustainability goals, the bank launched a 'BOB Earth' online platform and initiated green financing training workshops for staff to build awareness and capacity in ESG practices.

**267. The RBI has relaxed regulations to enable Indian exporters to use warehouses in Bharat Mart, a UAE-based multimodal logistics hub, to access**

**global markets more efficiently. What is the primary purpose of RBI's relaxation of regulations regarding Bharat Mart in the UAE?**

आरबीआई ने भारतीय निर्यातकों को वैश्विक बाजारों तक अधिक कुशलता से पहुंचने के लिए संयुक्त अरब अमीरात स्थित मल्टीमॉडल लॉजिस्टिक्स हब, भारत मार्ट में गोदामों का उपयोग करने में सक्षम बनाने के लिए नियमों में ढील दी है। यूएई में भारत मार्ट के संबंध में आरबीआई के नियमों में ढील का प्राथमिक उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) To boost domestic warehousing
- (b) To allow import of foreign goods
- (c) To facilitate global market access for Indian exporters
- (d) To set up RBI offices in the UAE
- (e) To promote e-commerce

Ans. c

Sol. RBI provides export relaxations through warehouses in Bharat Mart in UAE. The RBI has relaxed regulations to enable Indian exporters to use warehouses in Bharat Mart, a UAE-based multimodal logistics hub, to access global markets more efficiently. Banks are now allowed to permit exporters to realize and repatriate full export proceeds within nine months from the date of sale of goods from Bharat Mart warehouses.

Indian exporters with a valid Importer Exporter Code (IEC) can now open or hire warehouses in Bharat Mart without prior conditions, and remit funds for setup and operations, subject to basic verifications.

**268. The 38th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology was hosted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in New Delhi. Who hosted the 38th CABA meeting on behalf of the Archaeological Survey of India?**

एसआई ने केंद्रीय पुरातत्व सलाहकार बोर्ड की 38वीं बैठक की मेजबानी की केंद्रीय पुरातत्व सलाहकार बोर्ड की 38वीं बैठक भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (एसआई) द्वारा नई दिल्ली में आयोजित की गई। भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण की ओर से 38वीं सीएबीए बैठक की मेजबानी किसने की?

- (a) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- (b) Yadubir Singh
- (c) G. Kishan Reddy
- (d) Sanjay Malhotra
- (e) Raghavendra Prasad

Ans. b

Sol. ASI host 38th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology

The 38th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology was hosted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in New Delhi. The meeting was hosted by the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India, Yadubir Singh.

The 37th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology was held on 14 June 2022 in New Delhi.

The Central Advisory Board of Archaeology was constituted by the government of India in 1945. The Board is constituted by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, after every three years.

269. **Which female cricketer was recognized as the Leading Women's Cricketer in the World in the 2025 Wisden edition?**

**विजडन 2025 संस्करण में विश्व की अग्रणी महिला क्रिकेटर के रूप में किसे मान्यता दी गई?**

- (a) Ellyse Perry
- (b) Meg Lanning
- (c) Smriti Mandhana
- (d) Heather Knight
- (e) Harmanpreet Kaur

Ans. c

Sol. Jasprit Bumrah & Smriti Mandhana named Wisden's Leading Cricketers

India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah and star batter Smriti Mandhana have been honoured as the Leading Men's and Women's Cricketers in the World, respectively, in the prestigious Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2025 edition, celebrating their exceptional performances in 2024.

Bumrah, 31, had a phenomenal year across formats, particularly in Test cricket. He claimed a staggering 71 wickets in Tests in 2024, averaging just 14.92, the best for any bowler in a single calendar year with that volume of wickets.

On the women's side, Smriti Mandhana had a year to remember. The elegant left-hander scored 1659 runs across formats in 2024, making her the highest run-scorer in international women's cricket that year. Her run tally included four centuries in ODIs, setting a new record in women's cricket.

#### **Leading T20 Player in the World**

- West Indian wicketkeeper-batsman Nicholas Pooran was named the Leading T20 Player in the World.

#### **Five Wisden Cricketers of the Year**

- Every year, Wisden selects five cricketers for their performance in the English domestic season. It is given only once to a cricketer. This year, the selected players were Gus Atkinson, Jamie Smith, Dan Worrall, Liam Dawson, and Sophie Ecclestone.

#### **Wisden Trophy for the Year's Outstanding Performance**

- New Zealand's Mitchell Santner was named the Wisden Trophy for the Year's Outstanding Performance.
- He took a match-winning 13-wicket haul against India at the Pune Test in 2024 to help New Zealand take a 2-0 lead in the Test Series. New Zealand won the Test series 3-0.

270. **Where is India's largest international cruise terminal located?**

**भारत का सबसे बड़ा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्रूज टर्मिनल कहाँ स्थित है?**

- (a) Chennai
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Delhi
- (e) Kochi

Ans. b

Sol. India's largest International Cruise Terminal launched in Mumbai\

India's largest international cruise terminal in Mumbai commenced its operation recently with the flagging of a cruise ship by the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbanand Sonowal.

Among all the international cruise terminals in India, the Mumbai International Cruise Terminal (MICT) is the largest.

The MICT, developed as per Cruise Bharat Mission, was developed as per latest global standards and is expected to take a pioneering role in developing cruise tourism in India.

Spread over a built-up area of over 4.15 lakh square feet, the MICT has been developed at Ballard Pier. The total investment in the MICT project is ₹556 crore.

MICT is India's largest world-class cruise terminal equipped with 72 check-in and immigration counters spread over an area of 2.07 lakh square feet on the first two floors while the other two floors are developed as commercial floors. It can also handle five ships simultaneously, with 11 metres draft and upto 300 metres length. At the parking space, more than 300 vehicles can be parked simultaneously.

**271. India and Saudi Arabia signed four MoUs and agreed to expand the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council to include two new committees. How many MoUs were signed between India and Saudi Arabia during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Saudi Arabia in 2025?**

**भारत और सऊदी अरब ने चार समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए और भारत-सऊदी अरब रणनीतिक साझेदारी परिषद का विस्तार करके दो नई समितियों को शामिल करने पर सहमति व्यक्त की। 2025 में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की सऊदी अरब यात्रा के दौरान भारत और सऊदी अरब के बीच कितने समझौता ज्ञापनों पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए?**

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

Ans. b

Sol. "India and Saudi Arabia Sign Four MoUs to Strengthen Strategic Partnership During PM Modi's Visit"

India and Saudi Arabia signed four MoUs and agreed to expand the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council to include two new committees.

This was agreed by the top leadership of both countries during Prime Minister Modi's visit to Saudi Arabia.

These MoUs are -

- Cooperation in the field of Space by the space agencies of both countries,
- Cooperation in the field of Health.
- Agreement between NADA and the Saudi anti-doping agency for cooperation in the field of Anti-Doping.
- Cooperation in the Inward Surface Parcel between the postal authorities of the countries.

This was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third visit to Saudi Arabia as the Prime Minister of India. He first visited Saudi Arabia in 2016 and again in 2019.

**272. Which event did Olympian Vithya Ramraj win gold in at the National Federation Senior Athletics Competition in Kochi?**

## कोच्चि में राष्ट्रीय महासंघ वरिष्ठ एथलेटिक्स प्रतियोगिता में ओलंपियन विथ्या रामराज ने किस स्पर्धा में स्वर्ण पदक जीता?

- (a) Women's 400-meter hurdles
- (b) Women's 800-meter race
- (c) Women's 100-meter sprint
- (d) Women's 200-meter hurdles
- (e) Women's 400-meter relay

Ans. a

Sol. Vithya, Yashas win 400 m hurdles titles in National Federation Senior Athletics Competition 2025

Olympian Vithya Ramraj won gold in the women's 400-meter hurdles at the National Federation Senior Athletics Competition in Kochi, clocking 56.04 seconds to qualify for the Asian Championships 2025. Her time also set a new meet record, surpassing Saritaben Gayakwad's 2019 mark of 57.21 seconds.

Anu R finished second with 58.26 seconds, while Ashwini R took third with 1 minute 2.41 seconds.

In the men's 400-meter hurdles, Yashas Palaksha claimed gold with a personal best of 49.32 seconds.

In the men's hammer throw, Damneet Singh won gold with a 68.30-meter effort, while Praveen Kumar took silver and Gurdev Singh got bronze.

In the women's triple jump, Niharika Vashisht secured gold with a 13.49-meter leap.

## 273. What was the name of the operation in which the Indian Army foiled an infiltration attempt in Baramulla district on April 23, 2025?

उस ऑपरेशन का नाम क्या था जिसमें भारतीय सेना ने 23 अप्रैल, 2025 को बारामुल्ला जिले में घुसपैठ की कोशिश को नाकाम कर दिया?

- (a) Operation Sarjeevan
- (b) Operation Tikka
- (c) Operation Uri
- (d) Operation Nala
- (e) Operation Baramulla

Ans. b

Sol. Operation Tikka: Indian Army Foils Infiltration Attempt

The Indian Army successfully foiled an infiltration attempt along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Baramulla district, killing two terrorists during "Operation Tikka" on April 23, 2025. The terrorists were attempting to cross into India from the Sarjeevan area of Uri Nala.

During the operation, heavy exchange of fire took place between the security forces and terrorists. A large quantity of weapons, ammunition, and war-like stores were recovered from the terrorists, who were neutralized during the firefight.

## 274. What is the IMF's revised economic growth rate forecast for the Indian economy in the fiscal year 2025-26?

वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए आईएमएफ का संशोधित आर्थिक विकास दर पूर्वानुमान क्या है?

- (a) 6.2%

- (b) 6.5%
- (c) 6.0%
- (d) 6.8%
- (e) 5.9%

Ans. a

Sol. IMF slashes India's growth rate forecast to 6.2 % for FY 26

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has slashed the economic growth rate forecast for the Indian economy in the fiscal year 2025-26 to 6.2%, citing increased trade tensions and global uncertainty.

The IMF has also reduced its growth projection for the Indian economy to 6.3% in 2026-27.

According to the IMF, the world economy is expected to grow by 2.8 in 2025. In its January forecast, it had forecasted a growth rate of 3.3%.

The IMF expects the world economy to grow by 3.3 % in 2024. These projections for the world economy and India were made by the IMF in its latest edition of the World Economic Outlook Report.

### Updated GDP List

- IMF – 6.2% (FY26), 6.3% (FY27)
- Fitch Rating – 6.2% (FY25), 6.4% (FY26), 6.3% (FY27)
- UNCTAD – 6.5% (CY25)
- Morgan Stanley – 6.1% (FY26)
- CRISIL – 6.5% (FY26)
- ADB – 6.7% (FY26)

275. **On which occasion did Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurate development projects worth over ₹13,480 crore in Madhubani, Bihar?**

**प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने बिहार के मधुबनी में ₹13,480 करोड़ से अधिक की विकास परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन किस अवसर पर किया?**

- (a) World Day For Animals in Laboratories
- (b) World Earth Day
- (c) National Panchayati Raj Day
- (d) Bihar Foundation Day
- (e) Good Governance Day

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi launches development works worth over Rs 13,480 crore in Madhubani. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated, laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 13,480 crore in Madhubani, Bihar on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day.

PM laid the foundation stone of an LPG bottling plant with a rail unloading facility at Hathua in Gopalganj District of Bihar worth around Rs 340 crore.

This will help in streamlining the supply chain and improving the efficiency of bulk LPG transportation.

Boosting power infrastructure in the region, Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for projects worth over Rs 1,170 crore and also inaugurated multiple projects worth over Rs 5,030 crore in the power sector in Bihar under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme.

In line with his commitment to boost rail connectivity across the nation, Prime Minister flagged off Amrit Bharat express between Saharsa and Mumbai, Namo Bharat Rapid rail between Jaynagar and Patna and trains between Pipra and Saharsa and Saharsa and Samastipur.

**276. Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda has launched the National Zero Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign 2025-26 with multilingual awareness materials released across States and UTs. What is India's target year to eliminate Measles and Rubella as per the new campaign?**

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जे.पी. नड्डा ने राष्ट्रीय शून्य खसरा-रूबेला उन्मूलन अभियान 2025-26 की शुरुआत की है, जिसके तहत राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में बहुभाषी जागरूकता सामग्री जारी की गई है। नए अभियान के अनुसार खसरा और रूबेला को खत्म करने के लिए भारत का लक्ष्य वर्ष क्या है?

- (a) 2024
- (b) 2025
- (c) 2026
- (d) 2027
- (e) 2030

Ans. c

Sol. J P Nadda launches National Zero Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda has launched the National Zero Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign 2025-26, reaffirming India's goal to eliminate both diseases by 2026, with multilingual awareness materials released across States and UTs.

India currently has 93.7% first-dose and 92.2% second-dose MR vaccine coverage; 332 districts reported zero measles cases, and 487 districts reported zero rubella cases between Jan-Mar 2025, earning global recognition with the Measles and Rubella Champion Award in 2024.

The campaign emphasises over 95% MR vaccine coverage in all districts, rapid outbreak response, robust surveillance through IDSP, and inter-departmental coordination with a strong focus on public awareness to counter vaccine hesitancy.

**277. AIIMS Raipur has successfully performed its first Swap Kidney Transplant. With this achievement, AIIMS Raipur became the first among the newer AIIMS institutions and the first government hospital in Chhattisgarh to carry out this complex and life-saving procedure. Swap Kidney Transplant is also known as ?**

एम्स रायपुर ने अपना पहला स्वैप किडनी ट्रांसप्लांट सफलतापूर्वक किया है। इस उपलब्धि के साथ, एम्स रायपुर नए एम्स संस्थानों में से पहला और छत्तीसगढ़ का पहला सरकारी अस्पताल बन गया है, जिसने इस जटिल और जीवन रक्षक प्रक्रिया को अंजाम दिया है। स्वैप किडनी ट्रांसप्लांट को इन नामों से भी जाना जाता है?

- (a) Cross Kidney Transplant
- (b) Dual Kidney Transplant
- (c) Paired Kidney Donation
- (d) Kidney Paired Transplant
- (e) Combined Kidney Transplant

Ans. d

Sol. AIIMS Raipur successfully performs first swap kidney transplant

AIIMS Raipur has successfully performed its first Swap Kidney Transplant, also known as a Kidney Paired Transplant.

With this achievement, AIIMS Raipur became the first among the newer AIIMS institutions and the first government hospital in Chhattisgarh to carry out this complex and life-saving procedure.

This significant milestone underscores the institute's commitment to advancing healthcare and providing innovative treatment solutions for patients suffering from end-stage kidney disease. It is estimated that Swap Kidney Transplant lead to a 15 per cent increase in the number of transplants.

Recognising its potential, the National Organisational and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) has recommended for the implementation of Swap donor transplantation to all the states and Union Territories, which could increase the number of donors.

**278. Which company is acquiring 100% equity in AAM India Manufacturing Corporation Pvt. Ltd. (AAMCPL)?**

**AAM इंडिया मैन्यूफैक्चरिंग कॉर्पोरेशन प्रा. लि. (AAMCPL) का 100% इकिटी अधिग्रहण कौन सी कंपनी कर रही है?**

- (a) Tata Motors
- (b) Ashok Leyland
- (c) Bharat Forge Limited
- (d) Mahindra & Mahindra
- (e) Cummins India

Ans. c

Sol. CCI Approves Bharat Forge's 100% Acquisition of AAM India with Modifications, Including e-Axle Asset Transfer

The Competition Commission of India approved the acquisition of 100% equity shareholding of AAM India Manufacturing Corporation Pvt. Ltd. (AAMCPL) by Bharat Forge Limited (BFL), subject to voluntary modifications offered by the parties.

BFL is a global manufacturer of forged components and critical solutions for sectors like automotive, defence, aerospace, oil & gas, and more. Its promoters (BNK Family) also have stakes in joint ventures with Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems (now part of Cummins Inc.).

AAMCPL is engaged in the manufacture and sale of axles for commercial vehicles in India. Before the acquisition, certain business divisions (like the Pune IT office and export components business) will be hived off to affiliates of its parent company, AAM Holdco (USA).

**278. Who has launched digital issuance of sports certificates through DigiLocker, empowering athletes with easy and secure access to their achievements?**

**किसने डिजिलॉकर के माध्यम से खेल प्रमाणपत्रों का डिजिटल जारीकरण शुरू किया है, जिससे एथलीटों को उनकी उपलब्धियों तक आसान और सुरक्षित पहुंच प्राप्त होगी?**

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Mansukh Mandaviya
- (c) Jitendra Singh
- (d) Amit Shah
- (e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. b

Sol. Mansukh Mandaviya Launches Issuance of Sports Certificates via DigiLocker  
Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has launched digital issuance of sports certificates through DigiLocker, empowering athletes with easy and secure access to their achievements.

The National Centre for Sports Science and Research (NCSSR) was inaugurated to become a hub for elite athlete performance research and innovation, supporting India's long-term sporting goals.

The DigiLocker initiative will integrate with the National Sports Repository System (NSRS) to enable Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of rewards without delay or paperwork for medal-winning athletes.

**279. What percentage stake did National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) acquire in 24x7 Moneyworks Consulting Pvt Ltd?**

**राष्ट्रीय कृषि एवं ग्रामीण विकास बैंक (नाबार्ड) ने 24x7 मनीवर्क्स कंसल्टिंग प्राइवेट लिमिटेड में कितनी प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी हासिल की?**

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

Ans. b

Sol. NABARD buys 10% stake in 24x7 Moneyworks to boost rural credit digitisation  
The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has acquired a 10 per cent stake in agri fintech startup 24x7 Moneyworks Consulting Pvt Ltd.

This marks Nabard's first-ever investment in a bootstrapped startup, reinforcing its commitment to digital transformation in rural India.

24x7 Moneyworks Consulting Pvt. Ltd's flagship platform, eKisanCredit (eKCC), is a fully digital loan origination system designed for Cooperative Banks, PACS and RRBs.

The eKCC platform integrates seamlessly with land records, Aadhaar, eKYC, core banking systems and ePACS, enabling end-to-end automation of the rural credit lifecycle.

eKCC has demonstrated the potential to improve access, transparency, and efficiency in dispensing agricultural credit. This strategic collaboration will help Cooperative Banks, PACS, and RRBs deliver faster, transparent, and more inclusive credit services to small and marginal farmers.

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

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

**280. World Immunization Week is observed globally from April 24th to 30th each year to raise awareness about the importance of vaccination in preventing deadly diseases. What is the theme of World Immunization Week 2025?**

**विश्व टीकाकरण सप्ताह हर साल 24 से 30 अप्रैल तक विश्व स्तर पर मनाया जाता है ताकि घातक बीमारियों को रोकने में टीकाकरण के महत्व के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाई जा सके। विश्व टीकाकरण सप्ताह 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Immunization for Global Health
- (b) Vaccination for All
- (c) Immunization for All is Humanly Possible
- (d) Protecting Lives through Vaccines
- (e) Preventing Disease through Immunization

Ans. c

Sol. 24-30 April - World Immunization Week

World Immunization Week is observed globally from April 24th to 30th each year to raise awareness about the importance of vaccination in preventing deadly diseases.

Theme 2025 - Immunization for All is Humanly Possible

The goal of this week is to highlight the role of immunization in protecting people of all ages from preventable diseases and to encourage the use of vaccines to save lives.

**281. International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated every year on the fourth Thursday of April, and in 2025, it was observed on April 24. What is the theme for International Girls in ICT Day 2025?**

**इंटरनेशनल गर्ल्स इन आईसीटी डे हर साल अप्रैल के चौथे गुरुवार को मनाया जाता है, और 2025 में, यह 24 अप्रैल को मनाया गया। इंटरनेशनल गर्ल्स इन आईसीटी डे 2025 का विषय क्या है?"**

- (a) Women in Tech: Future Forward
- (b) Bridging the Digital Gender Divide
- (c) Empower Girls, Empower Innovation
- (d) Girls in ICT for inclusive digital transformation
- (e) Digital Skills for All

Ans. d

Sol. 24 April 2025 - International Girls in ICT Day 2025

International Girls in ICT Day is observed every fourth Thursday of April, and in 2025, it falls on April 24.

The day is celebrated to encourage girls and young women to pursue careers in Information and Communication Technology (ICT). It aims to bridge the gender digital divide and promote greater female participation in STEM fields.

Theme 2025 - Girls in ICT for inclusive digital transformation

**282. When is the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace observed each year?**

**शांति के लिए बहुपक्षवाद और कूटनीति का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष कब मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) April 21
- (b) April 22
- (c) April 23
- (d) April 24
- (e) April 25

Ans. d

Sol. 24 April - International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace

International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is observed every year on 24 April.

The day was designated by the UN General Assembly through resolution A/RES/73/127 in 2018, with the first observance on April 24, 2019.

283. **India decides to suspend visa services to Pakistani nationals with immediate effect. When was the SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme originally established?**

**भारत ने पाकिस्तानी नागरिकों के लिए वीजा सेवाओं को तत्काल प्रभाव से निलंबित करने का निर्णय लिया है। SAARC वीजा छूट योजना मूल रूप से कब स्थापित की गई थी?**

- (a) 1985
- (b) 1992
- (c) 2000
- (d) 2005
- (e) 2010

Ans. b

Sol. India decides to suspend visa services to Pak nationals with immediate effect and more

**Immediate suspension of visa services for Pakistani nationals:** India has halted all visa services to Pakistanis and has asked those currently in India to leave within 48 hours.

**SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme suspended:** The 1992 scheme that allowed special visas for 24 categories of dignitaries from SAARC countries, including Pakistan, has been suspended for Pakistani nationals.

**Indus Water Treaty suspended:** India has suspended the 1960 Indus Water Treaty with Pakistan, demanding an end to Pakistan's support for cross-border terrorism.

**Closure of Attari Integrated Check Post (ICP):** India has closed the Attari Land Port, the only land trade and movement route between India and Pakistan, halting bilateral trade and cross-border movement.

**Reduction in Pakistan High Commission staff:** India will reduce the Pakistani diplomatic staff strength from 55 to 30 by May 1, 2025. No Indian High Commissioner has been posted in Pakistan since 2019.

**Withdrawal of defence attachés:** Defence attachés from both sides will be recalled, ending direct bilateral military-diplomatic engagements between the two countries. The banned Resistance Front (TRF), linked with Pakistani terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) has claimed responsibility for the attack. The National Investigation Agency (NIA), which investigates terror incidents in India, has started a probe into the incident.

284. **Where is the 2nd Asian Yogasana Championships being held?**

**दूसरी एशियाई योगासन चैंपियनशिप कहाँ आयोजित की जा रही है?**

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

Ans. c

Sol. 2nd Asian Yogasana Championships to begin in New Delhi

The 2nd Asian Yogasana Championships began at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

The 3-day event by Yogasana Bharat, over 170 athletes from 21 Asian countries will participate, along with several technical officials and team managers and coaches.

Yoga is all about connecting with yourself, and it plays an important part in creating balance in everyone's life.

285. **Who has won the Pune FIDE Women's Grand Prix with 7/9 points?**

**7/9 अंकों के साथ पुणे फिडे महिला ग्रां प्री किसने जीता है?**

- (a) Zhu Jiner
- (b) Nuryul Salimova
- (c) Koneru Humpy
- (d) Alina Kashlinskaya
- (e) Divya Deshmukh

Ans. c

Sol. Indian Chess Grandmaster Koneru Humpy wins Pune FIDE Women's Grand Prix  
Indian Chess Grandmaster Koneru Humpy won the Pune FIDE Women's Grand Prix with 7/9 points, defeating Nuryul Salimova in the final round.

Chinese Grandmaster Zhu Jiner also scored 7/9 points but finished 2nd due to tiebreaks, sharing Grand Prix points and prize money with Humpy.

India's International Master Divya Deshmukh drew with Alina Kashlinskaya, securing 3rd place with 5.5/9 points.

286. **World Malaria Day, observed every year on April 25th to raise awareness about malaria and promote actions to control, prevent, and ultimately eliminate the disease. What is the theme for World Malaria Day 2025?**

**विश्व मलेरिया दिवस, मलेरिया के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने और बीमारी को नियंत्रित करने, रोकने और अंततः समाप्त करने के लिए कार्रवाई को बढ़ावा देने के लिए हर साल 25 अप्रैल को मनाया जाता है। विश्व मलेरिया दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Malaria is no more
- (b) Together Against Malaria
- (c) Malaria: The Fight Continues
- (d) Malaria Ends with Us: Reinvest, Reimagine, Reignite
- (e) Eradicating Malaria in Our Lifetime

Ans. d

Sol. 25 April - World Malaria Day

World Malaria Day is observed annually on April 25th.

Objective: To raise awareness about the global efforts to control and eliminate malaria, a life-threatening disease caused by Plasmodium parasites and transmitted through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.

Theme for 2025: Malaria ends with us: Reinvest, Reimagine, Reignite

287. **The DP World India Championship will debut at the historic Delhi Golf Club from October 16 to 19, 2025, co-sanctioned with the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), and will be part of the 'Back 9' series in the 2025 Race to Dubai. What is the prize purse for the DP World India Championship, making it the richest golf tournament in India's history?**

**डीपी वर्ल्ड इंडिया चैंपियनशिप 16 से 19 अक्टूबर, 2025 तक ऐतिहासिक दिल्ली गोल्फ क्लब में शुरू होगी, जिसे प्रोफेशनल गोल्फ टूर ऑफ इंडिया (पीजीटीआई) के साथ सह-स्वीकृत किया गया है, और यह 2025 की दुबई रेस में 'बैक 9' सीरीज़ का हिस्सा होगी। डीपी वर्ल्ड इंडिया**

**चैंपियनशिप की पुरस्कार राशि क्या है, जो इसे भारत के इतिहास का सबसे अमीर गोल्फ टूर्नामेंट बनाती है?**

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

Ans. c

Sol. Golf: Inaugural India Championship joins 2025 race to Dubai

The DP World India Championship will debut at the historic Delhi Golf Club from October 16 to 19, 2025, co-sanctioned with the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), and will be part of the 'Back 9' series in the 2025 Race to Dubai.

With a USD 4 million prize purse, the India Championship becomes the richest golf tournament ever held in India, highlighting the country's rising prominence in global golf.

The tournament will take place at the Lodhi Course at Delhi Golf Club, a course steeped in history, designed by Peter Thomson in 1977 and enhanced by Gary Player Design in 2019. It has hosted the inaugural Indian Open in 1964.

**288. On which stock exchange has Capital India Finance Limited recently listed its equity shares?**

**Capital India Finance Limited ने हाल ही में अपने इकिटी शेयर किस स्टॉक एक्सचेंज पर सूचीबद्ध किए हैं?**

- (a) Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)
- (b) Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX)
- (c) National Stock Exchange (NSE)
- (d) Calcutta Stock Exchange
- (e) India International Exchange

Ans. c

Sol. Capital India Finance Limited Lists on National Stock Exchange (NSE)

Capital India Finance Limited, a leading non-banking financial company, has marked a significant milestone by listing its equity shares on the National Stock Exchange of India. This strategic development reflects the company's commitment to enhancing long-term shareholder value and increasing accessibility for a wider investor base.

Previously, Capital India Finance Limited shares were available only on the Bombay Stock Exchange. Now, they can also be traded on the National Stock Exchange under the same ticker symbol, CIFL. This dual listing is expected to provide broader visibility among a larger investor base and improve market participation.

Capital India Corp Private Limited holds 72.95 per cent of CIFL's equity.

**289. Which Indian organisation signed JDIs with Russian institutions for critical mineral research?**

**किस भारतीय संस्था ने क्रिटिकल मिनरल रिसर्च के लिए रूसी संस्थानों के साथ JDI पर हस्ताक्षर किए?**

- (a) DRDO
- (b) ISRO

(c) CSIR-IMMT  
 (d) BARC  
 (e) IIT Delhi

Ans. c

Sol. CSIR-IMMT Strengthens Indo-Russian Collaboration with Strategic JDIs on Critical Mineral Research

CSIR-IMMT signed two Joint Declarations of Intent (JDIs) with Russian institutions—JSC Giredmet (Rosatom) and NUST MISIS—to boost collaboration in critical mineral research and sustainable resource development.

The agreements were signed by Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Director of CSIR-IMMT, with counterparts Dr. Andrei I. Golinei and Dr. Michael R. Filonov, with coordination from top scientists from both nations.

Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Counsellor at the Indian Embassy in Moscow, endorsed the initiative, highlighting the significance of Indo-Russian cooperation in mineral technologies.

**290. RBI has imposed a penalty of ₹1.61 crore on which bank for violating provisions of the Banking Regulation Act and non-compliance related to interest rates on advances, the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme, and MSME lending guidelines?**

**आरबीआई ने बैंकिंग विनियमन अधिनियम के प्रावधानों का उल्लंघन करने और अग्रिमों पर ब्याज दरों, किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड (केसीसी) योजना और एमएसएमई ऋण दिशानिर्देशों से संबंधित गैर-अनुपालन के लिए किस बैंक पर ₹1.61 करोड़ का जुर्माना लगाया है?**

(a) Indian Bank  
 (b) Punjab National Bank  
 (c) Axis Bank  
 (d) Canara Bank  
 (e) State Bank of India

Ans. a

Sol. RBI Imposes Penalties on Indian Bank and Mahindra Finance for Regulatory Non-Compliance

RBI imposed a penalty of ₹1.61 crore on Indian Bank for violating provisions of the Banking Regulation Act and non-compliance related to interest rates on advances, the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme, and MSME lending guidelines.

Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd was fined ₹71.30 lakh by RBI for failing to comply with NBFC regulatory directions and Know Your Customer (KYC) norms under the 2016 framework.

RBI clarified that these penalties are for regulatory compliance deficiencies and do not affect the validity of customer transactions or agreements.

#### **Recent Penalties imposed on Banks by RBI**

- Union Bank of India (₹37 lakh) by Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)** - for discrepancies in reporting suspicious transactions for 2011-2014.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank (₹61.4 lakh) by RBI** - for non-compliance with RBI guidelines related to loan system delivery and statutory restrictions on loans and advances.
- IDFC First Bank (₹38.6 lakh) by RBI** - for violating RBI's Know Your Customer (KYC) norms.

- **Punjab National Bank (₹29.6 lakh) by RBI** - for lapses in following RBI directions on customer service in banks
- **Flipkart Internet Private Limited (1.06 crore) by IRDAI** - for violating e-commerce and corporate agent norms related to online insurance distribution.

291. **International Delegate's Day is observed annually on which date?**

**अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रतिनिधि दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?**

- April 20
- April 22
- April 25
- April 24
- April 26

Ans. c

Sol. 25 April - International Delegate's Day

International Delegate's Day is observed annually on April 25 to honour the pivotal role of delegates in shaping international cooperation, diplomacy, and peace.

This date commemorates the first day of the San Francisco Conference, also known as the United Nations Conference on International Organisation, held on April 25, 1945.

During this conference, delegates from 50 countries gathered to draft the Charter of the United Nations, laying the foundation for the establishment of the UN and creating a new global system for resolving conflicts and promoting peace.

292. **Dr. K Kasturirangan passed away recently at the age of 84. Who was he?**

**डॉ. के कस्तुरीरंगन का हाल ही में 84 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वे कौन थे?**

- Former Chief Justice of India
- Former Chairman of ISRO
- Former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India
- Former Chief Election Commissioner of India
- Former Chief of the Indian Army

Ans. b

Sol. Ex-ISRO Chief Dr K Kasturirangan Dies At 84

Dr. K Kasturirangan, former ISRO chief and the visionary behind India's first moon mission, Chandrayaan-1, passed away at the age of 84 in Bengaluru.

Born on October 24, 1940, in Ernakulam, Dr. Kasturirangan was a distinguished astrophysicist, Padma Shri (1982), Padma Bhushan (1992), and Padma Vibhushan (2000) awardee, and a former Member of Parliament (2003).

He served as the head of ISRO for nearly a decade, during which time India's two primary rockets became operational, marking a significant achievement in India's space program.

Dr. Kasturirangan played a key role in launching India's maiden mission to the moon, Chandrayaan-1, which was initially named Somayaan and became a landmark in India's space exploration efforts.

India's moon mission ambitions were first revealed by Dr. Kasturirangan on May 11, 1999, when he mentioned plans to launch a modest orbital mission to the moon using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) during the National Technology Day speech.

293. **Where was the second edition of SUFALAM (Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors) 2025 held?**

**SUFALAM (स्टार्ट-अप फोरम फॉर एस्पायरिंग लीडर्स एंड मेंटर्स) 2025 का दूसरा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया था?**

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Bangalore
- (d) Sonipat
- (e) Pune

Ans. d

Sol. NIFTEM-Kundli hosts the 2nd edition of SUFALAM 2025

The National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Management (NIFTEM), hosted the second edition of SUFALAM (Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors) 2025 on its campus in Kundli, Sonipat, Haryana.

The Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Chirag Paswan, inaugurated the 2nd edition of SUFALAM 2025 on 25th April 2025.

The SUFALAM conclave aims to strengthen India's food processing sector through innovation, entrepreneurship, and collaboration.

The first edition of SUFALAM was held in New Delhi on 13-14 February 2024.

About NIFTEM

The National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Management (NIFTEM) was established by the Union Ministry of Food Processing in 2012 at Kundli, Sonepat, Haryana.

It was recognised as an Institute of National Importance by the Government of India in 2021.

294. **Where was the 6th edition of India Steel 2025 held?**

**इंडिया स्टील 2025 का छठा संस्करण कहाँ आयोजित किया गया?**

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

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi inaugurates the India Steel 2025 being held in Mumbai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 6th edition of India Steel 2025, being held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The first India Steel exhibition cum conference was organised in 2013.

The India Steel exhibition-cum-conference was organised by the Union Ministry of Steel in collaboration with the Federation of India Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

The theme of India Steel 2025 was "Shaping the Future of Steel: Driving Capacity Augmentation, Sustainability, Digitalisation, and Downstream Applications."

295. **Which Institution of India has been ranked the best Indian University in the Asian University Ranking 2025 of the Times Higher Education?**

टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन की एशियाई विश्वविद्यालय रैंकिंग 2025 में भारत के किस संस्थान को सर्वश्रेष्ठ भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय का दर्जा दिया गया है?

- (a) Anna University
- (b) IIT Indore
- (c) IISc Bengaluru
- (d) Shoolini University
- (e) Mahatma Gandhi University

Ans. c

Sol. The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, has been ranked as the best University in India in the Times Higher Education's Asia University Rankings 2025. IISc Bengaluru was ranked 38th in Asia with an overall score of 65.2, while Tsinghua University of China, with a score of 93, was the top-ranked higher educational institution in Asia. Tsinghua University was also the top-ranked Asian University in 2024. The Times Higher Education's Asia University Ranking 2025 ranked 853 universities from 35 countries and territories in Asia.

These universities were ranked based on 18 performance indicators in Research Quality, Industry, Research Environment, Teaching, and International Outlook.

#### Top Five Indian Universities

1. IISc Bengaluru topped among Indian institutions with a score of 65.2 but dropped to 38th rank in Asia (from 32 last year).
2. Anna University, Chennai ranked 2nd in India and 111th in Asia.
3. IIT Indore was 3rd in India, 131st in Asia.
4. Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala came 4th, ranked 140th in Asia.
5. Shoolini University, Himachal Pradesh stood 5th, placed at 146th in Asia.

#### Top 10 Asian Universities

1. Tsinghua University, China
2. Peking University, China
3. National University of Singapore, Singapore
4. Nanyang Technological Institute, Singapore
5. University of Tokyo, Japan
6. University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
7. Fudan University, China
8. Zhejiang University, China
9. The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
10. Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

296. Who from India has recently been included in the World Bank's Private Sector Investment Lab initiative?

हाल ही में भारत से किसे विश्व बैंक की निजी क्षेत्र निवेश प्रयोगशाला पहल में शामिल किया गया है?

- (a) Sunil Bharti Mittal
- (b) Mukesh Ambani
- (c) Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- (d) Gautam Adani
- (e) Kumar Mangalam Birla

Ans. a

Sol. Sunil Mittal included in World Bank's Private Sector Investment Lab

Chairperson of Bharti Enterprises, Sunil Bharti Mittal, has been included in the World Bank's Private Sector Investment Lab initiative.

The inclusion of Sunil Bharti Mittal and three other private sector chief executive officers (CEO) was announced by the World Bank at its meeting of the Private Sector Investment Lab in Washington, D.C.

Bharti Enterprises becomes the second Indian company to be included in the Private Sector Initiative after Tata Sons.

**297. What is the World Bank's revised GDP growth forecast for India for FY26?**

**वित्त वर्ष 26 के लिए भारत के लिए विश्व बैंक का संशोधित जीडीपी विकास पूर्वानुमान क्या है?**

- (a) 5.9%
- (b) 6.0%
- (c) 6.7%
- (d) 6.3%
- (e) 6.5%

Ans. d

Sol. World Bank lowers India's FY26 growth forecast to 6.3%

The World Bank has lowered India's growth forecast for the current fiscal by 4 percentage points to 6.3% amid global economic weakness and policy uncertainty. In its previous estimate, the World Bank had projected India's growth at 6.7% for the fiscal year 2025-26.

In India, growth in FY24/25 disappointed because of slower growth in private investment and public capital expenditures that did not meet government targets, the World Bank said in its twice-yearly regional outlook.

**Updated GDP List 18/4/24 (last Update) by Lavkush**

- World Bank – 6.3% (FY26)
- IMF – 6.2% (FY26), 6.3% (FY27)
- Fitch Rating – 6.2% (FY25), 6.4% (FY26), 6.3% (FY27)
- UNCTAD – 6.5% (CY25)
- Morgan Stanley – 6.1% (FY26)
- CRISIL – 6.5% (FY26)
- ADB – 6.7% (FY26)

**298. Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha inaugurated the Garia and Borsho Boron Utsav 2025, a two-day cultural festival at Swami Vivekananda Maidan, Agartala.**

**Garia Puja is a ritual dedicated to which deity?**

**त्रिपुरा के मुख्यमंत्री माणिक साहा ने स्वामी विवेकानंद मैदान, अगरतला में दो दिवसीय सांस्कृतिक उत्सव गरिया और बोरशो बोरोन उत्सव 2025 का उद्घाटन किया। गरिया पूजा किस देवता को समर्पित एक अनुष्ठान है?**

- (a) Vishnu
- (b) Brahma
- (c) Krishna
- (d) Mahadev
- (e) Durga

Ans. d

Sol. Tripura Launches Garia and Borsho Boron Utsav 2025 to Celebrate Indigenous Culture

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha inaugurated the Garia and Borsho Boron Utsav 2025, a two-day cultural celebration held at Swami Vivekananda Maidan in Agartala.

Organised by the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, in collaboration with local bodies, the festival celebrates the rich cultural traditions of Tripura—particularly the Garia Puja observed by the Tripuri and Reang communities.

Garia Puja is a sacred ritual dedicated to Lord Mahadev (Shiva) and is believed to bring peace, prosperity, and happiness to the people.

#### About Tripura

- **Capital** - Agartala
- **Chief Minister** - Manik Sarkar
- **Governor** - Indra Sena Reddy Nallu

299. **Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of REC Limited?**

**आरईसी लिमिटेड के अध्यक्ष और प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Vivek Kumar Dewangan
- (b) Jitendra Srivastava
- (c) Suresh Kumar Gupta
- (d) Rajesh Sharma
- (e) Ashok Kumar Verma

Ans. b

Sol. Jitendra Srivastava Appointed Chairman and Managing Director of REC Limited. Jitendra Srivastava has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of REC Limited, a leading public infrastructure finance company in the power sector. His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), and he will serve at the Additional Secretary rank under the Ministry of Power. He succeeds Vivek Kumar Dewangan, whose tenure as CMD concluded last month.

#### About REC Ltd

- Formerly - Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
- Founded - 25 July 1969
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- CMD - Jitendra Srivastava

300. **How many awards did Akashvani win in total at the India Audio Summit and Awards 2025?**

**भारत ऑडियो शिखर सम्मेलन और पुरस्कार 2025 में आकाशवाणी ने कुल कितने पुरस्कार जीते?**

- (a) Four
- (b) Five
- (c) Six
- (d) Seven
- (e) Eight

Ans. c

Sol. Akashvani wins six awards at India Audio Summit and Awards 2025

Akashvani won a total of six awards in various categories at the India Audio Summit and Awards 2025. The third edition of the awards, which recognise excellence in radio and audio content production, was held in Mumbai last night.

Among the top accolades for Akashvani, former Union Minister Smriti Irani's programme 'Nai Soch Nai Kahani – A Radio Journey with Smriti Irani' was named Series of the Year on radio.

Other award-winning programmes include 'Chhayageet', which won in the Best Late Night Show category; 'Ujale Unki Yadon Ke', named Best Celebrity Show on Air; and 'Safarcast', which clinched the award for Best Travel Show. Akashvani also bagged the award for the Best Interstitial, showcasing its creative excellence in short-form audio content.

Director General of Akashvani - Dr Pragya Paliwal Gaur

**301. On which date is World Penguin Day celebrated annually?**

**विश्व पेंगुइन दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तिथि को मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) April 25
- (b) April 24
- (c) April 26
- (d) April 27
- (e) April 28

Ans. a

Sol. 25 April - World Penguin Day

World Penguin Day is celebrated every year on 25 April to raise awareness about the conservation of penguins and their natural habitats.

This special day is dedicated to raising awareness about penguins, the adorable flightless birds that live mostly in the Southern Hemisphere, especially in Antarctica.

Penguins are not just cute animals seen in cartoons or movies; they are an essential part of our ecosystem and face many challenges due to climate change and human activities.

**302. Who has launched the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme Guidelines and the Online Portal?**

**इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स कंपोनेंट मैन्युफैक्चरिंग स्कीम दिशानिर्देश और ऑनलाइन पोर्टल किसने लॉन्च किया है?**

- (a) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (d) Amit Shah
- (e) Piyush Goyal

Ans. c

Sol. Ashwini Vaishnaw launches Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme Guidelines & Online Portal

Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme Guidelines and the Online portal in New Delhi.

This scheme, with a funding of 22 thousand 919 crore rupees to make India Atmanirbhar in the electronics supply chain. The guidelines have been formulated with intense industry consultation.

The scheme will be open to receive applications from 1st May through the online portal.

The Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme aims to develop a robust component ecosystem by attracting large investments in the electronics component manufacturing ecosystem, increasing Domestic Value addition by integrating Indian companies with Global Value Chains.

**303. Who received the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award for his visionary leadership in 2024?**

**2024 में अपने दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व के लिए लता दीनानाथ मंगेशकर पुरस्कार किसे मिला?**

- (a) Ratan Tata
- (b) Mukesh Ambani
- (c) Kumar Mangalam Birla
- (d) Anand Mahindra
- (e) Gautam Adani

Ans. c

Sol. Kumar Mangalam Birla received Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2025

Kumar Mangalam Birla received the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award for his visionary leadership, alongside other notable honourees in Mumbai.

The 57-year-old industrialist, Padma Bhushan awardee and Chairman of the Aditya Birla Group, is being honoured for his pivotal role in shaping India's growth story.

This year, the award will also be presented to several notable individuals, including actors Shraddha Kapoor, Sunil Shetty, Sachin Pilgaonkar, Sonali Kulkarni, and violinist Dr N Rajam. The event marks the 83rd Memorial Day of Pandit Deenanath Mangeshkar. While Sunil Shetty and Shraddha Kapoor will be felicitated for their impactful contributions to Indian cinema, Sonali Kulkarni will be honoured for her distinguished body of work that bridges theatre and film, reflecting emotional depth and cultural richness.

The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar was instituted in 2022 in memory of the late legendary singer. It is organised by the Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan.

#### Recent Award

- **Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma Award 2025** - Achyuta Samanta
- **Breakthrough Prize 2025 for Contribution to ALICE Collaboration at CERN** - Bose Institute's High-Energy Physics Team
- **Knighthood for his services to Cricket** - James Anderson
- **Key to the City of Lisbon** - President Droupadi Murmu
- **Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana (nation's highest civilian honour for a foreign head of state)** - PM Narendra Modi

**304. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Public Interest Director of NSE International Exchange (NSE IX)?**

**एनएसई इंटरनेशनल एक्सचेंज (एनएसई IX) के अध्यक्ष और सार्वजनिक हित निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ajay Tyagi
- (b) Neeraj Kumar Gupta
- (c) Shaktikanta Das

- (d) Rajiv Kumar
- (e) Subhash Chandra Garg

Ans. b

Sol. Neeraj Kumar Gupta Appointed Chairman and Public Interest Director of NSE International Exchange

NSE International Exchange (NSE IX) at GIFT City appointed Neeraj Kumar Gupta (Retd. IAS) as its Chairman and Public Interest Director, after approval by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA).

Neeraj Kumar Gupta, a 1982-batch IAS officer (UP cadre), previously served as Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) and later as Central Information Commissioner until 2023.

Gupta was instrumental in shaping three Union Budgets (2016–2018), promoting the digital economy, and leading major initiatives in government investment management, equity listings, divestments, ETFs, and capital market reforms.

**305. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Home Credit India?**

**होम क्रेडिट इंडिया के नए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Vivek Singh
- (b) Ramesh Kumar
- (c) Sunil Gupta
- (d) Rajeev Mishra
- (e) Amitabh Bachchan

Ans. a

Sol. Home Credit India Appoints Vivek Singh as New Chief Executive Officer to Drive Growth

Home Credit India has appointed Vivek Singh as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), strengthening its leadership team to drive the next phase of growth.

Vivek Singh brings extensive experience in consumer finance, banking, and financial services, having worked with leading organisations before joining Home Credit India. As CEO, Singh is expected to focus on expanding Home Credit's digital capabilities, customer-centric offerings, and sustainable business growth in the Indian market.

**306. Who has become the first Indian woman to successfully swim across the North Channel, covering a distance of 38 km in 13 hours and 22 minutes from Northern Ireland to Scotland?**

**उत्तरी आयरलैंड से स्कॉटलैंड तक 13 घंटे और 22 मिनट में 38 किलोमीटर की दूरी तय करके उत्तरी चैनल को सफलतापूर्वक पार करने वाली पहली भारतीय महिला कौन बनी हैं?**

- (a) Sayani Das
- (b) Parul Tyagi
- (c) Anshika Singh
- (d) Shivani Goyal
- (e) Peehu Yadav

Ans. a

Sol. Sayani Das Becomes First Indian Woman to Cross the North Channel

Sayani Das became the first Indian woman to cross the North Channel, completing the 38 km swim in 13 hours and 22 minutes from Northern Ireland to Scotland. This swim marks the fifth open water channel swim conquered by Sayani, who aims to complete the Oceans Seven challenge, which includes seven of the toughest swims worldwide.

To prepare for the frigid 13°C waters of the North Channel, Sayani endured ice baths as part of her training, dunking herself in a drum filled with 20-30 kg of ice for up to an hour daily.

**307. On which date is the International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day observed?**

**अंतर्राष्ट्रीय चेनोबिल आपदा स्मृति दिवस किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 25 April
- (b) 26 April
- (c) 27 April
- (d) 28 April
- (e) 29 April

Ans. b

Sol. 26 April - International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day

International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day is observed on April 26 to commemorate the 1986 nuclear disaster.

The day honors the victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and raises awareness about the devastating consequences of nuclear accidents.

On 8 December 2016 the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 26 April as International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day. An explosion at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in 1986 spread a radioactive cloud over large parts of the Soviet Union, now the territories of Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Federation.

**308. World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated every year on 26 April to highlight the importance of intellectual property (IP) — like patents, copyrights, trademarks, and designs — in promoting innovation and creativity. What is the theme for World Intellectual Property Day 2025?**

**विश्व बौद्धिक संपदा दिवस हर साल 26 अप्रैल को मनाया जाता है, ताकि नवाचार और रचनात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में बौद्धिक संपदा (आईपी) - जैसे पेटेंट, कॉपीराइट, ट्रेडमार्क और डिज़ाइन - के महत्व को उजागर किया जा सके। विश्व बौद्धिक संपदा दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Innovate for a Green Future
- (b) IP and SMEs: Taking Your Ideas to Market
- (c) IP and Youth: Innovating for a Better Future
- (d) IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP
- (e) Protecting Traditional Knowledge

Ans. d

Sol. 26 April - World Intellectual Property Day

World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated every year on 26 April to highlight the importance of intellectual property (IP) — like patents, copyrights, trademarks, and designs — in promoting innovation and creativity.

Theme 2025 - IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP

The day was established by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in 2000. The date, 26 April, marks the day when the WIPO Convention came into force in 1970.

**309. Who led the Indian delegation at the BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting in Brasília?**

**ब्रासीलिया में ब्रिक्स श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रियों की बैठक में भारतीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व किसने किया?**

- (a) Bhupender Yadav
- (b) Smriti Irani
- (c) Sushri Shobha Karandlaje
- (d) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (e) Ashwini Vaishnaw

Ans. c

Sol. 11th BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting 2025 Adopts Declaration Under Brazilian Presidency

Union Minister of State for Labour & Employment, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, led the Indian delegation at the BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting held under Brazil's Presidency in Brasília.

The meeting, convened under the slogan "Strengthening the Cooperation of the Global South for More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance", culminated in the adoption of a forward-looking declaration addressing two pivotal themes: "Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Future of Work" and "The Impacts of Climate Change on the World of Work and a Just Transition".

India's achievement of reduction in GHG emissions (2020–2019) and its net-zero by 2070 pledge reinforced its climate leadership.

**310. Which film from SRFTI was selected for the La Cinef section at the 78th Festival de Cannes 2025?**

**एसआरएफटीआई की कौन सी फिल्म 78वें फेस्टिवल डे कान्स 2025 में ला सिनेफ सेक्शन के लिए चुनी गई?**

- (a) The White Tiger
- (b) A Doll Made Up of Clay
- (c) The Lunchbox
- (d) Lagaan
- (e) Gully Boy

Ans. b

Sol. "A Doll Made Up of Clay" from SRFTI Selected for La Cinef at 78th Cannes Film Festival 2025

"A Doll Made Up of Clay," a student film from Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), has been officially selected for the prestigious La Cinef section at the 78th Festival de Cannes 2025, marking a major milestone for Indian cinema education.

The 23-minute experimental film narrates the emotional journey of a young Nigerian athlete facing displacement, injury, and cultural reconnection while stranded in India.

Produced by Sahil Manoj Ingle (India) and directed by Kokob Gebrehaweria Tesfay (Ethiopia), the film exemplifies SRFTI's commitment to global cinematic storytelling and innovation.

Faculty and creators celebrate the Cannes selection as a testament to resilience, cross-cultural vision, and the global spirit thriving within SRFTI's educational environment.

**311. Which organization received the Udyog Vikas Award at the Udyog Vikas event in Kerala, recognizing its contribution to industrial development?**

**केरल में उद्योग विकास कार्यक्रम में किस संगठन को औद्योगिक विकास में उसके योगदान के लिए उद्योग विकास पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया?**

- (a) Ministry of Heavy Industries
- (b) Indian Industrial Development Corporation
- (c) National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation
- (d) Kerala Industrial Development Corporation
- (e) Industrial Growth Council

Ans. c

Sol. National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) honoured with Udyog Vikas Award

The National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) received the prestigious Udyog Vikas Award at the Udyog Vikas event in Kerala, recognizing its contribution to industrial development.

Shri Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma highlighted the transformational potential of the Palakkad Integrated Manufacturing Cluster (IMC), set to reshape Kerala's infrastructure and the broader southern region's industrial landscape.

The 1,710-acre Palakkad Industrial Smart City offers excellent connectivity through road, rail, and air, making it a key industrial hub for South India, fostering investments, employment, and regional innovation.

**312. Which ministry signed an MoU with Swiggy Instamart to market cooperative products?**

**किस मंत्रालय ने सहकारी उत्पादों के विपणन के लिए स्विगी इंस्टामार्ट के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए?**

- (a) Ministry of Agriculture
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) Ministry of Cooperation
- (d) Ministry of Rural Development
- (e) Ministry of Commerce

Ans. c

Sol. Cooperation Ministry signs MoU with Swiggy Instamart to market cooperative products

The Ministry of Cooperation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Swiggy Instamart to onboard cooperative dairy and other products on the e-commerce platform.

Under the agreement, products under Bharat Organics and other cooperative dairy products will be available on Swiggy's e-commerce and q-commerce platforms.

The partnership aims to support cooperative brands in marketing, promotion, consumer technology and capacity building, according to the ministry.

The collaboration comes as the United Nations has declared 2025 as the International Year of Cooperation, with Swiggy and the ministry planning an awareness campaign to promote cooperative movements nationwide.

**313. Which country will host the 10th edition of FIFA Women's World Cup in 2027?**

**2027 में फीफा महिला विश्व कप के 10वें संस्करण की मेजबानी कौन सा देश करेगा?**

- (a) Germany
- (b) France
- (c) Brazil
- (d) USA
- (e) Japan

Ans. c

Sol. Brazil to host the 10th edition of FIFA Women's World Cup 2027

Brazil will host the 10th edition of Women's World Cup in 2027, marking the first time the tournament takes place in South America.

Australia and New Zealand jointly hosted the 9th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup in 2023. It was won by Spain, defeating England in the final.

Football powerhouse Brazil had previously hosted the FIFA Men's World Cup in 1950 and 2014.

**About the FIFA Women's World Cup**

- FIFA organized the first Women's World Cup in 1991 in China.
- The World Cup is held every four years.
- Five countries have won the World Cup: the USA (four times), Germany (two times), Norway, Japan, and Spain have won the trophy once.

**314. Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, along with Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has launched the Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards for Delhiites in New Delhi. What is the health cover amount provided by the Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards scheme?**

**केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता के साथ मिलकर नई दिल्ली में दिल्लीवासियों के लिए आयुष्मान वय वंदना कार्ड लॉन्च किए। आयुष्मान वय वंदना कार्ड योजना द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली स्वास्थ्य कवर राशि क्या है?**

- (a) 3 lakh rupees
- (b) 5 lakh rupees
- (c) 7 lakh rupees
- (d) 10 lakh rupees
- (e) 2 lakh rupees

Ans. b

Sol. Hardeep Singh Puri & Delhi CM to launch Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards Delhiites Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, along with Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has launched the Ayushman Vay Vandana Cards for Delhiites in New Delhi.

The scheme provides 5 lakh rupees free health cover to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above, irrespective of their socio-economic status.

The senior citizens aged 70 years and above belonging to families already covered under AB PM-JAY get an additional top-up cover of up to 5 lakh rupees per year for themselves.

**315. How many gold medals did India win at the Asian Yogasana Sport Championship?**

**एशियाई योगासन खेल चैम्पियनशिप में भारत ने कितने स्वर्ण पदक जीते?**

- (a) 80
- (b) 83
- (c) 85
- (d) 90
- (e) 75

Ans. b

Sol. India dominates Asian Yogasana Sport Championship with record 83 gold medals. India delivered a dominant performance at the Asian Yogasana Sport Championship, securing a record 83 gold medals to top the medal tally at the event in Delhi.

The hosts also won three silver and one bronze medal to end with 87 medals, finishing well ahead of Japan, which claimed three gold, three silver and four bronze medals.

Mongolia, Oman and Nepal rounded off the top five standings. Countries such as Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Kazakhstan and Bhutan also showcased strong performances, highlighting the growing footprint of yogasana as a competitive sport across Asia.

The championship saw participation from over 21 countries, including Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan.

**316. World Day for Safety and Health at Work is observed every year on April 28 to promote the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. What is the theme for World Day for Safety and Health at Work in 2025?**

**कार्यस्थल पर सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य के लिए विश्व दिवस हर साल 28 अप्रैल को व्यावसायिक दुर्घटनाओं और बीमारियों की रोकथाम को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मनाया जाता है। 2025 में कार्यस्थल पर सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य के लिए विश्व दिवस का विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Empowering Workers through Technology
- (b) Revolutionising Health and Safety: The Role of AI and Digitalisation at Work
- (c) Protecting Workers: The Role of Mental Health
- (d) Safety First: Empowering Workers with Knowledge
- (e) Innovation for Worker's Safety

Ans. b

Sol. 28 April - World Day for Safety and Health at Work

World Day for Safety and Health at Work is observed every year on April 28 to promote the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases.

The day is marked globally to raise awareness about the importance of creating safe and healthy workplaces, and it highlights efforts to reduce work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities.

Theme 2025 - Revolutionising Health and Safety: The Role of AI and Digitalisation at Work

**317. What was the growth rate of India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in March 2025?**

**मार्च 2025 में इंडस्ट्रियल प्रोडक्शन (IIP) के भारत के इंडेक्स की वृद्धि दर क्या थी?**

- (a) 2.5%
- (b) 2.9%

- (c) 3.0%
- (d) 3.5%
- (e) 4.0%

Ans. c

Sol. India's Index of Industrial Production records growth of 3% in March 2025  
India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew by 3% in March 2025, compared to 2.9% growth in February 2025; the Quick Estimates for March place the IIP at 164.8 versus 160.0 in March 2024.

Sector-wise growth for March 2025: Mining (0.4%), Manufacturing (3.0%), and Electricity (6.3%); within manufacturing, 13 out of 23 industry groups showed positive growth, led by basic metals, motor vehicles, and electrical equipment industries. The Quick Estimates of IIP will now be released on the 28th of every month (instead of the 12th), based on factory-supplied data, and will be revised in future updates as per the IIP revision policy.

**318. India signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with France to procure 26 Rafale-M fighter jets — 22 single-seater and 4 twin-seater variants — for the Indian Navy. What is the estimated value of the Rafale-M aircraft procurement deal?**

**भारत ने भारतीय नौसेना के लिए 26 राफेल-एम फाइटर जेट्स-22 सिंगल-सीटर और 4 द्विन-सीटर वेरिएंट की खरीद के लिए फ्रांस के साथ एक अंतर-सरकारी समझौते (IGA) पर हस्ताक्षर किए। राफेल-एम विमान खरीद सौदे का अनुमानित मूल्य क्या है?**

- (a) Rs 50,000 crore
- (b) Rs 55,000 crore
- (c) Rs 60,000 crore
- (d) Rs 63,000 crore
- (e) Rs 70,000 crore

Ans. d

Sol. Inter-Governmental Agreement inked with France for 26 Rafale-Marine aircraft for Indian Navy

India and France inked an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for the procurement of 26 Rafale-M aircraft – 22 single-seater and four twin-seater – for the Indian Navy.

The procurement includes training, simulator, associated equipment, weapons and performance-based logistics. It also includes additional equipment for the existing Rafale fleet of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The deal for 26 Rafale-M fighter jets, estimated at over Rs 63,000 crore, includes four trainer aircraft. The agreement includes Transfer of Technology for integration of indigenous weapons in India.

It also includes setting up of a production facility for Rafale fuselage as well as Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facilities for aircraft engine, sensors and weapons in India.

The delivery of these aircraft would begin between the next three to four years and is likely to be completed by 2030, with the crew undergoing training in France and India. The procurement will boost the Navy's operational capabilities, particularly with the MiG-29Ks slated to be phased out in the next few years. Procuring the aircraft, however, is an interim arrangement for Indian aircraft carriers – INS Vikramaditya and INS Vikrant – until the Navy acquires the indigenous Twin Engine Deck-Based Fighter

(TEDBF) which is currently under development by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under the DRDO.

**319. Where was the 6th Joint Group of Customs (JGC) Meeting between India and Bhutan held?**

**भारत और भूटान के बीच सीमा शुल्क (JGC) की 6 वीं संयुक्त समूह (JGC) की बैठक कहाँ थी?**

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Kolkata
- (c) Thimphu
- (d) Paro
- (e) Guwahati

Ans. c

Sol. India and Bhutan hold 6th Joint Group of Customs (JGC) Meeting in Thimphu, Bhutan

The 6th Joint Group of Customs (JGC) Meeting between India and Bhutan was held in Thimphu, Bhutan.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Surjit Bhujabal, Special Secretary and Member (Customs), CBIC, Government of India, and Mr. Sonam Jamtsho, Director General, Department of Revenue and Customs, Ministry of Finance, Royal Government of Bhutan. India is Bhutan's top trade partner both as an import source and as an export destination accounting for about 80% of Bhutan's overall trade. Trade with Bhutan through the land Customs Stations is significant as Bhutan is a land-locked country.

**320. Madhusudan Sai, who was recently awarded the prestigious 'Companion of the Order of Fiji' for his humanitarian efforts, is from which Indian state renowned for its contributions to culture, technology, and social service?**

**मधुसूदन साई, जिन्हें हाल ही में उनके मानवीय प्रयासों के लिए फिजी के आदेश के प्रतिष्ठित 'सार्थी' से सम्मानित किया गया था, वह किस भारतीय राज्य से संस्कृति, प्रौद्योगिकी और सामाजिक सेवा में अपने योगदान के लिए प्रसिद्ध है?**

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Telangana

Ans. c

Sol. Karnataka Humanitarian Madhusudan Sai Honoured with Fiji's Highest Civilian Award for Healthcare Contributions

Karnataka-based humanitarian Madhusudan Sai was awarded Fiji's highest civilian honour, the 'Companion of the Order of Fiji', by President Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu at a ceremony held at the State House of Fiji.

Madhusudan Sai received the award for his contributions to healthcare, notably for establishing the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Children's Hospital in Fiji, benefiting communities across Fiji and the Pacific region.

Previous Indian recipients of this prestigious award include Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Droupadi Murmu, highlighting its significance at the international level.

**Recent Award**

- **Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2025** - Kumar Mangalam Birla, Shraddha Kapoor, Sunil Shetty, Sachin Pilgaonkar, Sonali Kulkarni, and violinist Dr N Rajam
- **Gurudev Kalicharan Brahma Award 2025** - Achyuta Samanta
- **Breakthrough Prize 2025 for Contribution to ALICE Collaboration at CERN** - Bose Institute's High-Energy Physics Team
- **Knighthood for his services to Cricket** - James Anderson
- **Key to the City of Lisbon** - President Droupadi Murmu

321. **World Veterinary Day is celebrated annually on the last Saturday of April, this year was celebrated on 26 April. What is the theme for World Veterinary Day 2025?**

**विश्व पशु चिकित्सा दिवस सालाना अप्रैल के अंतिम शनिवार को मनाया जाता है, इस वर्ष 26 अप्रैल को मनाया गया था। विश्व पशु चिकित्सा दिवस 2025 के लिए विषय क्या है?**

- (a) Animal Welfare and Safety
- (b) Animal Health Takes a Team
- (c) Health for All Animals
- (d) Veterinary Care for a Better World
- (e) Global Veterinary Service

Ans. b

Sol. 26 April 2025 - World Veterinary Day

World Veterinary Day is celebrated annually on the last Saturday of April, this year was celebrated on 26 April.

The day honors the vital contributions of veterinarians and the broader veterinary community in promoting animal health, welfare, and public safety.

Theme 2025 - Animal Health Takes a Team

Established in 2000 by the World Veterinary Association (WVA), the day honors the vital contributions of veterinarians and the broader veterinary community in promoting animal health, welfare, and public safety.

322. **Who won the mixed doubles title at the WTT Contender Tunis 2025?**

**WTT दावेदार ट्यूनिस 2025 में मिश्रित युगल खिताब किसने जीता?**

- (a) Manika Batra and Sathiyan Gnanasekaran
- (b) Manush Shah and Diya Chitale
- (c) Sharath Kamal and M. Manika
- (d) Harmeet Desai and Archana Kamath
- (e) Anirban Ghosh and Shreya Ghosh

Ans. b

Sol. Manush & Diya win mixed doubles title at WTT Contender Tunis 2025

The Indian table tennis mixed pair of Manush Shah and Diya Chitale won the mixed doubles title of the WTT Contender Tunis 2025.

They are the second Indian pair to win the mixed title at any WTT Contender event since 2021, following Manika Batra and Sathiyan Gnanasekaran's victory at the 2021 WTT Contender Budapest mixed title.

The USD 1 lakh prize money WTT Contender Tunis was held at Salle Omnisport de Rades, Tunis, Tunisia.

323. According to the World Bank, how many people in India were lifted out of extreme poverty between 2011 and 2021?

विश्व बैंक के अनुसार, 2011 और 2021 के बीच भारत में कितने लोग अत्यधिक गरीबी से बाहर निकाले गए?

- (a) 150 million
- (b) 170 million
- (c) 200 million
- (d) 180 million
- (e) 160 million

Ans. b

Sol. India Lifts 170 Million People Out of Poverty Between 2011 and 2021: World Bank Around 17.1 crore people in India were lifted out of the extreme poverty level in the last 10 years, according to the World Bank.

The extreme poverty in the country fell from 16 per cent in 2011–12 to 2.3 per cent in 2022–23. The World Bank, in its Poverty and Equity Briefs report, highlights the poverty trend in 100 countries, including India.

The report is released twice a year by the World Bank before the Spring and Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C, the United States of America.

According to the World Bank's Spring 2025 Poverty and Equity report, five states- Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal, and Madhya Pradesh- accounted for two-thirds of the overall decline in extreme poverty.

In rural areas, extreme poverty fell from 18.4% in 2011-12 to 2.8% in 2022-23. While, in urban areas, poverty reduced from 10.7% to 1.1% over the same period.

324. Who has won the men's title at the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2025?

टीसीएस वर्ल्ड 10K बेंगलुरु 2025 में पुरुषों का खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Kenenisa Bekele
- (b) Joshua Cheptegei
- (c) Eliud Kipchoge
- (d) Geoffrey Kamworor
- (e) Jacob Kiplimo

Ans. b

Sol. Joshua Cheptegei and Sarah Chelangat Triumph at TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2025 Joshua Cheptegei from Uganda clinched the men's title, while Sarah Chelangat, also from Uganda, won the women's race at the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2025.

Cheptegei, the world record holder in 5,000m and 10,000m, showcased a dominant performance to secure victory in Bengaluru.

The \$2,10,000 prize money TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2025 was held in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The Bengaluru race was part of the World Athletics Label Road Races. World Athletics is the world's governing body of Athletics.

325. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)?

किसे इंडिया सेमीकंडक्टर मिशन (ISM) का नया सीईओ नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Kumar Singh

- (b) Amitesh Kumar Sinha
- (c) Sushil Pal
- (d) Ajay Kumar Bhalla
- (e) Anurag Jain

Ans. b

Sol. Amitesh Kumar Sinha Appointed as CEO of India Semiconductor Mission

Amitesh Kumar Sinha has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM). He will replace Sushil Pal.

The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) is a special initiative by the Government of India to promote semiconductor manufacturing and innovation within the country.

With Sinha's appointment, India aims to strengthen its efforts in becoming a global hub for semiconductor production and design.

### 326. Who has been appointed as the new Country Managing Director for YouTube India?

**किसे YouTube इंडिया का नया कंट्री मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Ishan Chatterjee
- (b) Gunjan Soni
- (c) Parul Tyagi
- (d) Sanjay Gupta
- (e) Radhika Roy

Ans. b

Sol. YouTube Appoints Gunjan Soni as Country Managing Director for India

Gunjan Soni has been appointed as the new Country Managing Director for YouTube India. She replaces Ishan Chatterjee, who joined JioCinema in October 2024.

She will oversee the platform's operations, content strategy, and partnerships, driving YouTube's growth in the Indian market.

Before this role, Soni held leadership positions at Myntra and Flipkart, bringing extensive experience in e-commerce and digital marketing.

#### Recent Appointments

- **CEO of India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** - Amitesh Kumar Sinha (replace Sushil Pal)
- **Chairman and Public Interest Director of NSE International Exchange** - Neeraj Kumar Gupta
- **CMD of REC Limited** - Jitendra Srivastava (replace Vivek Kumar Dewangan)
- **Chairperson of 23rd Law Commission of India** - Dinesh Maheshwari
- **DG of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** - Dr Mangi Lal Jat (replace Dr Himanshu Jain); for 3 years

### 327. Who has been appointed to the jury of the 78th Cannes Film Festival 2025?

**किसे 78वें कांस फिल्म फेस्टिवल 2025 के जूरी में नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Anurag Kashyap
- (b) Payal Kapadia
- (c) Zoya Akhtar
- (d) Deepa Mehta
- (e) Shyam Benegal

Ans. b

### Sol. Payal Kapadia Joins Prestigious Jury at Cannes 2025 Film Festival

Payal Kapadia, a prominent Indian filmmaker known for her distinctive narrative style, has been appointed to the jury of the 78th Cannes Film Festival 2025.

Kapadia's works, particularly her critically acclaimed film "A Night of Knowing Nothing", have earned her recognition on the international stage, showcasing her ability to blend personal and political narratives.

Her inclusion in the Cannes 2025 jury reflects the increasing global recognition of Indian cinema, as well as the growing influence of independent filmmakers in the international film circuit.

### 328. Who has been appointed as Dreame Technology's first Indian brand ambassador?

**ड्रीम टेक्नोलॉजी के पहले भारतीय ब्रांड एंबेसडर के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- (a) Alia Bhatt
- (b) Shraddha Kapoor
- (c) Deepika Padukone
- (d) Kiara Advani
- (e) Kriti Sanon

Ans. e

Sol. Dreame Technology Appoints Kriti Sanon as First Indian Brand Ambassador

Dreame Technology, a leading smart home appliance brand, has appointed Kriti Sanon as its first Indian brand ambassador.

Sanon will represent the brand in India, promoting its innovative range of smart home products such as vacuums and air purifiers.

The collaboration aims to strengthen Dreame Technology's presence in the Indian market, leveraging Sanon's popularity to connect with a wider audience.

#### Recent Brand Ambassador

- Ananya Panday - French luxury brand Chanel
- Kartik Aaryan - Thomas Cook India Limited for its foreign exchange business
- Salman Khan - GRM Overseas Wheat Flour
- Vidya Balan - Federal Bank
- Shubman Gill - Tyre brand MRFs
- Punjabi singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh - American clothing brand, Levi's

### 329. When is International Dance Day celebrated every year?

**अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नृत्य दिवस हर साल कब मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 25th April
- (b) 22th April
- (c) 29th April
- (d) 30th April
- (e) 28th April

Ans. c

Sol. 29 April - International Dance Day

International Dance Day is celebrated every year on 29th April, established in 1982 by the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the main partner for the performing arts of UNESCO.

The date commemorates the birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), a French dancer and ballet master considered the creator of modern ballet.

The aim is to celebrate dance as a universal art form, break cultural and political barriers, and promote participation and education in dance through events and performances globally.

**330. Who became the youngest centurion in IPL history, achieving this milestone at the age of 14 years and 32 days, by scoring 101 runs off 38 balls for Rajasthan Royals against Gujarat Titans?**

**आईपीएल इतिहास में सबसे कम उम्र में शतक लगाने वाले खिलाड़ी कौन बने, जिन्होंने 14 साल 32 दिन की उम्र में गुजरात टाइटन्स के खिलाफ राजस्थान रॉयल्स के लिए 38 गेंदों पर 101 रन बनाए?**

- (a) Manish Pandey
- (b) Vaibhav Suryavanshi
- (c) Rishabh Pant
- (d) Devdutt Padikkal
- (e) Yashasvi Jaiswal

Ans. b

Sol. Vaibhav Suryavanshi becomes youngest centurion in IPL history

Vaibhav Suryavanshi became the youngest centurion in IPL history at just 14 years and 32 days, scoring a blistering 101 runs off 38 balls for Rajasthan Royals against Gujarat Titans.

His knock helped Rajasthan Royals chase down 210 runs in just 15.5 overs, registering a dominant eight-wicket win; he was awarded Player of the Match.

It is also the second fastest century in the tournament, behind only Chris Gayle, who did it in 30 deliveries, and the fastest century by an Indian, surpassing Yusuf Pathan's record of 37 deliveries.

**331. What is the new deadline set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for banks to comply with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) regulations for Note Sorting Machines (NSMs)?**

**भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने बैंकों को नोट सॉर्टिंग मशीनों (NSMs) के लिए भारतीय मानक व्यूरो (BIS) विनियमों के अनुपालन की नई समयसीमा क्या निर्धारित की है?**

- (a) May 1, 2025
- (b) August 1, 2025
- (c) November 1, 2025
- (d) December 1, 2025
- (e) July 1, 2025

Ans. c

Sol. RBI extends the deadline for Bureau of Indian Standards-compliant note sorting machines to November

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the deadline for banks to comply with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) regulations for Note Sorting Machines.

The revised implementation timeline is now set for November 1, 2025, due to challenges raised by banks.

These standards specify the performance and safety requirements of NSMs to ascertain the authenticity and fitness of banknotes processed.

These requirements include the criteria specified in the guidelines issued by the RBI from time to time — such as soiling, limpness, dog-ears, tears, holes, stains, folds, etc. — which these machines must be able to detect adequately while processing the banknotes.

**332. The government has formed an inter-ministerial committee to design the main plan for new national manufacturing mission. Who is heading the inter-ministerial committee for the new national manufacturing mission?**

**सरकार ने नए राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण मिशन की मुख्य योजना तैयार करने के लिए एक अंतर-मंत्रालयी समिति का गठन किया है। नए राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण मिशन के लिए अंतर-मंत्रालयी समिति का नेतृत्व कौन कर रहा है?**

- (a) Amitabh Kant
- (b) Rajiv Kumar
- (c) B V R Subrahmanyam
- (d) Piyush Goyal
- (e) Nirmala Sitharaman

Ans. c

Sol. Govt sets up panel to draft plan for new National Manufacturing Mission

The government has formed an inter-ministerial committee to design the main plan for new national manufacturing mission, an official said. The mission was first announced in the Budget on February 1 to boost the Make in India initiative.

The committee is led by Niti Aayog CEO B V R Subrahmanyam and is holding several meetings with important stakeholders.

The mission will focus on five key areas: making it easier and cheaper to do business, preparing a future-ready workforce, strengthening the MSME sector, providing better technology, and ensuring high-quality products. It will cover small, medium, and large industries.

Currently, manufacturing makes up about 16-17 per cent of India's GDP. The government wants to raise this share through the new mission. The mission will also offer policy support and create a governance and monitoring system for both central ministries and state governments.

**333. What is the key objective of the annual master plan recently approved under the River Cities Alliance (RCA) by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)?**

**राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ गंगा मिशन (NMCG) द्वारा नदी शहर गठबंधन (RCA) के तहत हाल ही में स्वीकृत वार्षिक मास्टर प्लान का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?**

- (a) Construction of riverfront commercial zones in major cities
- (b) Development of new reservoirs for industrial use
- (c) Creation of a roadmap for year-round urban river initiatives
- (d) Promotion of inland water transport
- (e) Establishment of national water sports centers

Ans. c

Sol. NMCG Approves Annual Master Plan to Promote River-Sensitive Urban Planning Under RCA

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has approved the annual master plan under the River Cities Alliance (RCA) to chart a roadmap of initiatives to be undertaken across the year.

As per the Jal Shakti Ministry, the plan focuses on integrating river-sensitive urban planning within India's growing cities. It encompasses a series of capacity-building programs, knowledge exchange platforms, development of technical tools, expert guidance, and thematic case studies.

The promotion of river considerations within city master plans through the organisation of River-Sensitive Master Planning training programs across states will also be in focus this year. To support the formulation of Urban River Management Plans, the NMCG will conduct training sessions, including onboarding programs specifically for RCA cities in Tamil Nadu, with further sessions planned for additional states.

**334. On which date is the World Day for Safety and Health at Work observed annually?**

**कार्यस्थल पर सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य का विश्व दिवस हर साल किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?**

- (a) 26 April
- (b) 27 April
- (c) 28 April
- (d) 29 April
- (e) 30 April

Ans. c

Sol. 28 April – World Day for Safety and Health at Work

World Day for Safety and Health at Work is celebrated on April 28 to promote safe and healthy working conditions worldwide.

The day aims to raise awareness about occupational safety and health, highlighting the importance of preventing work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths.

Theme 2025 - Revolutionising health and safety: The role of AI and digitalisation at work.

**335. Who has officially handed over India's largest indigenously developed electric rope shovel, BRS21?**

**भारत का सबसे बड़ा स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित इलेक्ट्रिक रोप शवल BRS21 किसने आधिकारिक रूप से सौंपा है?**

- (a) Coal India Ltd
- (b) Northern Coalfields Ltd
- (c) BEML
- (d) Ministry of Mining
- (e) Aatmanirbhar Bharat Initiative

Ans. c

Sol. BEML Hands Over India's Largest Indigenous Electric Rope Shovel to Coal India State-owned BEML has officially handed over India's largest indigenously developed electric rope shovel, BRS21, to Northern Coalfields Ltd, a subsidiary of Coal India.

The BRS21 shovel weighs 720 tonnes and features a 21 cubic metre bottom dump bucket, making it one of the most capable shovels globally for large-scale open cast mining.

Developed in just 24 months, the BRS21 marks a significant achievement in India's push for self-reliant industrial manufacturing under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission.

This milestone showcases BEML's engineering strength and reinforces sustainable, high-capacity mining solutions for India's growing energy needs.

336. **What was the final score of the Copa del Rey final between Barcelona and Real Madrid, which took place at Estadio de La Cartuja?**

**बार्सिलोना और रियल मैड्रिड के बीच कोपा डेल रे फाइनल का अंतिम स्कोर क्या था, जो एस्टाडियो डे ला कार्तुजा में खेला गया था?**

- (a) 2-1 in favor of Barcelona
- (b) 3-2 in favor of Barcelona
- (c) 1-1 draw
- (d) 2-2 draw
- (e) 3-1 in favor of Real Madrid

Ans. b

Sol. Barcelona Beats Real Madrid 3-2 to Win Record 32nd Copa del Rey Title

Barcelona defeated Real Madrid 3-2 in a thrilling Copa del Rey final at Estadio de La Cartuja, winning a record-extending 32nd Spanish Cup title.

Jules Kounde's late extra-time strike secured Barcelona's second trophy of the season, after their Spanish Super Cup victory over Real Madrid.

In a dramatic match, Pedri's first-half goal and Ferran Torres' equalizer forced extra time, where Barcelona clinched the win after a tense 3-2 scoreline.

337. **Which Indian company signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) to develop cross-border power transmission infrastructure?**

**कौन सी भारतीय कंपनी ने नेपाल इलेक्ट्रिसिटी अथॉरिटी (NEA) के साथ क्रॉस-बॉर्डर पावर ट्रांसमिशन इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर विकसित करने के लिए समझौता ज्ञापन (MoU) पर हस्ताक्षर किए?**

- (a) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)
- (b) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Power Grid)
- (c) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
- (d) Reliance Power
- (e) Indian Oil Corporation

Ans. b

Sol. India & Nepal Sign MoU on cross-border transmission infrastructure

India and Nepal have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop cross-border power transmission infrastructure, which will facilitate the evacuation of power from Nepal and its supply to India.

The MoU was signed during the visit of the Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal Khattar, to Nepal recently.

He also visited the Arun 3 hydropower project, which is financed by India, and inaugurated the commencement of electromechanical works at the project site.

The MoU was signed between the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Power Grid) and the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA).

338. **Which AI startup has been selected by the Government of India under the IndiaAI Mission to build India's first sovereign large language model (LLM)?**

**भारत सरकार ने इंडिया एआई मिशन के तहत भारत का पहला संप्रभु लार्ज लैंग्वेज मॉडल (LLM) बनाने के लिए कौन सी एआई स्टार्टअप का चयन किया है?**

- (a) Wipro

- (b) Sarvam
- (c) Infosys
- (d) TCS
- (e) HCL

Ans. b

Sol. Sarvam AI Selected to Build India's First Sovereign Large Language Model under IndiaAI Mission

Bengaluru-based AI startup Sarvam has been selected by the Government of India under the IndiaAI Mission to build India's first sovereign large language model (LLM).

The model, which will be developed from scratch, will feature reasoning capabilities and be designed for voice fluency in multiple Indian languages.

Sarvam aims to create multi-modal, multi-scale foundational models, with a goal of achieving secure, large-scale deployment for national AI infrastructure.

The company has already proven its ability to create cost-effective and scalable models, focusing on Indian language proficiency and supporting governments, nonprofits, and enterprises.

**339. The government of India has launched the 5th Marine Census, accompanied by the introduction of a mobile application for digital-based data collection. What is the name of the mobile application launched for digital-based data collection in the 5th Marine Fisheries Census?**

**भारत सरकार ने 5वीं समुद्री जनगणना शुरू की है, साथ ही डिजिटल आधारित डेटा संग्रह के लिए एक मोबाइल एप्लीकेशन भी शुरू की है। 5वीं समुद्री मत्स्य पालन जनगणना में डिजिटल आधारित डेटा संग्रह के लिए लॉन्च किए गए मोबाइल एप्लीकेशन का नाम क्या है?**

- (a) FishTrack
- (b) OceanNAV
- (c) Jal-Doot
- (d) Vyas-NAV
- (e) BlueSurvey

Ans. d

Sol. 5th Marine Census launched at the 2025 Coastal States Fisheries Meet

The government of India has launched the 5th Marine Census, accompanied by the introduction of a mobile application, Vyas-NAV, for digital-based data collection. The last Marine census was conducted in 2016 in the country.

The mobile application was launched during the Coastal States Fisheries Meet 2025 in Mumbai, which was chaired by the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh.

The Kochi-based Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has developed the Vyas-NAV (Village Jetty Appraisal NAVigator) app. Census supervisors will use the Vyas-NAV app for field verification of fishing villages, fish landing centres and fishing harbours.

The 5th Marine census is being coordinated by the Department of Fisheries of the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) is the nodal agency for implementing the marine fisheries census in nine coastal states: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and West Bengal.

The census enumerators are from CMFRI, the Fisheries Survey of India, and the Fisheries Departments of the nine coastal states.

**340. Which party, led by Kamla Persad-Bissessar, won the 2025 general elections in Trinidad and Tobago, defeating the ruling People's National Movement (PNM) in a major political shift?**

**कमला प्रसाद-बिसेसर के नेतृत्व वाली किस पार्टी ने त्रिनिदाद और टोबैगो में 2025 के आम चुनावों में सत्तारूढ़ पीपुल्स नेशनल मूवमेंट (PNM) को हराकर एक बड़ा राजनीतिक बदलाव किया?**

- (a) People's National Movement
- (b) Democratic Labour Party
- (c) Caribbean People's Alliance
- (d) United National Congress
- (e) Progressive People's Party

Ans. d

Sol. Kamla Persad-Bissessar's UNC secures victory in Trinidad and Tobago elections. In a major political shift, the United National Congress (UNC), under the leadership of Kamla Persad-Bissessar, has won the general elections in Trinidad and Tobago, unseating the People's National Movement (PNM) from governance.

Kamla Persad-Bissessar, who served as the nation's first female Prime Minister between 2010 and 2015, is now set for a prominent return to national politics.

An election was held in Trinidad and Tobago on April 28, 2025, to elect the 41 members of the House of Representatives for a new five-year term.

**341. Who has been elected as the 20th president of the Badminton World Federation (BWF)?**

**बैडमिंटन विश्व महासंघ (BWF) के 20वें अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?**

- (a) Poul-Erik Høyer
- (b) Lu Shengrong
- (c) Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul
- (d) Ratchanok Intanon
- (e) Kunlavut Vitidsarn

Ans. c

Sol. Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul Elected BWF President

Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul of Thailand has been elected as the 20th president of the Badminton World Federation (BWF), succeeding Poul-Erik Høyer of Denmark, who held the position for 12 years.

She is only the second woman to lead the BWF, after Lu Shengrong of China (1993-2001), and brings a strong leadership track record as the president of the Badminton Association of Thailand.

#### Recent Appointments

- **Jury of the 78th Cannes Film Festival 2025** - Payal Kapadia
- **MD for YouTube India** - Gunjan Soni (replace Ishan Chatterjee)
- **CEO of India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** - Amitesh Kumar Sinha (replace Sushil Pal)

- **Chairman and Public Interest Director of NSE International Exchange -** Neeraj Kumar Gupta
- **CMD of REC Limited** - Jitendra Srivastava (replace Vivek Kumar Dewangan)

342. **Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) for the financial year 2025-26?**

**वित्तीय वर्ष 2025-26 के लिए इंडिया इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एंड सेमीकंडक्टर एसोसिएशन (IESA) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?**

- Ruchir Dixit
- Rajeev Khushu
- Navin Bishnoi
- Veerappan VV
- Ashok Chandak

Ans. a

Sol. Ruchir Dixit Appointed Chairperson of IESA for FY2025-26

Ruchir Dixit has been appointed as the Chairperson of the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) for the financial year 2025-26, leading the industry's efforts in electronics system design and manufacturing.

Six new members have been elected to IESA's Executive Council, including leaders from MediaTech, Applied Materials, 7Rays, Keynes SemiCon, Alphawave Semi, and Analog Devices.

Continuing members from the previous year include Navin Bishnoi (Vice Chairperson), Rajeev Khushu, Sanjeev Keskar (Treasurer), Veerappan VV (Advisor), and Ashok Chandak (President).

343. **The government has announced 'Gyan Post', a new service to make the delivery of educational, social, cultural and religious books more affordable through post offices across the country. Which organisation is responsible for launching the 'Gyan Post' service?**

**सरकार ने देश भर के डाकघरों के माध्यम से शैक्षिक, सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक और धार्मिक पुस्तकों की डिलीवरी को और अधिक किफायती बनाने के लिए एक नई सेवा 'ज्ञान पोस्ट' की घोषणा की है। 'ज्ञान पोस्ट' सेवा शुरू करने के लिए कौन सा संगठन जिम्मेदार है?**

- Ministry of Education
- India Post
- NITI Aayog
- National Book Trust
- Postal Employees Union

Ans. b

Sol. India Post Unveils 'Gyan Post' To Boost Education Access Across Country

The government has announced 'Gyan Post', a new service to make the delivery of educational, social, cultural and religious books more affordable through post offices across the country.

The 'Gyan Post' service will be operational at all departmental post offices across India from May 1.

The service reflects India Post's continued commitment to supporting education and reaching learners in every part of the country, according to the Ministry of Communications.

**About 'Gyan Post'**

Designed to support learning and knowledge-sharing, 'Gyan Post' offers affordable options for sending books and printed educational materials through India's vast postal network.

Books and printed educational materials sent under 'Gyan Post' will be trackable and transported through surface mode to ensure cost-effective delivery.

**344. Supreme Court Judge, Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai, will be the next Chief Justice of India. Justice Gavai will be the \_\_\_\_\_ Chief Justice of India.**

**सुप्रीम कोर्ट के न्यायाधीश न्यायमूर्ति भूषण रामकृष्ण गवई भारत के अगले मुख्य न्यायाधीश होंगे।  
न्यायमूर्ति गवई भारत के \_\_\_\_\_ मुख्य न्यायाधीश होंगे।**

- (a) 51st
- (b) 50th
- (c) 52nd
- (d) 53rd
- (e) 54th

Ans. c

Sol. Justice B R Gavai appointed as next Chief Justice of India

Supreme Court Judge, Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai, will be the next Chief Justice of India.

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Justice Gavai as the next Chief Justice of India, and his appointment will be effective from 14th of May.

Justice Gavai will be the 52nd Chief Justice. He will succeed Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna, whose tenure will end on the 13th of next month.

**345. Which Indian state has become the first to implement an AI-based real-time alert system for forest management?**

**कौन सा भारतीय राज्य वन प्रबंधन के लिए एआई-आधारित वास्तविक समय चेतावनी प्रणाली लागू करने वाला पहला राज्य बन गया है?**

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Himachal Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. MP first state to launch AI-based real-time forest alert system

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to implement an AI-based real-time alert system on a pilot basis for active forest management using satellite images, mobile feedback, and machine learning.

The Artificial Intelligence system will enable the forest department to detect land encroachment, land use change, and forest degradation.

This system is being implemented as a pilot project in five sensitive forest divisions including Shivpuri, Guna, Vidisha, Burhanpur and Khandwa, which have reported several encroachment and tree felling incidents.

346. International Jazz Day is celebrated on April 30 every year to promote peace, cultural dialogue, diversity, and respect for human rights through the universal language of jazz. What is the theme of International Jazz Day 2025?

शांति, सांस्कृतिक संवाद, विविधता और मानवाधिकारों के प्रति सम्मान को बढ़ावा देने के लिए हर साल 30 अप्रैल को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जैज़ दिवस मनाया जाता है। जैज़ की सार्वभौमिक भाषा के माध्यम से अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जैज़ दिवस 2025 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Jazz for Freedom
- (b) Global Harmony Through Music
- (c) Learning for Lasting Peace – SDG Goal 4: Quality Education
- (d) Rhythms of Unity
- (e) Jazz for Economic Growth

Ans. c

Sol. 30 April - International Jazz Day

International Jazz Day is celebrated on April 30 every year to promote peace, cultural dialogue, diversity, and respect for human rights through the universal language of jazz. International Jazz Day aims to unite people worldwide, fostering intercultural dialogue, mutual understanding, and international cooperation through jazz music.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2011. Theme 2025 - Learning for Lasting Peace – SDG Goal 4: Quality Education

347. On which date is Ayushman Bharat Diwas observed annually in India?

भारत में आयुष्मान भारत दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) April 5
- (b) April 10
- (c) April 30
- (d) April 15
- (e) April 20

Ans. c

Sol. 30 April - Ayushman Bharat Diwas

Ayushman Bharat Diwas is observed every year on April 30 in India. The day is observed to spread awareness about the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, which is one of the world's largest healthcare schemes.

The aim of this special day is to remind people about the importance of good health and to make them aware of the benefits they can get through the government's free healthcare services.

The Ayushman Bharat Yojana was launched by the Government of India in 2018 under the National Health Policy. It is also known as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY).

The main goal of this scheme is to provide free health insurance to poor and low-income families. It helps them get treatment in hospitals without having to pay from their pockets. Each eligible family can receive up to Rs 5 lakh per year for hospital care.

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