



BORTHAKUR'S **IAS ACADEMY**

CURRENT AFFAIRS

2024
2025

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BANKING NEWS

SPORTS NEWS

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SCI-TECH NEWS

June - 2024

1. Recently, Allamaye Halina has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?

- [A] Chad
- [B] Kenya
- [C] Gabon
- [D] Angola

Correct Answer: A [Chad]

Notes:

In a significant move, Allamaye Halina has been appointed as Chad's new Prime Minister, replacing Success Masra, who resigned recently. Halina's appointment strengthens the new administration's authority. However, opposition voices express concerns about a perceived Deby dynasty, alleging control over key institutions by the clan and its allies. The transition triggers debate and allegations amidst Chad's political landscape.

2. Recently, which state has introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) learning in the Class 7 ICT textbooks?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Kerala
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Kerala]

Notes:

Kerala introduces AI learning in Class 7 ICT textbooks, pioneering a move to educate over 4 lakh students about Artificial Intelligence. The initiative aims to enhance technological education, familiarizing students with AI concepts from a young age. This forward-looking step reflects Kerala's commitment to modernizing its education system and preparing students for future technological advancements.

3. According to recent government data, India got highest FDI from which country in 2023-24?

- [A] Mauritius
- [B] Singapore
- [C] Vietnam
- [D] China

Correct Answer: B [Singapore]

Notes:

In 2023-24, India received the highest foreign direct investment (FDI) from Singapore, amounting to \$11.77 billion despite a 31.55% decline, according to government data. Overall, FDI into India contracted by about 3.5% due to global economic uncertainties. However, Singapore remained the top source of FDI for India during this period.

4. Recently, Halla Tomasdottir has been elected as the President of which country?

- [A] Iceland
- [B] Ireland
- [C] Italy
- [D] Greece

Correct Answer: A [Iceland]

Notes:

Halla Tomasdottir has been elected as Iceland's seventh President and will take office on 1 August 2024, succeeding Guana Johannesson. The presidential election, held on 1 June 2024, saw Tomasdottir win with 34.3% of the votes, defeating former Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir (25.2%). Iceland's president serves a largely ceremonial role in its parliamentary democracy, with real executive power held by the Prime Minister.

5. Recently, which state organized a 3-day 'Nakshatra Sabha' to promote astro tourism in the region?

- [A] Himachal Pradesh
- [B] Haryana
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Madhya Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Uttarakhand]

Notes:

The Uttarakhand government recently organized a three-day 'Nakshatra Sabha' to promote astro tourism, aiming to position the state as a top destination for celestial enthusiasts. Held at George Everest Peak in Mussoorie, the event showcased the region's stunning views of the Himalayan peaks and the Doon Valley. This initiative is part of Uttarakhand's broader strategy to boost multidimensional tourism, including green, adventure, and wellness tourism, enhancing the state's appeal to diverse travelers seeking unique and sustainable experiences.

6. Recently, which ministry declared Self-Declaration Certificate (SDC) mandatory for all new advertisements?

- [A] Ministry of Communications
- [B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [C] Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Information and Broadcasting]

Notes:

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting now mandates a Self-Declaration Certificate (SDC) for all new advertisements. Following a Supreme Court directive, ads on TV, print media, or the internet require a valid SDC. Advertisers must submit SDCs via the Broadcast

Seva Portal for TV/radio ads and the Press Council of India's portal for print/digital ads. The SDC ensures ads are truthful and comply with regulatory guidelines.

7. Indira Gandhi Zoological Park (IGZP), recently seen in news, is located in which state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

Indira Gandhi Zoological Park (IGZP), Andhra Pradesh excels in captive breeding of threatened species like Asiatic wild dogs, striped hyaenas, Indian grey wolves, and others. Striped hyaenas, found in various regions including North Africa and India, are primarily scavengers and mostly nocturnal. Asiatic wild dogs, endangered and pack-living, inhabit diverse Asian environments. IGZP's efforts are crucial for the conservation of these species, which are listed as Near Threatened and Endangered by IUCN.

8. What is the name of the campaign launched by Prime Minister on World Environment Day 2024?

- [A] Ek Ped Maa ke Naam
- [B] Vriksh ka Sanrakshad
- [C] Ghar Ghar Vriksh
- [D] Haryali

Correct Answer: A [Ek Ped Maa ke Naam]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke' campaign in New Delhi on World Environment Day, June 5, 2024. The initiative aims at afforestation to combat land degradation and preserve water resources. It symbolizes Earth as a mother, emphasizing sustainable development. Modi planted a peepal tree at Buddha Jayanti Park, urging citizens to enhance forest cover for a better planet, aligning with the principle of sustainable development for present and future generations.

9. 'State of Ocean Report, 2024', recently released by which organization?

- [A] UNCTAD
- [B] UNDP
- [C] UNEP
- [D] UNESCO

Correct Answer: D [UNESCO]

Notes:

UNESCO's 2024 State of Ocean Report highlights climate change and human activities impacting global oceans. Initiated by IOC-UNESCO during the 2022 UN Ocean Conference, it

supports the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). Key findings include significant warming of the upper 2,000 meters, increased ocean acidification, consistent sea level rise since 1993, and the urgent need for better monitoring systems. The report emphasizes the uncertain impacts of marine carbon dioxide removal technologies.

10. Standard Missile 6 (SM-6), recently seen in news, was developed by which country?

- [A] United States
- [B] Japan
- [C] India
- [D] China

Correct Answer: A [United States]

Notes:

The US Navy's F/A-18 Super Hornet was recently spotted with an air-launched variant of the SM-6 (RIM-174) missile. The SM-6, developed by Raytheon for the US Navy, became operational in December 2014. It serves multiple missions, including anti-air, anti-ship, and terminal ballistic missile defense. The missile measures 6.6 m in length, 0.5 m in diameter, and weighs 1,500 kg, carrying a 64 kg warhead. It has a range of 240 km, extendable to 463 km.

11. Recently, who received the Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award 2024?

- [A] Rameshchandra Shah
- [B] Seeni Viswanathan
- [C] Krishna Prakash
- [D] Sandeep Joshi

Correct Answer: C [Krishna Prakash]

Notes:

Krishna Prakash, renowned for leading Mumbai Police's counterterrorism unit, Force One, has received the Annual Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award at Mumbai's Sab Me Ram Shashwat Shri Ram event. Known as a "super cop," Prakash heads the elite Force One and is a two-time Guinness World Record holder. His third record involved initiating the maximum number of letters through postcards to Lord Ram, facilitating direct connections between the common man and the divine.

12. Which institute recently developed an innovative fire rescue drone?

- [A] IIT Dharwad
- [B] IIT Kanpur
- [C] IIT Bombay
- [D] IIT Ahmedabad

Correct Answer: A [IIT Dharwad]

Notes:

At IIT Dharwad, a team led by Sudheer Siddapureddy and Ameer Mulla unveiled a fire rescue assistant drone at the DDANFR 2024 training, funded by NMICPS and TiHAN Foundation. The drone, designed for navigating small spaces and high temperatures, marks a significant advancement in fire safety. Prof. Siddapureddy highlighted the challenges of creating a device that is both compact and robust.

13. What is 'Thismia malayana', recently seen in news?

- [A] A new species of plant
- [B] A rare species of fern
- [C] A type of traditional medicine
- [D] An ancient irrigation technique

Correct Answer: A [A new species of plant]

Notes:

Thismia malayana, a newly discovered mycoheterotrophic plant in Peninsular Malaysia's rainforests, steals nutrients from underground fungi instead of performing photosynthesis. It thrives in low-light forest understories, with specialized flowers pollinated by fungus gnats. Typically 2 cm long, it grows near tree roots or rotten logs and is highly sensitive to environmental changes, earning a Vulnerable status on the IUCN Red List.

14. What is the name of the campaign launched by Prime Minister on World Environment Day 2024?

- [A] Ek Ped Maa ke Naam
- [B] Vriksh ka Sanrakshad
- [C] Ghar Ghar Vriksh
- [D] Haryali

Correct Answer: A [Ek Ped Maa ke Naam]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke' campaign in New Delhi on World Environment Day, June 5, 2024. The initiative aims at afforestation to combat land degradation and preserve water resources. It symbolizes Earth as a mother, emphasizing sustainable development. Modi planted a peepal tree at Buddha Jayanti Park, urging citizens to enhance forest cover for a better planet, aligning with the principle of sustainable development for present and future generations.

15. NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) recently joined hands with which South American country to enable UPI payments?

- [A] Brazil
- [B] Argentina
- [C] Peru
- [D] Chile

Correct Answer: C [Peru]

Notes:

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Peru's central bank (BCRP) have partnered to create a UPI-like payment system in Peru. This makes Peru the first South American country to adopt NPCI's technology, enabling instant payments between individuals and businesses. The initiative aims to expand digital payments among Peru's large unbanked population.

16. Atacama Desert, recently seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Chile
- [B] Argentina
- [C] Brazil
- [D] Mexico

Correct Answer: A [Chile]

Notes:

The world's largest optical astronomy digital camera will be placed on the edge of Chile's Atacama Desert, renowned for its dryness and clear skies. Mounted on the Vera C. Rubin Observatory's Simonyi Survey Telescope, it weighs three tonnes and boasts a 3.2-gigapixel resolution. This initiative aims to study dark energy, dark matter, potential Earth impacts, and close celestial bodies. The observatory anticipates generating 20 terabytes of daily data, forming a 15-petabyte catalog over its ten-year survey.

17. Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan-2 scheme, recently seen in news, is associated with which state?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Haryana
- [D] Punjab

Correct Answer: A [Rajasthan]

Notes:

Responding to water scarcity, the Rajasthan government launches Mukhyamantri Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan 2.0, aiming to construct 500,000 water harvesting structures in 20,000 villages over four years. Rajasthan, among India's driest regions, faces annual rainfall variations from 100 mm to 800 mm, causing water shortages for basic needs. Groundwater replenishment relies on rainfall, yet excessive usage depletes reserves. RIICO mandates rainwater harvesting for plot lessees, and RPH&CCL integrates it into building projects.

18. What was the main objective of 'Operation Bluestar', recently in news due to its 40th anniversary?

- [A] To capture a group of militants in Kashmir
- [B] To root out Sikh separatists from the Golden Temple
- [C] To protect the Indian Parliament from attack

[D] To suppress a communist uprising in West Bengal **Correct Answer:** B [To root out Sikh separatists from the Golden Temple] **Notes:** Slogans advocating Khalistan were raised at the Golden Temple during the 40th anniversary of Operation Bluestar. This military action, ordered by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in June 1984, aimed to remove Sikh separatists led by Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale from the temple. The operation, marked by intense fighting, caused extensive damage to the temple complex and resulted in civilian casualties. It ultimately led to Indira Gandhi's assassination and remains a contentious event in Sikh history.

19. Rajaji Raghav Biosphere Reserve, recently designated as India's first private biosphere, is located in which state?

- [A] Uttarakhand
- [B] Himachal Pradesh
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: A [Uttarakhand]

Notes:

The Rajaji Raghati Biosphere (RRB) within Uttarakhand's Rajaji National Park spans 35 acres, focusing on rare and endangered native trees. Founded by environmentalists Jai Dhar Gupta and Vijay Dhasmana, it's India's first biosphere within a tiger reserve. It restores barren land by removing non-native eucalyptus trees and employs water retention techniques. The initiative fights threats such as poaching and mining, aiming to protect and revive native ecosystems.

20. 'AIM – ICDK Water Challenge 4.0', recently seen in news, is an initiative of which organization?

- [A] Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- [B] NITI Aayog
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture
- [D] Central Pollution Control Board

Correct Answer: B [NITI Aayog]

Notes:

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) under NITI Aayog launched two initiatives: the 'AIM – ICDK Water Challenge 4.0' and the fifth edition of the 'Innovations for You' handbook. The Water Challenge, in collaboration with Innovation Centre Denmark, aims to address water issues through innovative solutions. Participants will join the global Next Generation Digital Action program and showcase their work at the Digital Tech Summit in Copenhagen, focusing on sustainability and digital solutions.

21. Which ministry recently organised the 'Global Wind Day' event with a central theme of 'Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India'?

- [A] Ministry of Defence
- [B] Ministry of Agriculture
- [C] Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- [D] Ministry of Urban Development

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of New and Renewable Energy]

Notes:

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) celebrated Global Wind Day on June 15, 2024, highlighting India's wind energy achievements and future potential. With the theme "Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India," the event featured discussions on wind energy's role in meeting power demand, accelerating onshore adoption, and offshore development. India, with 46.4 GW of installed wind power capacity, aims to achieve 50% non-fossil fuel-based power by 2030 and net zero by 2070.

22. What is the rank of India in the 'Environment Performance Index 2024'?

- [A] 174th
- [B] 175th
- [C] 176th
- [D] 177th

Correct Answer: C [176th]

Notes:

Despite the Union government's environmental improvement claims, India ranks 176th out of 180 nations in the 2024 Environmental Performance Index (EPI), slightly better than its 180th position in 2022. Compiled by Yale and Columbia researchers, the EPI assesses green performance across multiple parameters. Since 2012, India has consistently declined in this index, highlighting ongoing environmental challenges.

23. Recently, where was the second annual meeting of the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) between India and the US held?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Chennai
- [C] Hyderabad
- [D] Jaipur

Correct Answer: A [New Delhi]

Notes:

The 2nd India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) meeting was held on June 17, 2024, in New Delhi. Co-chaired by Indian NSA Ajit Doval and US NSA Jake Sullivan, this event marked Sullivan's first visit to India post the third swearing-in of the Modi government. The iCET aims to enhance cooperation in space, semiconductors, telecom, AI, quantum tech, biotechnology, and clean energy.

24. What is 'Planet Nine', recently seen in news?

[A] A hypothetical planet in the outer region of our solar system

[B] A moon of Neptune

[C] Comets from the Kuiper Belt

[D] A newly discovered moon of saturn

Correct Answer: A [A hypothetical planet in the outer region of our solar system]

Notes:

Astronomers have been searching for a hypothetical ninth planet, Planet Nine, in the outer solar system for nearly a decade. Proposed to explain anomalies in the orbits of distant trans-Neptunian objects, Planet Nine is estimated to be 5-10 times the mass of Earth with a highly elliptical orbit, ranging from 400 to 800 AU from the Sun. Experts believe we may soon find it.

25. Which company partnered with Tamil Nadu to provide IT skills training to over 200000 students in the state under Naan Mudhalvan program?

[A] Google

[B] Microsoft

[C] Meta

[D] Oracle

Correct Answer: D [Oracle]

Notes:

Oracle has partnered with Tamil Nadu for the Naan Mudhalvan program, aiming to train 200,000+ students in advanced IT skills like cloud computing, AI, data science, ML, and blockchain. This initiative underscores Oracle's commitment to enhancing youth employability through digital and campus-based learning, offering certifications in cutting-edge technologies. The collaboration aims to equip students with skills essential for the future job market, emphasizing Oracle's role in fostering technological expertise among the youth.

26. Recently, which country became the first Southeast Asian country to recognize same-sex marriage?

[A] Thailand

[B] Vietnam

[C] Malaysia

[D] Singapore

Correct Answer: A [Thailand]

Notes:

Thailand became the first Southeast Asian country to recognize same-sex marriage. Despite its inclusive reputation, Thailand faced decades of challenges passing this law due to conservative societal and governmental values. The bill grants full legal, financial, and

medical rights to marriage partners of any gender. It awaits formal endorsement by King Maha Vajiralongkorn and will become effective within 120 days.

27. Recently, who was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for Telugu?

- [A] Ramesh Karthik Naik
- [B] Neelum Saran
- [C] Vikram Singh
- [D] Jyoti Gupta

Correct Answer: A [Ramesh Karthik Naik]

Notes:

Ramesh Karthik Naik, a 26-year-old writer from Vivek Nagar, Nizamabad district, received the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for Telugu literature. Instituted in 2011, this award honors young writers under 35 for their creative works in 24 languages. It includes a plaque, shawl, citation, and a ₹50,000 cheque. The Sahitya Akademi, established in 1954, promotes literature in Indian languages autonomously under the Government of India, playing a pivotal role in literary discourse and publication.

28. Stonehenge monument, recently seen in news, is located in which country?

- [A] England
- [B] France
- [C] Australia
- [D] India

Correct Answer: A [England]

Notes:

UK police arrested two people, including an Indian-origin man, for spraying an orange substance on Stonehenge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in England. Stonehenge, located in Wiltshire, is a prehistoric monument with about 100 massive stones arranged in a circle, built in stages around 2500 BC. Likely a religious site aligned with the Sun, it's part of a larger sacred landscape with numerous ancient structures and burial mounds.

29. Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) mission, recently seen in news, was launched by which space organization?

- [A] ISRO
- [B] JAXA
- [C] NASA
- [D] CNSA

Correct Answer: C [NASA]

Notes:

NASA's MAVEN orbiter, launched in 2013, recently captured stunning purple-colored auroras in Mars' atmosphere. MAVEN's primary mission is to study the Martian upper atmosphere and understand how solar activity has stripped away much of its atmosphere,

transforming the planet into a cold, barren desert. This research aims to unravel Mars' transition from a potentially habitable world to its current state, crucial for understanding its past potential for microbial life.

30. Which institute recently signed an MoU with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to enhance road safety through AI?

- [A] IIT, Kanpur
- [B] IIIT, Delhi
- [C] IIM, Ahmedabad
- [D] IIT, Bombay

Correct Answer: B [IIIT, Delhi]

Notes:

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed an MoU with Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT Delhi) to enhance road safety using AI-based solutions to improve road sign availability on national highways. The project will cover approximately 25,000 km. IIIT Delhi will conduct surveys to collect imagery and data on road sign conditions along selected highway stretches.

31. Recently, who has made history as the first Indian to receive the prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award'?

- [A] Vinod Ganatra
- [B] Ravi Gaikwad
- [C] Amit Dutta
- [D] Ashvin Kumar

Correct Answer: A [Vinod Ganatra]

Notes:

Vinod Ganatra, a prominent children's filmmaker from India, has been honored with South Africa's prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' for his contributions to cinema. He is the first Indian to receive this accolade, presented at the 7th Nelson Mandela Children's Film Festival. Ganatra's career spans over four decades, producing numerous documentaries and youth programs, and winning 36 national and international awards, including the 'Liv Ullmann Peace Prize' and 'DadaSaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award.'

32. Harpal Singh Bedi, who recently passed away, belonged to which field?

- [A] Politics
- [B] Journalism
- [C] Education
- [D] Agriculture

Correct Answer: B [Journalism]

Notes:

Harpal Singh Bedi, a revered sports journalist renowned for his insightful coverage spanning over four decades, including serving as the national Olympic contingent's press attache in 2012, passed away in New Delhi on June 15. Known for his friendly demeanor and sharp journalistic skills, Bedi left an indelible mark on Indian sports media. His demise at 72 followed a prolonged illness, leaving behind a legacy of engaging sports reporting and warmth in the media community.

33. Stonehenge monument, recently seen in news, is located in which country?

- [A] England
- [B] France
- [C] Australia
- [D] India

Correct Answer: A [England]

Notes:

UK police arrested two people, including an Indian-origin man, for spraying an orange substance on Stonehenge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in England. Stonehenge, located in Wiltshire, is a prehistoric monument with about 100 massive stones arranged in a circle, built in stages around 2500 BC. Likely a religious site aligned with the Sun, it's part of a larger sacred landscape with numerous ancient structures and burial mounds.

34. Vadhavan Port, recently seen in news, is to be constructed in which state?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: C [Maharashtra]

Notes:

The Union Cabinet approved the development of the Greenfield Major Port at Vadhavan, Maharashtra. To be constructed via a Special Purpose Vehicle by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority and Maharashtra Maritime Board, this all-weather deep draft port supports the PM Gati Shakti program. Located in Palghar District and built through PPP on a landlord model, it will have a 20-meter draft, 23.2 million TEUs capacity, and boost EXIM trade via IMEC and INSTC.

35. Recently, which institute has won joint second prize in the Trinity Challenge's second competition for addressing antimicrobial resistance (AMR)?

- [A] IIT, Ahmedabad
- [B] IIT, Kanpur
- [C] IIIT, Delhi
- [D] IIT, Roorkee

Correct Answer: C [IIIT, Delhi]

Notes:

A project by IIIT-Delhi won joint second prize in the Trinity Challenge's second competition for addressing antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The Trinity Challenge (TTC) is a charity fostering data-driven solutions to global health threats, partnering with over 40 organizations. Launched in response to COVID-19, TTC funds public challenges to enhance pandemic preparedness, awarding £5.7 million for innovative health solutions.

36. Recently, the world's oldest termite mound discovered in which country?

- [A] India
- [B] China
- [C] Japan
- [D] South Africa

Correct Answer: D [South Africa]

Notes:

Scientists discovered the world's oldest inhabited termite mounds in Namaqualand, South Africa. Known as 'heuweltjies' in Afrikaans, these mounds host the southern harvester termite, *Microhodotermes viator*. Radiocarbon dating reveals organic carbon dating back 13,000 to 19,000 years, and carbonate dating up to 34,000 years. These mounds are the oldest with both organic and inorganic carbon, formed during a wetter climate that allowed minerals like calcite and gypsum to dissolve, enriching groundwater.

37. Which day is observed as 'World Hydrography Day' every year?

- [A] 20 June
- [B] 21 June
- [C] 22 June
- [D] 23 June

Correct Answer: B [21 June]

Notes:

World Hydrography Day, observed on June 21, is led by the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) since 1921. The IHO coordinates global efforts to survey and chart seas, oceans, and navigable waters. With 100 member states, it promotes uniformity in nautical charts and best practices. India, a member since 1955, operates the Indian Naval Hydrographic Department in Kolkata, central to hydrographic surveys with a modern fleet. The 2024 theme focuses on enhancing marine safety, efficiency, and sustainability.

38. Recently, where was the '43rd World Medical and Health Games' held?

- [A] China
- [B] France
- [C] India
- [D] Germany

Correct Answer: B [France]

Notes:

At the 43rd World Medical and Health Games in Saint-Tropez, France, from June 16-23, 2024, four officers from the Armed Forces Medical Service won a record 32 medals. Lieutenant Colonel Sanjeev Malik, Major Anish George, Captain Stephen Sebastian, and Captain Dania James collectively secured 19 gold, 9 silver, and 4 bronze medals. The Medgames is the world's largest sporting event for medical and health professionals, first held in 1978.

39. Indus Water Treaty (IWT), recently seen in news, is a treaty signed between which two countries?

- [A] India and China
- [B] India and Nepal
- [C] India and Pakistan
- [D] India and Bhutan

Correct Answer: C [India and Pakistan]

Notes:

A Pakistani delegation recently arrived in Jammu to discuss the 1960 Indus Water Treaty (IWT) with India. Signed by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and President Ayub Khan, and brokered by the World Bank, the treaty regulates the distribution of the Indus River system's waters. India received waters from the Beas, Ravi, and Sutlej rivers, while Pakistan received waters from the Chenab, Indus, and Jhelum rivers. The Permanent Indus Commission oversees the treaty's implementation.

40. Which day is observed as 'United Nations Public Service Day' annually?

- [A] 21 June
- [B] 22 June
- [C] 23 June
- [D] 24 June

Correct Answer: C [23 June]

Notes:

United Nations Public Service Day is celebrated globally on June 23rd to highlight the importance of public service and honor the dedication of public servants. The day aims to celebrate the value of public service to communities, showcase its contribution to development, honor the work of public servants, and inspire young people to consider careers in the public sector.

41. Fire Dragon 480, recently seen in news, is a tactical ballistic missile of which country?

- [A] India
- [B] Japan
- [C] China
- [D] UK

Correct Answer: C [China]

Notes:

A PLA study claims China's Fire Dragon 480 missile can sink a US Ticonderoga-class cruiser in the Red Sea. The 750-mm tactical ballistic missile, made by Norinco Group, features precision-guidance sensors and a high-speed launch platform. With a warhead over 400 kg and impact velocity over 500 meters per second, it can destroy a 10,000-ton cruiser with two hits. Adopted in 2019, it has a range exceeding 500 km.

42. Recently, the world's oldest termite mound was discovered in which country?

- [A] India
- [B] China
- [C] Japan
- [D] South Africa

Correct Answer: D [South Africa]

Notes:

Scientists discovered the world's oldest inhabited termite mounds in Namaqualand, South Africa. Known as 'heuweltjies' in Afrikaans, these mounds host the southern harvester termite, *Microhodotermes viator*. Radiocarbon dating reveals organic carbon dating back 13,000 to 19,000 years, and carbonate dating up to 34,000 years. These mounds are the oldest with both organic and inorganic carbon, formed during a wetter climate that allowed minerals like calcite and gypsum to dissolve, enriching groundwater.

43. Who won two bronze medals for India at the Archery World Cup 2024?

- [A] Pravin Jadhav
- [B] Abhishek Verma
- [C] Dhiraj Bommadevara
- [D] Limba Ram

Correct Answer: C [Dhiraj Bommadevara]

Notes:

At the Archery World Cup 2024 Stage 3 in Antalya, Türkiye, 22-year-old Dhiraj Bommadevara won two bronze medals in the recurve events. India secured four medals overall: one gold, one silver, and two bronze. The Indian women's compound team, consisting of Aditi Swami, Jyothi Surekha Vennam, and Parneet Kaur, achieved a hat-trick of gold medals, marking their third consecutive win this season.

44. Recently, who became the first Indian table tennis player to win a WTT (World Table Tennis) Contender single title?

- [A] Mamta Mehta
- [B] Sreeja Akula
- [C] Neha Aggarwal
- [D] Manika Batra

Correct Answer: B [Sreeja Akula]

Notes:

Sreeja Akula of Hyderabad made history as the first Indian table tennis player to clinch a WTT Contender singles title and also secured the doubles title at WTT Contender Lagos 2024. The event, held in Lagos, Nigeria, from June 19 to 23, offered a prize of USD 80,000. Sreeja defeated China's Yijie Ding 4-1 in the singles final, showcasing her prowess ahead of the 2024 Paris Olympics where she has already qualified.

45. What is the primary purpose of the eSakshya app, recently tested by Ministry of Home Affairs?

- [A] To provide social networking services
- [B] To help police record and upload crime scene evidence
- [C] To offer cloud storage solutions to businesses
- [D] To provide details of infrastructural development of railways

Correct Answer: B [To help police record and upload crime scene evidence]

Notes:

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs is testing eSakshya, a mobile app developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. It aids police in recording crime scenes and uploading evidence to a cloud-based platform. Each recording can be up to four minutes long, with multiple files per First Information Report (FIR). The app aims to ensure digital evidence integrity, crucial for new criminal laws to prevent potential legal loopholes.

46. Recently, which military station has become the second military station in India to construct a plastic waste road?

- [A] Dehradun Military Station
- [B] Roorkee Military Station
- [C] Jaipur Military Station
- [D] Meerut Military Station

Correct Answer: C [Jaipur Military Station]

Notes:

Jaipur Military Station is now the second in India to have a road made of plastic waste, inaugurated on June 26, 2024, by Major General R. S. Godara. The 100-meter road, built under GE (South) and CE Jaipur Zone with Deep Constructions Pvt Ltd, follows the first plastic road at Narangi Military Station, Assam. These roads are more durable, with less wear and tear, reduced water induction, and increased sustainability.

47. Mark Rutte, recently appointed as the new Secretary General of NATO, is the Prime Minister of which country?

- [A] Singapore
- [B] Indonesia

[C] Netherlands

[D] Australia

Correct Answer: C [Netherlands]

Notes:

Mark Rutte, Netherlands Prime Minister, has been appointed as the next Secretary General of NATO. Approved by NATO's 32 member countries on June 26 in Brussels, he will succeed Jens Stoltenberg on October 1, 2024. Rutte's nomination came after overcoming opposition from Hungary and Turkey, and the withdrawal of Romanian President Klaus Iohannis. He became the sole candidate and was elected to lead the Western military alliance after serving as Dutch Prime Minister since 2010.

48. Which organization developed the 'Tapas BH-201 UAV', recently seen in news?

[A] JAXA

[B] ISRO

[C] DRDO

[D] HAL

Correct Answer: C [DRDO]

Notes:

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has proposed to acquire 10 TAPAS drones, officially known as Tactical Airborne Platform for Aerial Surveillance Beyond Horizon-201, or Tapas BH-201. Developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment, these medium-altitude, long-endurance drones, previously called Rustom-II, fulfill the tri-services' Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, Tracking & Reconnaissance (ISTAR) needs. Capable of operating day and night at 30,000 feet with a 24-hour endurance, they feature a 250 km range, carry up to 350 kg payloads, and include advanced surveillance and radar technologies.

49. Recently, the Indian Army engineers have constructed a 150-foot suspension bridge in which state to re-connect the border villages which got cut off due to heavy rains?

[A] Nagaland

[B] Sikkim

[C] Assam

[D] Arunachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: B [Sikkim]

Notes:

The Indian Army swiftly constructed a 150-foot foot suspension bridge in North Sikkim within 48 hours to restore connectivity to border villages affected by heavy rains and landslides. This initiative aimed to aid locals following the tragic loss of six lives earlier this month. Suspension bridges feature roadways suspended from cables anchored securely, providing crucial infrastructure amidst challenging terrain and adverse weather conditions.

50. Which district of Uttar Pradesh is known as the 'City of Knives'?

- [A] Rampur
- [B] Saharanpur
- [C] Mirzapur
- [D] Raebareli

Correct Answer: A [Rampur]

Notes:

Rampur district, Uttar Pradesh, known as the "City of Knives," has crafted the renowned Rampuri chaku since the 18th century. These blades, symbols of artisanship and royal patronage, are made from high-quality steel, paired with handles of bone, horn, or ivory, intricately carved into pieces of art. Despite a 1990s ban on longer blades to reduce violence, Rampur artisans adapt legally, preserving their craft's legacy. This resilience highlights Rampur's cultural heritage and commitment to craftsmanship.

July - 2024

1. INS Ranvir, recently seen in news, belongs to which type of class?

- [A] Seawolf
- [B] Rajput
- [C] Scorpene
- [D] Kalavari

Correct Answer: B [Rajput]

Notes:

Indian Naval Ship INS Ranvir, a Rajput Class Guided Missile Destroyer, arrived in Chattogram, Bangladesh for an Operational Deployment. Commissioned in 1986, the upgraded ship features state-of-the-art indigenous weapons and sensors. The visit includes professional interactions, community outreach, and sports with Bangladeshi naval personnel. INS Ranvir will also participate in a Maritime Partnership Exercise. This visit enhances India-Bangladesh friendship, cooperation, and regional security, aligned with India's SAGAR initiative.

2. Recently, which organization has approved a \$1.5 billion loan to support India's green hydrogen initiatives?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] International Monetary Fund
- [C] International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- [D] International Development Association

Correct Answer: A [World Bank]

Notes:

The World Bank approved \$1.5 billion to support India's low-carbon energy development. The funding will boost green hydrogen, electrolyzers, and renewable energy. This aligns with

India's National Green Hydrogen Mission and energy goals: achieving 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2070.

3. Which country recently introduced holographic technology in new banknotes?

- [A] Japan
- [B] China
- [C] Nepal
- [D] France

Correct Answer: A [Japan]

Notes:

Japan introduced new banknotes featuring advanced holography, creating 3D rotating portraits of historic figures as an anti-counterfeit measure. This innovative technology marks the world's first use of such holography on currency. The redesign, Japan's first in 20 years, aims to enhance security and prevent counterfeiting.

4. Recently, archaeologists have uncovered a 41,000-year-old ostrich nest in which state?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

Archaeologists discovered the world's oldest known ostrich nest, dating back 41,000 years in Andhra Pradesh. This find could offer insights into the extinction of megafauna in the Indian subcontinent. Megafauna, animals over 50 kg, include megaherbivores, megacarnivores, and megaomnivores. Anthropogenic pressures since the Late Pleistocene led to significant losses among megafauna like woolly mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers.

5. What is a 'Money Mule', recently seen in news?

- [A] Someone who invests in stocks
- [B] Someone who transfers or moves illegally acquired money for someone else
- [C] A legitimate bank employee
- [D] A financial advisor

Correct Answer: B [Someone who transfers or moves illegally acquired money for someone else]

Notes:

Several high-street banks have restricted opening accounts for firms less than a year old due to suspicions of money mule activities linked to laundering and digital fraud. A money mule transfers illegally acquired money for criminals, aiding in laundering proceeds from crimes like human trafficking and drug trafficking. Criminals use fake job adverts or social media

posts to recruit money mules, who move funds via bank accounts, checks, virtual currency, or prepaid cards.

6. What is 'Stablecoin', recently mentioned in news?

- [A] Android Malware
- [B] Cryptocurrency
- [C] Currency of Ireland
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: B [Cryptocurrency]

Notes:

Recent volatility in the Stablecoin market, including the collapse of TerraUSD, has raised concerns about their stability and reliability. Stablecoins are cryptocurrencies pegged to assets like fiat currency or commodities (e.g., gold) to maintain a stable price. They offer an alternative to the high volatility of popular cryptocurrencies, making them potentially more suitable for everyday transactions.

7. Which company has recently launched the world's first compressed natural gas (CNG)-powered two-wheeler?

- [A] Yamaha
- [B] Bajaj Auto
- [C] Hero
- [D] Royal Enfield

Correct Answer: B [Bajaj Auto]

Notes:

Bajaj Auto launched the world's first CNG-powered two-wheeler, the Freedom 125, in Pune. Priced at around Rs 95,000, this entry-level vehicle aims to revolutionize the motorcycle market. CEO Rajiv Bajaj highlighted its freedom from petrol reliance. Key features include telescopic front forks, mono-link suspension, front disc and rear drum brakes, and a 125cc engine.

8. Bharat Bill Payment System, recently mentioned in the news, is a payment channel system conceptualized by which institution?

- [A] RBI
- [B] NABARD
- [C] SBI
- [D] SEBI

Correct Answer: A [RBI]

Notes:

The RBI has mandated that all credit card bill payments via third-party apps must be routed through the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS). Managed by NPCI, BBPS offers a centralized platform for bill payments. This affects users of major banks and apps like CRED, PhonePe,

Amazon Pay, and Paytm. The move aims to regulate peer-to-peer transactions and ensure centralized monitoring.

9. Recently, Tata Power Solar Systems Limited has launched 'Ghar Ghar Solar' initiative in which state?

- [A] Manipur
- [B] Assam
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: C [Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

Tata Power Solar Systems launched the 'Ghar Ghar Solar' project in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, to promote clean energy. About 10 lakh homes can install rooftop solar systems, benefiting from up to Rs. 1,08,000 in subsidies under PM Surya Ghar Yojana. Using advanced bifacial panels, installations take just 7 days. A typical 3 kW system can save households up to INR 27,000 annually and allows net metering for extra savings.

10. Recently, which state becomes the first State in the country to adopt an action plan for road safety for the next 10 years?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Haryana
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: D [Rajasthan]

Notes:

Rajasthan is the first Indian state to adopt a 10-year road safety action plan, aiming to reduce road accidents by 50% by 2030. Announced by Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa, the policy will raise public awareness and encourage compliance with road safety rules. The World Bank will assist in developing the plan, which will be implemented in three stages, focusing on speed limits, safe distances, traffic signals, and pedestrian safety.

11. Recently, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared the mica mines of which state child-labor-free?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Jharkhand
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: B [Jharkhand]

Notes:

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared Jharkhand's mica mines child labor-free on July 5, 2024. This milestone marks the first successful effort to

cleanse a supply chain of child labor. The initiative began 20 years ago, involving state and central governments, civil society, and local authorities. Around 20,000 children were previously employed in mica mining but have since been rehabilitated and enrolled in schools.

12. Recently, the Government of India has mandated conformity to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for which materials?

- [A] Stainless steel and Aluminium utensils
- [B] Brass flanges
- [C] Plastic products
- [D] Wood Handicrafts

Correct Answer: A [Stainless steel and Aluminium utensils]

Notes:

The Government of India recently mandated that stainless steel and aluminum utensils must adhere to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications. This move aims to improve kitchen safety, quality, and efficiency. Issued by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on March 14, 2024, the Quality Control Order requires the ISI mark on these utensils, with non-compliance subject to penalties.

13. Habrocestum swaminathan, recently seen in news, belongs to which species?

- [A] Frog
- [B] Fish
- [C] Spider
- [D] Crocodile

Correct Answer: C [Spider]

Notes:

Researchers from Christ College, Irinjalakuda, discovered two new litter-dwelling jumping spider species in the southern Western Ghats' evergreen forests. Named *Habrocestum swaminathan* and *Habrocestum benjamin*, they contribute to the genus *Habrocestum*. These spiders play crucial roles in natural pest control and serve as indicators of ecosystem health. *Habrocestum swaminathan* was found near the Kunthi river, honoring M.S. Swaminathan, while *Habrocestum benjamin*, noted for its colorful patches, was discovered near Thusharagiri waterfalls and named after jumping spider specialist Suresh P. Benjamin.

14. Where was the Asian Squash Doubles Championship 2024 held?

- [A] Medan, Indonesia
- [B] New Delhi, India
- [C] Johor, Malaysia
- [D] Kolkata, India

Correct Answer: C [Johor, Malaysia]

Notes:

Indian squash players secured two titles at the 2024 Asian Squash Doubles Championship in Johor, Malaysia. Abhay Singh and Joshna Chinappa won the mixed doubles, defeating Hong Kong's Tong Tsz Wing and Ming Hong Tang. In the men's doubles, Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar triumphed over Malaysia's Ong Sai Hung and Syafiq Kamal. The championship featured 33 teams from seven countries and was held from July 4-7, 2024.

15. Which organization recently launched an Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITBP) in the Kulathupuzha grama panchayat, Kerala?

- [A] SEBI
- [B] NABARD
- [C] FCI
- [D] Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Correct Answer: B [NABARD]

Notes:

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched its first integrated tribal development program in Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat, Kollam, on July 8. Implemented by Thanal, the five-year project aims to enhance the livelihoods of 413 tribal families through diverse agricultural and non-agricultural activities. It includes water resource development, skill training, and the creation of a Tribal Farmer Producer Company (FPO) to empower the community economically.

16. Recently, which state becomes the first State in the country to adopt an action plan for road safety for the next 10 years?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Haryana
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: D [Rajasthan]

Notes:

Rajasthan is the first Indian state to adopt a 10-year road safety action plan, aiming to reduce road accidents by 50% by 2030. Announced by Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa, the policy will raise public awareness and encourage compliance with road safety rules. The World Bank will assist in developing the plan, which will be implemented in three stages, focusing on speed limits, safe distances, traffic signals, and pedestrian safety.

17. Recently, who has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team?

- [A] Gautam Gambhir
- [B] MS Dhoni
- [C] Yuvraj Singh
- [D] Rahul Dravid

Correct Answer: A [Gautam Gambhir]

Notes:

Gautam Gambhir, a former Indian cricketer, has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team, replacing Rahul Dravid. Announced by BCCI Secretary Jay Shah on July 9, 2024, Gambhir's term will last three years. He will oversee the team in key tournaments like the 2026 T20 World Cup, 2027 ODI World Cup, and 2025 ICC Champions Trophy. Gambhir starts his role in July with a tour to Sri Lanka.

18. Recently, India and Russia agreed to increase bilateral trade to 100 billion dollars by which year?

[A] 2025

[B] 2027

[C] 2028

[D] 2030

Correct Answer: D [2030]

Notes:

India and Russia agreed to increase bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030 and use national currencies to bypass Western sanctions during the 22nd Annual Summit. Prime Minister Modi urged an end to civilian deaths in Ukraine. Russia will expedite the discharge of Indian recruits in its military. The joint statement emphasized peaceful resolution of the Ukraine conflict and included MoUs on climate change, polar research, legal arbitration, and pharmaceutical certification.

19. Anand Marriage Act, recently seen in news, provides statutory recognition to marriage rituals of which community in India?

[A] Muslim

[B] Sikh

[C] Jain

[D] Jews

Correct Answer: B [Sikh]

Notes:

The National Commission for Minorities held a video conference to discuss the implementation of the Anand Marriage Act, which recognizes Sikh marriage rituals. States like Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Meghalaya reported its implementation, while others assured to do so within two months. Originating in 1909 and amended in 2012, the Act allows Sikhs to register marriages outside the Hindu Marriage Act. Recently, Jammu and Kashmir framed rules for Anand marriage registration.

20. What is the primary objective of the 'eSwasthya Dham portal', recently seen in news?

[A] To book accommodations for pilgrims

[B] To monitor the health parameters of Char Dham Yatra pilgrims

- [C] To provide travel guides for pilgrims
- [D] To facilitate payment for pilgrimage services

Correct Answer: B [To monitor the health parameters of Char Dham Yatra pilgrims]

Notes:

The eSwasthya Dham portal, integrated with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), monitors the health parameters of pilgrims undertaking the Char Dham Yatra, which includes Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath. This initiative ensures a smooth pilgrimage experience, allowing pilgrims to create a 14-digit Ayushman Bharat Health Account number. Each site holds religious significance: Yamunotri is dedicated to Goddess Yamuna, Gangotri to Goddess Ganga, Kedarnath to Lord Shiva, and Badrinath to Lord Vishnu.

21. “Order of St. Andrew the Apostle” Award, recently seen in the news, is the highest civilian honour award of which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Russia
- [C] France
- [D] Germany

Correct Answer: B [Russia]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi officially received Russia’s prestigious Order of St Andrew the Apostle, awarded in 2019 for his contributions to India-Russia strategic partnership and fostering friendly ties. Established in 1698 by Tsar Peter the Great, the honor recognizes exceptional civilian or military merit.

22. Recently, where was the 25th Prime Minister’s [Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council \(PM-STIAC\)](#) meeting held?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Chennai
- [C] Bengaluru
- [D] Hyderabad

Correct Answer: A [New Delhi]

Notes:

The 25th Prime Minister’s Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) meeting, chaired by Professor Ajay Kumar Sood on July 9, 2024 in New Delhi, reviewed various science and technology initiatives. Established in 2018, PM-STIAC advises on strategic matters, formulates missions like Deep Ocean Exploration, AI, National Quantum, Electric Vehicle, and AGNI missions, and oversees their implementation across government agencies to advance India’s scientific and technological capabilities.

23. What is ‘Salvinia molesta’, recently seen in news?

- [A] Invasive weed
- [B] Asteroid
- [C] Earth observation satellite
- [D] AI tool

Correct Answer: A [Invasive weed]

Notes: An exotic host-specific beetle, *Cyrtobagus salvinia* from Brazil, has eradicated the invasive weed *Salvinia molesta* from Sarani Reservoir (Satpura Dam) in Betul district, Madhya Pradesh. Located on the Tawa River, a tributary of the Narmada River, this reserve faced issues due to *Salvinia molesta*, a free-floating aquatic fern native to Brazil, also known as “Water Fern” or “Chinese Jhalaar.” This weed also affects the ecology of Kerala, Odisha, Uttarakhand, and Maharashtra.

24. Recently, which state government approved to implement the ‘National e-Vidhan Application’ (NEVA) project worth about Rs 23 crore in state legislative assembly?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: A [Madhya Pradesh]

Notes:

The Madhya Pradesh cabinet approved the ‘National e-Vidhan Application’ (NEVA) for a paperless Legislative Assembly under the Digital India initiative. The scheme, funded 60% by the Government of India and 40% by state governments, aims to unify all Legislative Assemblies on a single platform. Additionally, student scholarships in hostels and welfare centers will increase: boys from Rs 1230 to Rs 1550 and girls from Rs 1270 to Rs 1590 monthly. Tenders for seven Narmada Valley Development projects worth Rs 9,271.96 crore were also approved.

25. Recently, which university is opening Centres for Hindu Studies, Buddhist Studies as well as Jain Studies under the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies?

- [A] Jawaharlal Nehru University
- [B] Banaras Hindu University
- [C] Delhi University
- [D] Lucknow University

Correct Answer: A [Jawaharlal Nehru University]

Notes:

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) will open a Centre for Hindu Studies, along with centres for Buddhist and Jain studies, under the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies. This decision, approved by the JNU Executive Council on May 29, follows recommendations by a

committee to implement the National Education Policy (2020) and integrate the Indian Knowledge System at the university.

26. Sajjangarh Biological Park, recently seen in the news, is located in which state?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Haryana

Correct Answer: B [Rajasthan]

Notes:

Sajjangarh Biological Park in Udaipur is to receive a pair of lions from Sakkarbaug Zoological Park, Gujarat, through an animal exchange initiative. The Rs 3.45 crore lion safari project aims to enhance the park's appeal. Covering 26 hectares, it will accommodate up to eight lions. In return, Sajjangarh will provide Sakkarbaug Zoo with various animals. The Central Zoo Authority approved the transfer to boost Udaipur tourism, with plans to expand the park's facilities.

27. What is the primary objective of the NASA's CHAPEA mission, recently seen in news?

- [A] To test new Mars rover designs
- [B] To simulate year-long stays on the surface of Mars
- [C] To develop new space suits
- [D] To test solar panel efficiency on Mars

Correct Answer: B [To simulate year-long stays on the surface of Mars]

Notes:

NASA's CHAPEA project simulates year-long Mars missions to assess food systems and human health. After a year in the 1,700 sq ft Mars Dune Alpha habitat at Johnson Space Center, a crew emerged. CHAPEA missions involve four crew members living in a 3D-printed structure that mimics a realistic Mars habitat. The data collected will aid future space missions, focusing on physical and behavioral health patterns.

28. Which day is observed as 'World Youth Skills Day' every year?

- [A] 14 July
- [B] 15 July
- [C] 16 July
- [D] 17 July

Correct Answer: B [15 July]

Notes:

World Youth Skills Day, observed on July 15th, was established by the UN in 2014. It emphasizes the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship. The 2024 theme, "Youth Skills for Peace and Development,"

highlights the vital role of youth in promoting peace and driving sustainable development. This day serves as a global platform to raise awareness about youth skill development.

29. Recently, India signed an agreement with which country to implement four Community Development Projects?

- [A] Marshall Islands
- [B] Solomon Islands
- [C] Papua New Guinea
- [D] New Zealand

Correct Answer: A [Marshall Islands]

Notes:

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar emphasized the long-standing friendly relations between India and the Marshall Islands during the MoU signing for Four Community Development Projects. He highlighted India's responsibility to support Pacific Islands in sustainable development, addressing climate change, natural disasters, poverty alleviation, and healthcare. Dr. Jaishankar affirmed that the Pacific Islands are significant ocean countries and valued India's partnership with them.

30. Which institute recently unveiled plans to use technology to enhance India's chess capabilities?

- [A] IIT Kanpur
- [B] IIT Ahmedabad
- [C] IIT Mandi
- [D] IIT Madras

Correct Answer: D [IIT Madras]

Notes:

The IIT Madras Centre of Excellence in Sports Science and Analytics (CESSA) announced plans to leverage technology to enhance India's chess capabilities. This initiative aims to boost fan engagement, provide anti-cheating solutions, and enhance chess training programs. It includes launching new courses on NPTEL and future sports education programs. The focus is on improving fan engagement, offering federations anti-cheating solutions, and expanding grassroots chess training programs.

31. Recently, Gitanas Nausėda has been elected as the President of which country?

- [A] Chile
- [B] Kenya
- [C] Lithuania
- [D] Spain

Correct Answer: C [Lithuania]

Notes:

Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda was sworn in for a second five-year term, taking the presidential oath at the Lithuanian parliament, Seimas. The 60-year-old economist proposed increasing Lithuania's defense budget to 4% of GDP to fund long-range air defense, a missile shield for the Baltic Sea coast, and border fortifications.

32. What is the origin of the Bagmati River, recently seen in news?

- [A] Kafni Glacier
- [B] Shivapuri Hills
- [C] Nandi Hills
- [D] Aravalli Hills

Correct Answer: B [Shivapuri Hills]

Notes:

Flooding has occurred in Bihar's Muzaffarpur area due to rising water levels in the Bagmati River. This river, originating from the Bagdwar area in Nepal's Shivapuri Hills, is considered holy by Hindus and Buddhists. Flowing through diverse terrains, it travels approximately 360 km before joining the Burhi Gandak River. The Bagmati is fed by springs, monsoon rainfall, and tributaries, transiting three distinct physiographic zones of the Nepal Himalayas.

33. Bhojshala complex, recently seen in the news, is located in which state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: A [Madhya Pradesh]

Notes:

The Bhojshala complex in Madhya Pradesh, built in 1034 AD by Raja Bhoja of the Paramara dynasty, is constructed from remains of an earlier temple. Historically significant, it served as a university for subjects like music, astronomy, and philosophy. The site faced attacks in 1305 and 1514 AD, with attempts to convert it into a dargah. Engravings include Prakrit hymns and Sanskrit inscriptions. It was declared a national monument in 1951 and is protected by the ASI.

34. 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey', recently seen in the news, is related to which organization?

- [A] DRDO
- [B] Railway Protection Force
- [C] ISRO
- [D] Ministry of women and child development

Correct Answer: B [Railway Protection Force]

Notes:

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) has rescued 84,119 children at risk in Indian railway stations and trains over the past seven years under Operation Nanhe Farishtey, launched in 2018. The operation focuses on runaway, abandoned, impoverished, disabled, or kidnapped children, protecting them from crime syndicates. Rescued children are handed over to the District Child Welfare Committee. In 2022, RPF rescued the highest number, 17,756 children.

35. Srijan Portal, recently seen in the news, is developed by which ministry?

[A] Ministry of Urban Development

[B] Ministry of Agriculture

[C] Ministry of Defence

[D] Ministry of Rural Development

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Defence]

Notes:

The Department of Defence Production (DDP), Ministry of Defence, has released the fifth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) with 346 items, to be procured exclusively from Indian industries after specified timelines. Available on the Srijan portal, this list encourages private sector indigenization. The portal showcases import items from DPSUs/OFB/SHQs, inviting Indian industry involvement in design, development, and manufacturing. The Ministry of Defence oversees this initiative.

36. Recently, which state government is organizing special camps to grant Indian citizenship to minority refugees from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh?

[A] Gujarat

[B] Rajasthan

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Rajasthan]

Notes:

The Rajasthan government is organizing hold special camps to grant Indian citizenship to minority refugees from Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Simplified rules authorize district collectors to issue citizenship certificates. From 2016 to 2024, 2,329 refugees gained citizenship, with 1,566 applications pending. The Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019, offers citizenship to non-Muslim communities from these countries who entered India by December 31, 2014, exempting them from penalties under immigration laws.

37. Which organization recently released 'Towards Justice: Ending Child Marriage' report?

[A] UNICEF

[B] Childhood Education International (CEI)

[C] India Child Protection (ICP)

[D] Delhi Council For Child Welfare (DCCW)

Correct Answer: C [India Child Protection (ICP)]

Notes:

India Child Protection (ICP) released the “Towards Justice: Ending Child Marriage” report. ICP, part of the Child Rights and Multi-Faith Initiative, addresses child abuse, trafficking, digital exploitation, and child marriage. Key findings: Assam’s legal measures reduced child marriages by 81% from 2021-22 to 2023-24. Despite three girls marrying every minute (Census 2011), only three cases are reported daily. In 2023-24, 14,137 child marriages were prevented. With a 92% case backlog, clearing it could take 19 years.

38. Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme, recently seen in the news, is a WTO- compliant scheme of which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Defence
- [B] Ministry of Agriculture
- [C] Ministry of Commerce
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Commerce]

Notes:

The tea industry seeks higher rates under the RoDTEP scheme to boost export competitiveness. RoDTEP, a flagship export promotion scheme by India’s Commerce Ministry, refunds unrebated central, state, and local duties on inputs. Announced in September 2019, it replaced the MEIS scheme following a WTO ruling. Effective January 1, 2021, RoDTEP supports crucial export sectors to enhance competitiveness, create jobs, and promote economic growth, aiming for Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

39. What is ‘Zebra Mussel’, recently seen in news?

- [A] Invasive species
- [B] Black hole
- [C] Asteroid
- [D] Critical mineral

Correct Answer: A [Invasive species]

Notes:

Zebra mussels, an invasive species threatening aquatic ecosystems, have been found in the Colorado River for the first time. Native to the Caspian and Black Seas, they entered North America’s Great Lakes in the 1980s via ballast water from ships. These fingernail-sized mollusks, *Dreissena polymorpha*, attach to natural and manmade substrates. Identified by their ‘D’ shaped shells with black zigzag stripes, they grow up to two inches long.

40. Which state government has launched a comprehensive registry initiative to resolve long-standing issues related to Lal Dora properties in urban areas?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Punjab

[C] Gujarat

[D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: A [Haryana]

Notes: The Haryana government launched a registry initiative to address issues related to Lal Dora properties in urban areas under the Chief Minister Urban Body Ownership Scheme. Established in 1908, Lal Dora lands were exempt from building bylaws, complicating ownership proof and transactions. The state aims to free villages from these restrictions, allowing property rights. The Svamitva Scheme will streamline ownership, with the Chief Minister distributing certificates and registries in Gurugram.

41. Recently, Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment inaugurated the 'Samajik Adhikarita Shivar' in which district of Uttar Pradesh?

[A] Varanasi

[B] Badaun

[C] Ayodhya

[D] Raebareli

Correct Answer: B [Badaun]

Notes:

Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri B.L. Verma, inaugurated the 'Samajik Adhikarita Shivar' in Badaun, Uttar Pradesh, for distributing assistive devices to 791 pre-identified persons with disabilities. Organized under the ADIP scheme by DEPwD, the event aims to empower Divyangjan with devices like motorized tricycles, wheelchairs, Braille kits, and hearing aids. ALIMCO, in coordination with the district administration, will oversee the distribution.

42. Recently, where has central government approved a significant plan to enhance its defense capabilities by building military airfields?

[A] Bombay

[B] Lakshadweep

[C] Andaman and Nicobar

[D] Daman and Diu

Correct Answer: B [Lakshadweep]

Notes:

India plans to enhance defense capabilities by constructing military airfields in the Lakshadweep islands, including a new airbase on Minicoy island and expanding Agatti island's airfield. These dual-purpose airfields will support all fighter and transport aircraft, long-range drones, and commercial airlines. Aimed at countering Chinese activities and extending surveillance in the Arabian Sea, this Indian Air Force-led project will boost defense and tourism.

43. Recently, which country has imposed a comprehensive ban on the export of weapons and defence-related items to India?

- [A] Turkey
- [B] Russia
- [C] UAE
- [D] Qatar

Correct Answer: A [Turkey]

Notes:

Relations between Turkey and India have deteriorated, leading Turkey to ban military equipment exports to India, a major arms purchaser. This decision follows India's cancellation of a shipbuilding contract with a Turkish company. Although not publicly announced, the ban was revealed during a closed Foreign Affairs Committee debate in the Turkish Parliament on July 10, 2024, by Mustafa Murat Seker, Vice President of Turkey's top arms procurement agency, SSB.

44. Krishnaraja Sagar and Kabini dams, recently seen in the news, are located in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: C [Karnataka]

Notes:

A flood alert has been issued for low-lying areas downstream of Karnataka's Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) dam due to a water inflow exceeding 69,000 cusecs. The alert affects regions along the Cauvery river in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts. The KRS dam's inflow surpassed 60,000 cusecs for the second consecutive day, prompting a release of 50,000 cusecs. The Kabini dam also recorded high inflows. Rising water levels have led to the closure of tourist sites like Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary.

45. According to Union Budget 2024-25, how much funding has been allocated for the 'Khelo India' initiative?

- [A] Rs 600 crore
- [B] Rs 900 crore
- [C] Rs 800 crore
- [D] Rs 500 crore

Correct Answer: B [Rs 900 crore]

Notes:

In the Union Budget 2024-25, the Khelo India initiative received ₹900 crore, a ₹20 crore increase from the previous year's allocation of ₹880 crore. Khelo India, focused on grassroots sports development, continues to be a top priority for the government. Launched

in 2018, it has expanded to include Khelo India University Games, Winter Games, and Para Games. Numerous State Centres of Excellence have been established to support young athletes.

46. What is 'INS Brahmaputra', recently mentioned in news?

- [A] Guided Missile Frigate
- [B] Nuclear Powered Submarine
- [C] Aircraft Carriers
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: A [Guided Missile Frigate]

Notes:

The Indian Navy's INS Brahmaputra, docked at Mumbai Dockyard for refitting, overturned under mysterious circumstances following a fire, causing significant damage and leaving one sailor missing. INS Brahmaputra is the first indigenously built Brahmaputra-class guided missile frigate, an upgrade on the Godavari class. Commissioned in April 2000 and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), it displaces 5,300 tonnes, is 125 meters long, and can exceed speeds of 27 knots. The ship's armament includes various guns, missiles, and torpedo launchers, and it can operate Seaking and Chetak helicopters. It is manned by 40 officers and 330 sailors.

47. Recently, which organization successfully flight-tested the Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system?

- [A] DRDO
- [B] ISRO
- [C] HAL
- [D] JAXA

Correct Answer: A [DRDO]

Notes:

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight-tested the Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system. This phase aims to validate intercept systems for ballistic missiles in the 5000 km range. The Phase-II AD Endo-atmospheric missile is an indigenously developed, two-stage, solid-propelled system designed to counter various ballistic missile threats within endo- to low exo-atmospheric regions. In 2022, DRDO tested the AD-1 long-range interceptor missile for both exo- and endo-atmospheric interception.

48. Recently, which company has unveiled its new open source AI model Llama 3.1?

- [A] Meta
- [B] Google
- [C] Microsoft
- [D] Facebook

Correct Answer: A [Meta]

Notes:

Meta recently launched its largest open-source AI model, Llama 3.1, which surpasses OpenAI's GPT-4o and Anthropic's Claude 3.5 Sonnet in various benchmarks. The Llama 3.1 models are significantly more complex than their predecessors and feature 405 billion parameters. It supports eight languages, improves computer code quality, and solves complex math problems more effectively. Llama 3.1 offers cost-effective running inference, approximately 50% cheaper than models like GPT-4o.

49. Which Southeast Asian country has recently released a special stamp set that includes a stamp on Lord Rama of Ayodhya?

- [A] Laos
- [B] Cambodia
- [C] Thailand
- [D] Singapore

Correct Answer: A [Laos]

Notes:

During his visit to Vientiane, Laos, from 25 to 27 July 2024, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar unveiled the first postage stamp of Ram Lalla of Ayodhya. The event took place during ASEAN-related foreign minister meetings. Jaishankar, alongside Laos Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Saleumxay Kommasith, released two sets of stamps themed "Celebrating the shared cultural heritage of Lao PDR and India." One stamp depicted Ram Lalla's idol from Ayodhya, while the other commemorated Lord Buddha from Luang Prabang, Laos's ancient capital. Although predominantly Buddhist, Laos's culture is deeply influenced by Hinduism, including the Ramayana, known locally as Ramakien.

50. Which country launches the world's first thorium molten salt nuclear power station in Gobi Desert?

- [A] India
- [B] Japan
- [C] China
- [D] Russia

Correct Answer: C [China]

Notes:

China plans to launch the world's first thorium molten salt nuclear power station in the Gobi Desert in 2025. Unlike traditional reactors that use uranium and require water for cooling, this station will use thorium and liquid salt or carbon dioxide for heat transfer. This design reduces meltdown risks. Thorium, a naturally occurring element, must be converted to U-233 in a reactor to produce nuclear energy.

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1. What is 'Vattezhuthu', recently seen in the news?

- [A] Syllabic alphabet
- [B] Northeastern festival
- [C] Martial art
- [D] Classical dance

Correct Answer: A [Syllabic alphabet]

Notes:

Archaeologists recently found Vattezhuthu and eight Tamil inscriptions at the Thalikiswarar temple in Tirupur district, Tamil Nadu, dating back 1100 years. Vattezhuthu, a syllabic script used in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Sri Lanka, was used to write Tamil and Malayalam. It emerged around the 4th century AD from the Tamil-Brahmi script and evolved into the modern Malayalam script by the 15th century.

2. Which state assembly recently passed an amended anti-conversion bill, enhancing punishment to life imprisonment?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh
- [B] Haryana
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Kerala

Correct Answer: A [Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

The Uttar Pradesh Assembly recently passed the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which tightens regulations against fraudulent or forced conversions. The bill aims to better protect minors, disabled individuals, women, and SC/ST communities. It addresses concerns about insufficient existing laws and follows an Allahabad High Court view on rampant illegal conversions. Other states with similar laws might adopt similar amendments.

3. 'Nacala Port', recently seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Ghana
- [B] Nigeria
- [C] Mozambique
- [D] Kenya

Correct Answer: C [Mozambique]

Notes:

India resumed importing Tur dal from Mozambique's Nacala Port after a disruption. Mozambique is a Southeast African country with a long Indian Ocean coastline, separated from Madagascar by the Mozambique Channel. It borders Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Eswatini. Major rivers include the Zambezi and Limpopo, and

its highest peak is Mount Binga. Mozambique is rich in resources like gold, emeralds, copper, iron ore, and bauxite.

4. Recently, India signed an agreement with which country to develop National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat?

- [A] Indonesia
- [B] Egypt
- [C] France
- [D] Vietnam

Correct Answer: D [Vietnam]

Notes:

During Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh's visit to India from July 30 to August 1, 2024, the Indian government announced \$300 million in loans to strengthen Vietnam's maritime security. Nine agreements were signed, including Vietnam joining the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and a plan to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat. The visit marked a significant step in deepening India-Vietnam ties.

5. Recently, where was the "4th Rashtriya Hindi Vigyan Sammelan 2024" held?

- [A] Lucknow
- [B] Jaipur
- [C] Bhopal
- [D] Shimla

Correct Answer: C [Bhopal]

Notes:

The 4th Rashtriya Hindi Vigyan Sammelan took place in Bhopal on July 30-31, 2024. The conference aimed to promote science and technology research in Hindi and popularize these fields through the Hindi medium. It featured six sessions covering various topics, including Science, Technology, Ayurveda, Engineering, and Science Communication. Organized by CSIR-AMPRI Bhopal in collaboration with several institutions, including CSIR-NIScPR and local universities, the event provided a platform for researchers to present their work in Hindi.

6. What is the main objective of the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024, recently in the news?

- [A] To increase disaster relief funds
- [B] To eliminate the need for disaster response teams
- [C] To reduce the number of disaster management agencies
- [D] To create a comprehensive disaster database and establish Urban Disaster Management Authorities

Correct Answer: D [To create a comprehensive disaster database and establish Urban Disaster Management Authorities]

Notes:

The Indian government plans to introduce the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024, in the Lok Sabha. This bill aims to create a comprehensive disaster database and set up Urban Disaster Management Authorities in state capitals and major cities. It will empower the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) to independently prepare disaster plans and appoint experts. The bill also seeks to grant statutory recognition to bodies like the National Crisis Management Committee and propose the establishment of State Disaster Response Forces by state governments. This amendment aligns with the 15th Finance Commission's recommendations.

7. Recently, India hosted "14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue" in which city?

- [A] Chennai
- [B] Hyderabad
- [C] New Delhi
- [D] Bengaluru

Correct Answer: C [New Delhi]

Notes:

India hosted the 14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue in New Delhi on August 1, 2024. The meeting aimed to strengthen bilateral defence ties and coincided with Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh's visit. It was co-chaired by Indian Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Vietnam's Deputy Minister of National Defence, Hoang Xuan Chien. Both sides reviewed cooperation areas and signed a Letter of Intent to enhance training exchanges.

8. Which institution recently launched 'Nivahika' web portal for data management?

- [A] NIT Calicut
- [B] NIT Patna
- [C] IIT Delhi
- [D] IIT Kanpur

Correct Answer: A [NIT Calicut]

Notes:

The National Institute of Technology, Calicut (NIT-C) launched NIVAHIKA, an innovative web portal for advanced data management. This platform streamlines data collection, storage, and analysis, enhancing efficiency. NIVAHIKA features real-time data processing, customizable dashboards, and seamless integration with existing systems, setting a new benchmark in digital data handling and management.

9. Shompen tribes, recently seen in the news, belong to which region of India?

- [A] Daman & Diu
- [B] Andaman and Nicobar
- [C] Ladakh
- [D] Lakshadweep

Correct Answer: B [Andaman and Nicobar]

Notes:

The Central government's Rs 72,000 crore Great Nicobar Island (GNI) project plans to build an airport, an international container terminal, and a township. However, it faces legal challenges from the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Calcutta High Court due to inadequate impact assessments on Shompen and Nicobarese tribes and improper permissions. The Shompens are hunter-gatherers, and the project could affect the Nicobarese people's ancestral lands.

10. Recently, which ministry has launched e-Sakshya, Nyaya Setu, Nyaya Shruti and e-Summon App for three new criminal laws in Chandigarh?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Law and Justice
- [C] Ministry of Defence
- [D] Ministry of Urban Development

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Home Affairs]

Notes:

On August 4, 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched four apps—e-Sakshya, Nyaya Setu, Nyaya Shruti, and e-Summon—in Chandigarh to support the new criminal laws in India. These apps will manage evidence, send electronic summons, link various authorities, and allow video testimony. The new laws, effective from July 1, 2024, include Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, aiming to enhance the criminal justice system.

11. Adichunchanagiri Peacock Sanctuary, recently seen in news, is located in which state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: D [Karnataka]

Notes:

Recently, Union Minister Mr. Bhupender Yadav announced the establishment of two new Peacock Sanctuaries in India: Adichunchanagiri in Karnataka and Choolannur in Kerala. This initiative aims to protect peacocks and their habitats, ensuring they can thrive without human interference. The government is also enhancing conservation efforts, including breeding centers, to boost peafowl populations. Protecting these birds is vital for biodiversity and cultural heritage, as they play important roles in ecosystems.

12. What is 'Sucralose', recently seen in the news?

- [A] A type of salt
- [B] A no-calorie sweetener
- [C] A natural fruit
- [D] A type of fat

Correct Answer: B [A no-calorie sweetener]

Notes:

Sucralose, a no-calorie artificial sweetener made from table sugar (sucrose), has been found to have no adverse impact on glucose or HbA1c levels and may even improve body mass index (BMI). It's approximately 600 times sweeter than sugar and exceptionally stable. Most consumed sucralose (85%) passes through the body unchanged while the remaining 15% absorbed sucralose gets excreted quickly in urine without providing any calories.

13. Recently, Coal India Ltd and GAIL (India) Ltd have signed a pact to establish a coal-to-synthetic natural gas plant in which region of West Bengal?

- [A] Raniganj
- [B] Bankura
- [C] Nadia
- [D] Malda

Correct Answer: A [Raniganj]

Notes:

Coal India Ltd and GAIL (India) Ltd have partnered to set up a coal-to-synthetic natural gas plant in Raniganj, West Bengal, using surface coal gasification technology. The plant will produce 633.6 million Nm³/hour of gas from 1.9 million tonnes of coal. This joint venture under the National Coal Gasification Mission aims to reduce import dependency on natural gas and secure raw materials for chemical and fertilizer production.

14. Project PARI (Public Art of India), recently seen in the news, is launched by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Rural Development
- [C] Ministry of Culture
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Culture]

Notes:

Project PARI was launched during the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting. The Ministry of Culture initiated the project, managed by Lalit Kala Akademi and the National Gallery of Modern Art. It features various art forms including Phad, Thangka, Warli, Gond, Alpona, Cheriya, Tanjore, Kalamkari, Pithora, and Kerala Murals. The project

aims to celebrate and enhance the public art scene by combining India's cultural heritage with modern themes.

15. Great Barrier Reef, recently seen in news, is located in which country?

- [A] New Zealand
- [B] Australia
- [C] India
- [D] Maldives

Correct Answer: B [Australia]

Notes:

Researchers found that ocean temperatures at the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) are the highest in 407 years, threatening the coral reefs. The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system, located on the northeast coast of Australia. It has the largest collection of coral reefs, with 400 coral types, 1,500 fish species, and 4,000 mollusc types. The reef is also home to the dugong ('sea cow') and the large green turtle.

16. Recently, which three names were given to the underwater structures in the Indian Ocean?

- [A] Ashoka, Chandragupt, and Kalpataru
- [B] Mahatma, Nehru, and Gandhi
- [C] Himalaya, Ganga, and Krishna
- [D] Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma

Correct Answer: A [Ashoka, Chandragupt, and Kalpataru]

Notes:

Three underwater structures in the Indian Ocean were recently named Ashoka, Chandragupt, and Kalpataru, highlighting India's influence in marine science. The names were proposed by India and approved by the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) and UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). Ashoka Seamount, discovered in 2012, is oval-shaped and spans 180 sq km. Kalpataru Ridge, also discovered in 2012, covers 430 sq km and may support marine biodiversity. Chandragupt Ridge, identified in 2020, is an elongated structure covering 675 sq km.

17. Recently, which countries participated in bilateral Air force exercise 'Udara Shakti 2024'?

- [A] China and Japan
- [B] India and Myanmar
- [C] India and Malaysia
- [D] India and Australia

Correct Answer: C [India and Malaysia]

Notes:

The Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the bilateral Exercise Udara Shakti 2024 with the Royal Malaysian Air Force. The exercise took place in Kuantan, Malaysia, from 6-9 August 2024. Both air forces deployed seven Sukhoi-30 fighter planes, which are purchased from Russia. India's Sukhoi-30 planes, mostly produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), are the Su-30MKI variant, specifically modernized for India. Exercise Udara Shakti 2024 included Training Exercises and Subject Matter Expert Exchange concepts. Training Exercises focused on air combat involving Su-30 planes from both countries.

18. What is the 'Pinaka-MK3', recently seen in news?

- [A] A new fighter jet
- [B] A Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL)
- [C] A missile defense system
- [D] A naval destroyer

Correct Answer: B [A Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL)]

Notes:

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing the Pinaka-MK3, a new multi-barrel rocket launcher (MBRL). Pinaka, designed by DRDO's Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), targets area threats like enemy troops and vehicles. It features a multi-tube launcher with two pods of six rockets each, capable of covering 700 × 500 meters in 48 seconds. The 214 mm rocket carries a 100 kg payload and offers various warheads. Supported by hydraulically actuated outriggers, the system is mounted on a Tatra truck for mobility. India has versions of Pinaka with ranges of 48 km, 60 km, and 90 km.

19. What is the objective of "Polar Coupled Analysis and Prediction for Services" (PCAPS) project, recently launched by WMO?

- [A] To improve space exploration
- [B] To increase weather and climate information in the Arctic and Antarctic
- [C] To develop new energy sources
- [D] To enhance global internet connectivity

Correct Answer: B [To increase weather and climate information in the Arctic and Antarctic]

Notes:

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) launched the "Polar Coupled Analysis and Prediction for Services" (PCAPS) to enhance weather forecasting in the Arctic and Antarctic. PCAPS aims to improve information on weather, water, ice, and climate in these regions. The project will develop better observation systems, Earth system models, and advocate for improved forecasting services. PCAPS is part of WMO's World Weather Research Programme (WWRP).

20. What is the primary objective of the 'Clean Plant Programme (CPP)', recently seen in the news?

- [A] To increase the number of dairy farms
- [B] To expand urban green spaces
- [C] To improve livestock health
- [D] To provide access to virus-free, high-quality planting materials to farmers

Correct Answer: D [To provide access to virus-free, high-quality planting materials to farmers]

Notes:

The Union Cabinet has approved the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) to improve fruit crop quality and productivity nationwide. The Clean Plant Programme aims to provide virus-free, high-quality planting materials to boost crop yields and quality, benefiting farmers' income. It focuses on improving productivity and quality rather than cutting production costs. Implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB) with ICAR, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, it is part of the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The programme supports sustainable agriculture and aligns with Mission LiFE and One Health initiatives. It includes Clean Plant Centres, a certification and legal framework, and enhanced infrastructure.

21. Which organization has recently launched a 'HaatiApp' (ElephantApp) to help mitigate the ongoing Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) in Assam?

- [A] Aaranyak
- [B] Bombay Natural History
- [C] WWF-India
- [D] Vanashakti

Correct Answer: A [Aaranyak]

Notes:

Aaranyak launched a mobile app and a handbook to address Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) in Assam. The app, 'HaatiApp,' provides early warnings about wild elephants near villages and includes a form for victims to claim compensation.

Aaranyak will handle form submissions to Forest Divisions. The handbook, in Assamese, covers solar-powered fences, offering guidance on their use, installation, and maintenance to prevent HEC.

22. *Asceua tertia*, recently seen in the news, belongs to which species?

- [A] Spider
- [B] Frog
- [C] Fish
- [D] Ant

Correct Answer: A [Spider]

Notes:

A new spider species, *Asceua tertia*, was found in the Western Ghats' Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary. It is the third species of its genus documented in India, joining *Asceua cingulata*

and *Asceua thrippalurensis*. *Asceua tertia* belongs to the *Zodariidae* family, known for ant-eating spiders. The spider is small, with unique features like laterally compressed bulbs, developed cymbial folds, convoluted copulatory ducts, and dual femoral glands.

24. Gotipua dance, recently seen in the news, is a traditional dance form of which state?

- [A] Jharkhand
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Kerala

Correct Answer: C [Odisha]

Notes:

Gotipua is a traditional dance form from Odisha, performed by young boys who dress as women to honor Lord Jagannath and Lord Krishna. This dance, a precursor to Odissi classical dance, involves acrobatic movements inspired by the life of Radha and Krishna. The boys wear a bright blouse called "Kanchula" and an embroidered silk cloth called "Nibibandha." Gotipua emerged in the 16th century during King Rama Chandra Dev's reign, replacing female temple dancers known as Devadasis. However, the future of these young dancers becomes uncertain as they age and leave the tradition.

25. Tungabhadra Dam, recently seen in the news, is located in which state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: D [Karnataka]

Notes:

The 19th crest gate of the 71-year-old Tungabhadra Dam collapsed, causing a flood alert in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Tungabhadra Dam, also known as Pampa Sagar, is a multipurpose dam on the Tungabhadra River, a tributary of the Krishna River. It is located in the Ballari district of Karnataka, near the town of Hospet. It was initially a joint project of the Hyderabad state and Madras Presidency, later becoming a joint project of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh after its completion in 1953. The dam has a storage capacity of 101 TMC, with a catchment area of 28,000 sq. km, standing 49.5 meters high with 33 crest gates. It is one of two reservoirs in India built using mud and limestone, along with the Mullaperiyar Dam in Kerala.

26. Which organization recently published the "Global Employment Trends (GET) for Youth 2024" report?

- [A] International Monetary Fund
- [B] World Bank
- [C] International Labour Organisation (ILO)

[D] UNDP

Correct Answer: C [International Labour Organisation (ILO)]

Notes:

The International Labour Organization released the “Global Employment Trends for Youth 2024” report, marking its 20th anniversary. The report highlights achievements, challenges, and future outlooks for youth employment. In 2023, the global youth unemployment rate dropped to 13%, the lowest in 15 years, with 64.9 million unemployed youth, the lowest since 2000. 20.4% of youth were classified as NEET (Not in Employment, Education, or Training), showing broad labor market exclusion. Two-thirds of young NEETs are women.

27. What is the objective of ‘National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)’, recently launched by the Union Government?

[A] To reduce farmers’ dependence on pesticide retailers

[B] To monitor soil quality

[C] To monitor weather patterns

[D] To improve irrigation techniques

Correct Answer: A [To reduce farmers’ dependence on pesticide retailers]

Notes:

The Indian Government launched the AI-based National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) on August 15 to assist farmers with pest control. NPSS helps farmers connect with agricultural experts using their phones, reducing reliance on pesticide retailers. Farmers can send images of infested crops to experts for accurate diagnosis and treatment. The system uses AI tools to analyze pest data, providing timely information to around 14 crore farmers. This initiative aims to increase productivity, conserve soil health, and will be implemented at the state level through outreach programs without additional funding.

28. Panama Canal, recently seen in the news, connects which two ocean?

[A] Indian Ocean and Southern Ocean

[B] Indian Ocean and Atlantic Ocean

[C] Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean

[D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: C [Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean]

Notes:

The Panama Canal is working to regain trade in liquefied natural gas and food commodities after a historic drought disrupted traffic last year. It connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans through the Isthmus of Panama, serving as a key maritime trade route. Construction began in 1881 by France but failed due to financial and health issues. The U.S. completed the canal in 1914 and managed it until 1999, when Panama took full control under the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

29. Which institution is associated with Rapid Innovation and Start-up Expansion (RISE) accelerator program, recently in news?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India
- [B] National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- [C] Atal Innovation Mission
- [D] Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology

Correct Answer: C [Atal Innovation Mission]

Notes:

The Atal Innovation Mission and CSIRO, Australia, are inviting Indian and Australian start-ups and MSMEs to apply for the Climate Smart AgriTech cohort of the India Australia RISE Accelerator. The RISE Accelerator, launched in 2023, supports innovative agritech solutions for shared environmental and climate challenges between India and Australia. The program helps businesses aiming for international expansion, particularly those focused on enhancing agricultural productivity and resilience. Selected participants will engage in a nine-month program with online learning, in-person sessions, field trials, and technology pilots in both countries, emphasizing farmer needs and practices.

30. Recently, the winners of the 70th National Film Awards were announced by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- [B] Ministry of Culture
- [C] Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Information and Broadcasting]

Notes:

The winners of the 70th National Film Awards were recently announced by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The National Film Awards was established in 1954 to encourage films of aesthetic, technical excellence, and social relevance, promoting cultural appreciation across India. Initially called 'State Awards,' they included President's Gold Medals and certificates of merit. Awards are given in three sections: Feature Films, Non-Feature Films, and Best Writing in Cinema.

Since 1973, the Directorate of Film Festivals has administered these awards, promoting Indian films and cultural exchange through various events and international participation.

31. Which organization has recently initiated a project to evaluate microplastic contamination in food products?

- [A] FSSAI
- [B] FAO
- [C] FCI
- [D] SIDBI

Correct Answer: A [FSSAI]

Notes:

The FSSAI has launched a project to tackle microplastic contamination in food. The project aims to develop and validate methods for detecting micro and nano-plastics in food, assess contamination levels, set analysis standards, and ensure consistent laboratory results. It involves collaboration with CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, and Birla Institute of Technology and Science.

32. Kosi-Mechi link project, recently seen in the news, is associated with which state?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Jharkhand
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: A [Bihar]

Notes:

The Kosi-Mechi Link Project in Bihar aims to connect the Kosi and Mechi rivers to improve water resource management and irrigation. The Centre allocated Rs 11,500 crore for flood control in Bihar in the recent Budget session. The project will support irrigation for 215,000 hectares of agricultural land in the Mahananda river basin during the Kharif season. While it may offer some flood control benefits, the main focus is on enhancing irrigation.

33. What is the 'Hayflick limit', recently mentioned in news?

- [A] Cell division in human body
- [B] Artificial intelligence tool
- [C] Black Hole
- [D] Space telescope

Correct Answer: A [Cell division in human body]

Notes:

Biomedical researcher Leonard Hayflick, who discovered the "Hayflick limit," recently passed away. "Hayflick limit" refers to the maximum number of times a cell can divide. This discovery is crucial for understanding aging and age-related diseases. Hayflick identified three phases of cell division: rapid division, slowing mitosis, and senescence, where cells stop dividing. After cells stop dividing, they eventually undergo programmed death, called apoptosis. In the 1970s, researchers found that telomeres, protective DNA sequences at chromosome ends, shorten with each division, eventually leading to the end of cell division. The exact link between telomere length and lifespan remains unclear.

34. What is 'Wolbachia', recently seen in news?

- [A] Bacteria
- [B] Virus
- [C] Protein
- [D] Invasive weed

Correct Answer: A [Bacteria]

Notes:

Dengue fever, chikungunya, and Zika virus are major health and economic issues in India. Traditional control methods have had limited success, highlighting the need for new strategies. Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes offer a promising alternative; Wolbachia is a common bacterium found in many insects but not in *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. *Aedes aegypti* spreads viruses like dengue, Zika, and chikungunya. Introducing *Aedes* mosquitoes with Wolbachia could help reduce the population of these virus-spreading mosquitoes. These Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes are not genetically modified.

35. Recently, which country reintroduces compulsory military service due to regional tensions in Europe?

- [A] Romania
- [B] Bulgaria
- [C] Croatia
- [D] Malta

Correct Answer: C [Croatia]

Notes:

Croatia will reintroduce compulsory military service starting January 1, 2025, due to rising European tensions and increased Balkan military activity. The aim is to strengthen national defence and align with NATO goals. Conscription was suspended in Croatia in 2008. This move reflects a broader European trend, with countries like Latvia also enhancing military capabilities amid regional instability and geopolitical threats.

36. Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme, recently seen in the news, was launched by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- [B] Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- [C] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas]

Notes:

India aims to blend 20% ethanol with petrol by 2025-26, addressing concerns about fuel efficiency and the food vs. fuel debate. Ethanol, mainly produced from sugarcane molasses, can also come from sources like rice husk and maize, and is considered a renewable fuel. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas launched the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme in 2003 to promote alternative fuels. The programme, extended to all of India (except some UTs) in 2019, increased ethanol blending from 1.6% in 2013-14 to 11.8% in 2022-23. India plans to produce 1,000 crore litres of ethanol for blending by 2025-26.

37. Recently, where was the 'India-EU Regional Conference' held?

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] Chennai
- [C] Bengaluru
- [D] New Delhi

Correct Answer: D [New Delhi]

Notes:

The EU and India's external affairs ministry are organizing a regional conference in New Delhi on August 21-22 to address online radicalization. The event, in collaboration with the Global Counter-Terrorism Council, will involve experts from India, Bangladesh, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Europe. The conference aims to enhance counter-terrorism partnerships and align with the EU's Indo-Pacific strategy. Expected outcomes include strategies to tackle the challenges of technology and terrorism and explore collaboration opportunities to combat violent extremism online.

38. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), recently seen in the news, is administered by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Urban Development
- [B] Ministry of Labour & Employment
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture
- [D] Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises

Correct Answer: D [Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises]

Notes:

KVIC and the Department of Posts are collaborating to enhance the implementation of PMEGP across India. PMEGP is a central scheme under the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises. It aims to create employment in rural and urban areas by supporting new self-employment ventures. The scheme helps traditional artisans and unemployed youth to find work locally, reducing rural-to-urban migration. It also aims to increase the wage-earning capacity of workers and boost employment growth in rural and urban areas.

39. What kind of vessel is 'ICGS Sujay', recently in news?

- [A] Fast patrol vessel
- [B] Offshore Patrol Vessel
- [C] Pollution control vessel
- [D] Hovercraft

Correct Answer: B [Offshore Patrol Vessel]

Notes:

ICGS Sujay, an Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) of the Indian Coast Guard, recently visited Jakarta, Indonesia. It is stationed in Paradip, Odisha, under the Coast Guard Region (North-East) command and frequently deployed for various missions. The 105-meter vessel is equipped with a 30mm CRN 91 gun, advanced navigation, communication systems, and

sensors. The ship is designed for extended deployment in maritime zones, conducting missions like surveillance, search and rescue, and law enforcement.

40. Which ministry recently launched Building and other Construction Workers (BoCW) Management Information System (MIS) portal?

- [A] Ministry of Labour and Employment
- [B] Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- [C] Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- [D] Ministry of Consumer Affairs

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Labour and Employment]

Notes:

Ministry of Labour & Employment launched the Building and Other Construction Workers (BoCW) Management Information System (MIS) portal for construction workers to register for various scheme benefits. The portal, unveiled during a meeting led by Labour Secretary Sumita Dawra. It will centralize data from state BoCW welfare boards. States and UTs were instructed to register on the portal and update details on fund usage and worker registration. Currently, around 57 million workers are registered with BoCW boards, with a total cess of about Rs 1.15 trillion. Over Rs 66,000 crores have been spent on welfare schemes for these workers.

41. Recently, in which city of Uttar Pradesh was the Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) Project inaugurated?

- [A] Ayodhya
- [B] Lucknow
- [C] Varanasi
- [D] Kanpur

Correct Answer: C [Varanasi]

Notes:

The Green Strategic Partnership between India and Denmark led to the creation of the Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) in Varanasi. This partnership involves India's Department of Water Resources, IIT-BHU, and Denmark to improve small river management. SLCR focuses on rejuvenating the Varuna River using sustainable methods and collaboration. The initiative combines a hybrid lab at IIT-BHU and a living lab on the Varuna River to test solutions. SLCR includes strong institutional and review mechanisms to ensure high standards. The Indo-Danish Joint Steering Committee provides strategic guidance, while a Project Review Committee oversees quality control.

42. Recently, the Zoological Survey of India collaborated with which state to tag horseshoe crabs for conservation and habitat protection?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Bihar

- [C] Odisha
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: C [Odisha]

Notes:

The Zoological Survey of India and Odisha Forest Department are tagging horseshoe crabs to study their population, habitat, and migration. Horseshoe crabs are ancient marine arthropods, known as “living fossils,” related to scorpions and spiders. They live in shallow coastal waters and spawn on intertidal beaches during high tides. Global species include the Vulnerable American Horseshoe Crab, Endangered Tri-spine Horseshoe Crab, Coastal Horseshoe Crab, and Mangrove Horseshoe Crab. India has two species: Coastal Horseshoe Crab and Mangrove Horseshoe Crab, found mainly along the northeastern coast in Odisha and West Bengal.

43. Which Indian Naval Ship recently arrived at the port of Colombo for a three-day maiden visit to Sri Lanka?

- [A] INS Kaveri
- [B] INS Vikrant
- [C] INS Mumbai
- [D] INS Chennai

Correct Answer: C [INS Mumbai]

Notes:

INS Mumbai, a Delhi-class guided missile destroyer, made its maiden visit to Colombo, Sri Lanka for three days. The ship was commissioned into the Indian Navy on January 22, 2001, and built at Mazagon Dock Limited in Mumbai. It has been recognized as the ‘Best Ship’ three times and the ‘Most Spirited Ship’ twice. INS Mumbai has played key roles in operations like Op Parakram, Op Sukoon (evacuation from Lebanon), and Op Rahat (evacuation from Yemen). It underwent a mid-life upgrade and joined the Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam on December 8, 2023.

44. Scrub Typhus, recently seen in the news, is caused by which pathogen?

- [A] Virus
- [B] Fungus
- [C] Bacteria
- [D] Protozoa

Correct Answer: C [Bacteria]

Notes:

The Chief Minister of Meghalaya recently tested positive for Scrub Typhus. Scrub Typhus, or bush typhus, is caused by the bacteria *Orientia tsutsugamushi*. It is transmitted through bites from infected chiggers (larval mites). Symptoms include fever, headache, body aches, a rash, and a scab-like area at the bite site. There is no vaccine for Scrub Typhus. It commonly affects rural areas in Southeast Asia, China, the Indian subcontinent, and Northern Australia.

45. Atacama Salt Flat, recently seen in the news, is the largest salt deposit in which country?

- [A] Guyana
- [B] Chile
- [C] Peru
- [D] Brazil

Correct Answer: B [Chile]

Notes: Researchers from the University of Chile found that Chile's Atacama Salt Flat is sinking due to lithium brine extraction. The Atacama Salt Flat, or Salar de Atacama, is the largest salt deposit in Chile. It features a white surface with a large salt lake beneath it. The lake under the salt flat holds one of the world's largest lithium reserves. Located in the Atacama Desert, one of the driest places on Earth, the northern part of the basin includes the San Pedro River delta.

46. What is the primary objective of the 'National Monsoon Mission', recently seen in news?

- [A] To promote tourism during the monsoon season
- [B] To enhance monsoon prediction capabilities across India for all time scales
- [C] To study the impact of monsoons on wildlife
- [D] To develop irrigation systems for farmers

Correct Answer: B [To enhance monsoon prediction capabilities across India for all time scales]

Notes:

A new weather forecasting mission with a budget of at least Rs 10,000 crore is set to be launched soon. This mission will be much larger than the existing National Monsoon Mission (NMM). The NMM has developed advanced models for weather and climate prediction that are now fully operational. These models provide forecasts for short-range (1-10 days), medium-range (10-30 days), and seasonal (up to one season) periods. Over the past three years, these models have shown high accuracy in predicting weather events. The NMM aims to improve monsoon prediction across India for all time scales. It encourages international collaboration for better prediction systems.

47. What is the theme of 'World Water Week 2024'?

- [A] Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future
- [B] Valuing Water
- [C] Groundwater – making the invisible visible
- [D] Accelerating Change

Correct Answer: A [Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future]

Notes:

The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) organizes World Water Week annually, and has been doing so since 1991. The 2024 event will take place from August 25–29, both online and in-person at the Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre. The theme for 2024 is “Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future”. World Water Week is a leading conference that focuses on global water issues, and brings together a diverse group of people from around the world, including decision-makers, business leaders, city planners, activists, and researchers.

48. Which city of Madhya Pradesh recently hosted the third Regional Industry Conclave?

- [A] Indore
- [B] Bhopal
- [C] Jabalpur
- [D] Gwalior

Correct Answer: D [Gwalior]

Notes:

Gwalior hosted the third Regional Industry Conclave on August 28, 2024, to attract investments to Madhya Pradesh. The city’s strategic location at the intersection of three major national corridors—the North-South Corridor, the Agra-Mumbai Highway, and the East-West Corridor—made it an ideal venue. This positioning aimed to enhance the conclave’s success and positively impact the region’s industrial growth.

49. The term “Doubtful voter” or “D-voter”, recently seen in the news, has been primarily used in which northeastern state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Nagaland
- [C] Manipur
- [D] Mizoram

Correct Answer: A [Assam]

Notes:

Assam has identified around 1.2 lakh people as ‘D’ (Dubious or Doubtful) voters, with 41,583 declared as foreigners. The D-Voter concept is specific to Assam, where migration and citizenship are major political issues. It was introduced in Assam in 1997. D-Voters are those who cannot prove their Indian nationality. People with questionable or disputed citizenship were marked as D-Voters during the National Register of Citizens (NRC) preparation. The term ‘Doubtful voter’ is not defined in the Citizenship Act of 1955 or the Citizenship Rules of 2003. The Citizenship Rules of 2003 outline the process for creating the National Population Register and National Register of Indian Citizens.

50. Which state government recently introduced real-time ‘Safe Travel Facility’ for women through dial 112?

- [A] Odisha

[B] West Bengal

[C] Bihar

[D] Haryana

Correct Answer: C [Bihar]

Notes:

Bihar Police launched the "Safe Travel Facility" on September 15 to improve safety for women. This 24/7 service is initially available in six districts. Women can call Dial 112 for secure transportation, with police monitoring their journey. The initiative aims to enhance women's safety and aligns with national efforts to protect and empower women, especially during the festive season.

51. When will National Space Day 2024 be celebrated?

A - 23 January

B - 15 August

C - 23 August

D - 10 October

Correct Answer: C - 23 August

Notes:

The success of Chandrayaan-3 mission on 23 August 2023 made India the first country to land on the south pole of the Moon and the fourth country to land on the Moon. 23 August was declared as National Space Day to commemorate this historic achievement. The theme for 2024 is "Touching lives while touching the Moon: India's space saga", which reflects the deep impact of space exploration on society and technology.

52. Aditya Birla Finance has partnered with which bank to launch a co-branded credit card?

A - Airtel Payments Bank

B - HDFC Bank

C - AU Small Finance Bank

D - ICICI Bank

Correct Answer: C - AU Small Finance Bank

Notes:

Aditya Birla Finance Limited (ABFL) and AU Small Finance Bank Limited have jointly launched Aditya Birla Finance AU Credit Cards, available on Visa and RuPay payment networks. These co-branded credit cards come in four different variants, each with a comprehensive rewards program. ABC AU Flex is an affordable option for India, while ABC AU Next is designed keeping millennials in mind with exclusive features.

53. Who is the author of the book "Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity"?

A - Bina Agarwal

- B - Syed Ahmad
- C - Tarun Chugh
- D - Arjun Appadurai

Correct Answer: C - Tarun Chugh

Notes:

BJP General Secretary Tarun Chugh's book "Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity" was released in New Delhi in presence of prominent political figures like Home Minister Amit Shah and Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy. The book presents an in-depth analysis of the visionary initiatives and reforms of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration, highlighting the government's commitment to the Antyodaya mission.

54. Who has recently taken over as the Secretary of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)?

- A - Manoj Goel
- B - Rajesh Kumar
- C - Anita Sharma
- D - Deepti Gaur Mukherjee

Correct Answer: D - Deepti Gaur Mukherjee

Notes:

Deepti Gaur Mukherjee, a 1993 batch IAS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre, has taken over as the Secretary of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), replacing Manoj Goel. Mukherjee, who was previously the CEO of the National Health Authority, has the responsibility to focus on several important reforms in the MCA. These include drafting the Digital Competition Bill, the introduction of IBC 2.0 and increasing the capacity of NCLT.

55. Who has become the first woman to win the National Car Racing Championship in India?

- A - Diana Pundole
- B - Shubhangini Swaroop
- C - Suman Sinha
- D - Anita Ahuja

Correct Answer: A - Diana Pundole

Notes:

28-year-old Diana Pundole from Pune created history by winning the 2024 Indian National Car Racing Championship in the MRF Saloons category. She has become the first Indian woman to win this title. Diana, who won the championship on her birthday weekend, 18 August 2024, has faced many challenges, including balancing between doubts towards women and family responsibilities.

56. Who has been appointed as the assistant coach of the Afghanistan cricket team?

- A - R. Sridhar
- B - Jonathan Trott
- C - Gary Kirsten
- D - Rahul Dravid

Correct Answer: R. Sridhar

Notes:

The Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) has appointed former India fielding coach R. Sridhar as the assistant coach of the senior men's cricket team. The 54-year-old Sridhar will join the team for the one-off Test against New Zealand and three ODIs against South Africa in 2023. A long-term contract may be considered later. Sridhar has significant coaching experience and has served as India's fielding coach until the 2021 T20 World Cup.

57. In which tournament, Neeraj Chopra finished second with a season's best throw of 89.49 meters?

- A - Paris Olympics
- B - Madrid World Championship
- C - Budapest World Championship
- D - Lausanne Diamond League

Correct Answer: D - Lausanne Diamond League

Notes:

India's star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra finished second in the Lausanne Diamond League 2024 with a throw of 89.49 meters. He performed his best this season, although he could not cross the 90 meter barrier. His throw was better than the 89.45 meter throw done in the Paris Olympics 2024. In first place was Peter Anderson of Grenada, who threw 90.61 meters, while Julian Weber of Germany finished third with a throw of 87.08 meters.

58. Name the National Award-winning Bengali filmmaker whose demise was widely condoled.

- A - Ritwik Ghatak
- B - Mrinal Sen
- C - Utpalendu Chakraborty
- D - Jeet Ganguly

Correct Answer: C - Utpalendu Chakraborty

Notes:

National Award-winning Bengali director Utpalendu Chakraborty died at the age of 76. He breathed his last on 20 August 2024 after suffering a heart attack at his Regent Park residence. Chakraborty is known for his artistic films, especially 'Chok', which won the National Awards for Best Feature Film and Best Direction in 1983. He also received the Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director in 1981.

59. What is the name of India's first reusable hybrid rocket launched by Space Zone India?

- A - RHUMI-II
- B - RHUMI-X
- C - RHUMI-1
- D - RHUMI-A

Correct Answer: C - RHUMI-1

Notes:

India today successfully launched its first reusable hybrid rocket RHUMI-1. The rocket has been developed by Tamil Nadu-based startup Space Zone India and was launched from TTDC Grounds at Thiruvudandhai, ECR, Chennai. The RHUMI-1 rocket will carry three cube satellites and 50 PICO satellites on a suborbital trajectory.

60. Which Indian batsman has recently retired from all formats of cricket, becoming one of the eight batsmen to score more than 5000 runs at a strike rate of over 90 and an average of over 40 in ODIs?

- A - Shikhar Dhawan
- B - Virat Kohli
- C - Rohit Sharma
- D - Sachin Tendulkar

Correct Answer: A - Shikhar Dhawan

Notes:

Shikhar Dhawan has announced his retirement from international and domestic cricket at the age of 38. Dhawan played 34 Tests, 167 ODIs, and 68 T20Is for India from 2010 to 2022. He informed about his decision through a video on social media, in which he expressed gratitude for calling time on his cricket career.

61. Which non-European country has recently implemented the "right to disconnect" law?

- A - Canada
- B - Australia
- C - Japan
- D - United States

Correct Answer: B - Australia

Notes:

Australia is implementing a new "right to disconnect" law this month, which will allow employees to be free from emails, messages or calls outside their working hours. The law, approved on 12 February 2024, will provide relief from the "always on" workplace culture. Under this, companies cannot penalize employees for not responding to communications outside working hours.

62. When is Women's Equality Day celebrated?

- A - 15 August

- B - 8 March
- C - 26 August
- D - 2 October

Correct Answer: C - 26 August

Notes:

Women's Equality Day is celebrated on 26 August, which marks the struggle for women's rights and equal opportunities. The theme for 2024 is "Embrace Equity", which underlines the importance of gender equality. The day honors activists who fought for equality and acknowledges the need for gender equality in all areas of society. Women's Equality Day originated from the Nineteenth Amendment to the US Constitution, which granted women the right to vote.

63. Who has been appointed as the Chef de Mission of India for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Contingent?

- A - Deepa Malik
- B - Rattan Singh
- C - Satya Prakash Sangwan
- D - Praveen Kumar

Correct Answer: C - Satya Prakash Sangwan

Notes:

The Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) has appointed Satya Prakash Sangwan as the Chef de Mission of the Indian Contingent for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Sangwan, who is also the Vice President of the PCI, brings with him over a decade of experience in the Paralympic movement. As Chef de Mission, he will lead the Indian contingent of 84 para-athletes competing in 12 sporting disciplines, India's largest ever contingent.

64. Who has recently been appointed as the Additional Director General (ADG) of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)?

- A - Rajesh Kumar
- B - Manoj Sharma
- C - Arun Patel
- D - Sanjeev Raina

Correct Answer: D - Sanjeev Raina

Notes:

ITBP (Indo Tibet Border Police) officer Sanjeev Raina has been appointed Additional Director General (ADG) for the India-China LAC (Line of Actual Control) security force. According to reports, he is the second non-IPS officer to be appointed to this post. Sanjeev Raina joined the ITBP in November 1987 as Assistant Commandant, and after his training in Mussoorie, he got his first posting in Ladakh.

65. Which bank has launched 'Avani' savings account for women, which offers benefits such as free airport lounge access, personal insurance cover and waiver on gold loan processing fees?

- A - HDFC Bank
- B - Bandhan Bank
- C - ICICI Bank
- D - Axis Bank

Correct Answer: B - Bandhan Bank

Notes:

Bandhan Bank launched a special savings account "Avani" for women and a customer loyalty program "Bandhan Bank Delights" on its 9th Foundation Day on 22 August 2023. The "Avani" account targets relatively affluent women and requires a minimum average quarterly balance of Rs 25,000.

66. To promote interest in philately among students of classes VI to IX, which organisation has launched a philatelic scholarship scheme under the Deendayal SPARSH scheme?

- A - Ministry of Education
- B - Indian Postal Department
- C - National Philatelic Museum
- D - Indian Council of Historical Research

Correct Answer: B - Indian Postal Department

Notes:

The Department of Posts under the Union Ministry of Communications has launched the Deen Dayal SPARSH scheme, aimed at promoting the hobby of philately among students. The scheme was announced by Ahmedabad Postmaster General Krishna Kumar Yadav.

67. What is India's rank in JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2024?

- A - 25th
- B - 40th
- C - 31st
- D - 50th

Correct Answer: C - 31st

Notes:

Global property consultant JLL has included India in the transparent zone for the first time in its 2024 Global Real Estate Transparency Index. According to this index, India has entered the transparent zone for the first time with an overall score of 2.44 and is ranked 31st in the list of 89 countries.

68. Who has been appointed as the captain of the Indian women's cricket team for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024?

- A - Smriti Mandhana

- B - Harmanpreet Kaur
- C - Jemimah Rodrigues
- D - Deepti Sharma

Correct Answer: B - Harmanpreet Kaur

Notes:

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced a 15- member squad under the captaincy of Harmanpreet Kaur for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup to be held in the United Arab Emirates from October 3 to 20. Harmanpreet Kaur will be the captain and Smriti Mandhana will be the vice-captain. The team includes leading batsmen of Indian cricket, such as Shefali Verma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Dayalan Hemalatha and Sajna Sajeevan.

69. Where was the 24th International Mother Teresa Awards ceremony held?

- A - London
- B - New York
- C - Dubai
- D - Paris

Correct Answer: C - Dubai

Notes:

The 24th International Mother Teresa Awards ceremony was held on August 26, 2024 at Millennium Plaza, Dubai, on the occasion of the 114th birth anniversary of Mother Teresa. The event honoured exceptional individuals in various fields.

70. Recently in which country Amazon has launched its AI-powered shopping assistant chatbot named Rufus, which is designed to provide product recommendations, advice and updates to customers?

- A - United States
- B - India
- C - United Kingdom
- D - Australia

Correct Answer: B - India

Notes:

Amazon has launched a new AI shopping assistant named "Rufus" for its e-commerce platform in India. This is a significant step towards improving the shopping experience of customers using advanced AI technology.

71. Who has been appointed as Apple's new finance chief, ahead of the company's product launch, and what were his previous senior leadership roles?

- A - Tim Cook
- B - Kevan Parekh
- C - Luca Maestri
- D - Peter Oppenheimer

Correct Answer: B - Kevan Parekh

Notes:

Apple has appointed Kevan Parekh as the new chief financial officer from January 1, 2025, replacing Luca Maestri. Parekh, who has been with Apple for the past decade and was most recently vice president of financial planning and analysis, will now join the company's executive committee.

72. In response to growing sexual harassment allegations in the Malayalam cinema industry, who has recently resigned from the post of AMMA (Association of Malayalam Movie Artists) president?

- A - Mammooty
- B - Mohanlal
- C - Dileep
- D - Suresh Gopi

Correct Answer: B - Mohanlal

Notes:

After the Hema Committee report, there have been several major revelations regarding issues of sexual harassment and exploitation in the Malayalam film industry. The report exposed issues such as casting couch practices, harassment and pay disparity, resulting in the resignation of several prominent personalities including superstar Mohanlal.

73. With an aim to promote digital innovation, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has recently launched its fifth TCS Pace Studio in which country?

- A - India
- B - Singapore
- C - Philippines
- D - Australia

Correct Answer: C - Philippines

Notes:

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has launched its new TCS Pace Studio in Manila, Philippines. The studio focuses on promoting digital innovation in the Asia Pacific region and developing tailored solutions for clients. The studio is the fifth part of the TCS Pace network globally, joining four other studios already present in Riyadh, Sydney, Letterkenny, and Stockholm.

74. Who was recently appointed as the President of NASSCOM?

- A - N. Chandrasekaran
- B - Rajesh Gopinathan
- C - Arvind Krishna
- D - Sindhu Gangadharan

Correct Answer: D - Sindhu Gangadharan

Notes:

NASSCOM has appointed Sindhu Gangadharan, MD of SAP Labs India, as its new President, who will replace Rajesh Nambiar. Gangadharan, who is the first woman head of SAP Labs India, will focus on helping India's technology sector leverage new emerging technologies, such as AI, and strengthen the country's engineering R&D capabilities

75. Former Prime Minister Salim al-Hoss served in which country and passed away recently?

- A - Jordan
- B - Lebanon
- C - Syria
- D - Egypt

Correct Answer: B - Lebanon

Notes:

Lebanon's former Prime Minister Salim al-Hoss died after a long illness at the age of 94. Current Prime Minister Najib Mikati declared three days of official mourning in his honour, describing him as the "conscience" and "soul" of Lebanon. Salim al-Hoss served as prime minister five times between 1976 and 2000 and held ministerial positions in three governments.

76. Where was the 2024 Asian Surfing Championship, where India won a silver medal, held?

- A - Thulusdhoo, Maldives
- B - Bali, Indonesia
- C - Phuket, Thailand
- D - Colombo, Sri Lanka

Correct Answer: A - Thulusdhoo, Maldives

Notes:

India won the silver medal in the team event Maruhaba Cup at the Asian Surfing Championships 2024 in Thulusdhoo, Maldives. In the final, Japan won the gold medal by a big margin from India, India finished second with a score of 24.13. Chinese Taipei and China finished third and fourth respectively.

77. Which country recently unveiled new "suicide drones" amid rising military tensions?

- A - China
- B - North Korea
- C - Iran
- D - Russia

Correct Answer: B - North Korean

Notes:

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un unveiled a new type of "suicide drone" on August 24, 2024. Kim personally monitored the performance test of these drones. These drones are

designed to carry explosives and attack enemy targets like guided missiles. During the test, all the drones accurately identified and destroyed their targets.

78. Who won the U-15 gold at the Badminton Asia Championships?

- A - Tanvi Patri
- B - Saina Nehwal
- C - P.V. Sindhu
- D - Ashmita Chaliha

Correct Answer: A - Tanvi Patri

Notes:

Tanvi Patri, a 14-year-old badminton player from Odisha, created a new record by winning the women's singles title at the 2024 Asian Under-15 Junior Badminton Championships. In this championship held from 20-25 August in Chengdu, China, she defeated Nguyen Thi Thu Huyen of Vietnam 22-20, 21-11 in the final.

79. Which Indian Small Finance Bank recently won four awards at the 2nd ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards?

- A - Jana Small Finance Bank
- B - Equitas Small Finance Bank
- C - Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- D - AU Small Finance Bank

Correct Answer: A - Jana Small Finance Bank

Notes:

Bengaluru-based Jana Small Finance Bank (SFB) Ltd bagged four major awards at the 2nd ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2024 held in New Delhi on 22-23 August 2024. The bank received the Best Small Finance Bank (India) award as well as was honoured for excellence in profitability, asset quality and risk management.

80. Who has been appointed as the Director General (DG) of the National Security Guard (NSG)?

- A - Nalin Prabhat
- B - B. Srinivasan
- C - Rajesh Kumar
- D - Sandeep Singh

Correct Answer: B - B. Srinivasan

Notes:

Senior IPS officer B. Srinivasan has been appointed as the new Director General of the National Security Guard (NSG). He is a 1992 batch IPS officer of Bihar cadre and is currently the Director of Bihar Police Academy, Rajgir. His appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. B. Srinivasan's tenure will last till his retirement date, 31 August 2027.

81. Who was the winner of the 61st National Chess Championship (August 2024)?

- A - Surya Shekhar Ganguly
- B - Nilesch Saha
- C - Karthik Venkataraman
- D - Mitrabha Guha

Correct Answer: C - Karthik Venkataraman

Notes:

Grand Master Karthik Venkataraman of Andhra Pradesh won the title after a thrilling final round of India's 61st National Senior Chess Championship. Grand Master Surya Shekhar Ganguly, a six-time national champion, was half a point ahead with 8.5 points in the final round and was assured of his seventh title had he defeated Himat Gulati of Railways in the final round.

82. Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar has recently taken over as Director General of Project Seabird. Project Seabird is related to?

- A - Construction of naval bases and infrastructure
- B - Development of new naval warships
- C - Enhancing naval aviation capabilities
- D - Improving naval training programmes

Correct Answer: A - Construction of naval bases and infrastructure

Notes:

Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar took over as Director General of Project Seabird from Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti on 28 August 2024. With this appointment, he has been entrusted with monitoring the major defence infrastructure project underway at Karwar Naval Base.

83. Which Tamil Nadu-based space startup launched its first reusable hybrid rocket, Mission RHUMI-2024?

- A - Agnikul Cosmos
- B - Space Zone India
- C - Skyroot Aerospace
- D - Lakshmi Aerospace

Correct Answer: B - Space Zone India

Notes:

Tamil Nadu-based startup Space Zone India successfully launched its first reusable hybrid rocket, Mission RHUMI-2024, on 28 August 2024. The rocket was launched from Thiruvadanthai in Chennai and features a common fuel-based hybrid motor and an electrically powered parachute deployer. It aims to conduct research on global warming and climate change.

84. Jay Shah, the current honorary secretary of BCCI, has been elected unopposed as the independent chairman of ICC and will assume his office on 1 December 2024. Who is the current President of ICC?

- A - Greg Barclay
- B - Jay Shah
- C - Shashank Manohar
- D - N. Srinivasan

Correct Answer: B - Jay Shah

Notes: Jay Shah has been elected unopposed as the next independent chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Shah, who has been the honorary secretary of BCCI since October 2019 and President of Asian Cricket Council since January 2021, will assume his office on 1 December 2024.

85. Which two companies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the supply of hydraulic and lubricant oils and greases for a period of 5 years from 2024 to 2029?

- A - RINL and BPCL
- B - RINL and HPCL
- C - RINL and NTPC
- D - RINL and IOCL

Correct Answer: D - RINL and IOCL

Notes:

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (RINL) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for supply of hydraulic and lubricant oils and greases from 2024 to 2029. The agreement strengthens the long-term partnership between the two organizations and is a significant example of collaboration between industries.

86. After the retirement of Jaya Verma Sinha, who has been appointed as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Railway Board?

- A - Arun Kumar
- B - Ramesh Singh
- C - Manoj Verma
- D - Satish Kumar

Correct Answer: D - Satish Kumar

Notes:

In a significant change in the history of Indian Railways, Satish Kumar has been appointed as the new Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board. He is a 1992 batch IPS officer of Bihar cadre and will take over from September 1, 2024. Satish Kumar will be the first Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board to come from Scheduled Caste.

September, 2024

1. Recently India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with whom to enhance tourism cooperation.

- A - Ho Chi Minh
- B - Jakarta
- C - Bangkok
- D - Malaysia

Correct Answer: D - Malaysia

Notes:

An important Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote tourism cooperation between India and Malaysia was signed on 20 August 2024. Shri Ganjendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of Tourism and Culture, India and Shri YB Dato Sri Tiong King Sing, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Malaysia signed this MoU. This MoU is aimed at further strengthening political, economic and socio-cultural relations between India and Malaysia.

2. India's largest affordable Aero Lounge has been launched at which airport in Kerala?

- A - Kannur International Airport
- B - Kochi International Airport
- C - Calicut International Airport
- D - Thiruvananthapuram International Airport

Correct Answer: B - Kochi International Airport

Notes:

Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) is all set to introduce a new world-class experience to its passengers. The "0484 Aero Lounge" will be inaugurated at Terminal 2 by Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala on 1 September 2024. The lounge is based on the concept of 'affordable luxury', which will offer premium airport lounge experience at hourly rates.

3. Fast bowler Shannon Gabriel has recently retired from international cricket. He belongs to which country?

- A - Australia
- B - West Indies
- C - South Africa
- D - New Zealand

Correct Answer: B - West Indies

Notes:

West Indies fast bowler Shannon Gabriel announced his retirement from international cricket on 29 August 2024. Gabriel, 36, played 86 international matches for West Indies, most of which were Test matches. He made his Test debut in 2012 against England at Lord's.

Gabriel is particularly known for his career-best figures of 8/62 in the Gros Islet Test match in 2018 against Sri Lanka.

4. Which medal did Narwal win in the men's 10m air pistol SH1 event at the Paris 2024 Paralympics?

- A - Gold
- B - Bronze
- C - Silver
- D - None

Correct Answer: C - Silver

Notes:

Indian para shooter Manish Narwal won the silver medal in the men's 10m air pistol SH1 final at the Paris Paralympics on 29 August 2024. He finished second with 234.9 points, while Jeongdoo Jo of South Korea won the gold medal with 237.4 points. China's Chao Yang secured the bronze medal with 214.3 points.

5. Who has been appointed as the new Cabinet Secretary of India, succeeding Rajiv Gauba?

- A - Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- B - Subhash Chandra Garg
- C - Rakesh Sharma
- D - Dr. T.V. Somanathan

Correct Answer: D - Dr. T.V. Somanathan

Notes:

Dr. T.V. Somanathan will take over as the new Cabinet Secretary of the Government of India on 30 August 2024, following the retirement of Rajiv Gauba. He is an IAS officer of Tamil Nadu cadre (1987 batch) and holds a PhD in Economics, Executive Development Programme from Harvard Business School, and is a qualified Chartered Accountant, Cost Accountant and Company Secretary.

6. Which country's tourism board won the PATA Gold Award in Sustainable Tourism for its livelihood revival project?

- A - Nepal
- B - India
- C - Sri Lanka
- D - Bhutan

Correct Answer: A - Nepal

Notes:

The Sustainable Tourism Livelihood Revival Project (STLRP) of Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was awarded the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award in 2024. The award was given in the community-based

tourism category, recognizing the project's important role in promoting tourism employment and sustainable development.

7. Which day is celebrated as 'National Sports Day' every year?

- A - 27 August
- B - 28 August
- C - 29 August
- D - 30 August

Correct Answer: C - 29 August

Notes:

National Sports Day is celebrated in India on 29 August, which marks the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. It was first celebrated in 2012 and the day is dedicated to promoting the importance of sports and spreading awareness for physical activities. Sports competitions, seminars and announcements of sports schemes are held on this day.

8. Which Haryana company supplied steel sheets to DRDO's SMART system?

- A - Gupta Stainless
- B - Arora Stainless
- C - Chaudhary Stainless
- D - Jindal Stainless

Correct Answer: D - Jindal Stainless

Notes:

Jindal Stainless has developed a 3-millimetre special alloy steel sheet for the Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedoes (SMART) system, capable of withstanding high pressure and temperature. The sheet has been fabricated at Jindal Defence and Aerospace's Hisar facility.

9. Who inaugurated the National Conference of District Judiciary in New Delhi, marking 75 years of the Supreme Court of India, and released a commemorative stamp and coin?

- A - CJI D.Y. Chandrachud
- B - Kapil Sibal
- C - Narendra Modi
- D - Justice Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar

Correct Answer: C - Narendra Modi

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the National Conference of District Judiciary at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi and released a commemorative stamp and coin to commemorate 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court of India.

10. In which event did Preeti Pal win a bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics?

- A - T35 200m
- B - T42 Long jump
- C - T44 High jump
- D - T35 100m

Correct Answer: D - T35 100m

Notes:

Preeti Pal created history at the Paris 2024 Paralympics by winning a bronze medal in the women's 100m T35 category, becoming the first Indian athlete to win a Paralympic medal in track events. Preeti, 23, recorded a personal best time of 14.21 seconds while China's Zhou Jia and Qianqian Guo won the gold and silver medals respectively.

11. Who launched the 7th edition of National Nutrition Month in Gandhinagar?

- A - Smriti Irani
- B - Nirmala Sitharaman
- C - Annapurna Devi
- D - Piyush Goyal

Correct Answer: C - Annapurna Devi

Notes:

The 7th National Nutrition Month was launched from Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Union Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel and other dignitaries planted saplings under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign on the occasion.

12. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (Additional Charge) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), succeeding C.B. Ananthkrishnan, till August 31, 2024?

- A - Dr. D.K. Sunil
- B - Dr. Rajesh Kumar
- C - Dr. Arun Patel
- D - Dr. Sunil Kumar

Correct Answer: A - Dr. D.K. Sunil

Notes:

Dr. D.K. Sunil has assumed charge as the Chairman and Managing Director (Additional Charge) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), following the retirement of C.B. Ananthkrishnan on August 31. Dr. Sunil has made significant contributions in various roles for nearly 37 years, joining HAL as a Management Trainee in 1987.

13. Which team won the 2024 Durand Cup by defeating Mohun Bagan SG 4-3 in a penalty shootout?

- A - NorthEast United FC
- B - Mohun Bagan SG

C - Kerala Blasters FC

D - Bengaluru FC

Correct Answer: A - NorthEast United FC

Notes:

The match between Mohun Bagan SG and NorthEast United FC ended in a 2-2 draw in the semi-final of the Durand Cup at the Salt Lake Stadium. NorthEast United won 4-3 in the penalty shootout, making them reach the Durand Cup final for the first time. Mohun Bagan's Jason Cummings and Sahal Abdul Samad scored in the first half, while NorthEast United's Azraai and Guillermo equalised the score in the second half.

14. In which category did Rubina Francis win a bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics, giving India its 5th medal at the Games?

A - Women's 50m Rifle SH2

B - Women's 25m Pistol SH1

C - Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1

D - Women's 10m Air Rifle SH2

Correct Answer: C - Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1

Notes:

Indian shooter Rubina Francis won the bronze medal in the women's 10m air pistol SH1 event at the Paris Paralympics 2024. This is India's fourth medal from shooting at the Paris Paralympics, and India has so far won a total of five medals, including one gold medal. Rubina scored 211.1 points in the final. Iran's Javanmardi Sareh won the gold medal and Turkey's Azogan Aysol won the silver medal in this event.

15. Who has been appointed as the Chief Secretary of Bihar, effective from August 31, 2024, who was earlier serving as Coal Secretary?

A - Anil Kumar Gupta

B - Rajiv Kumar Singh

C - Suresh Chandra Verma

D - Amrit Lal Meena

Correct Answer: D - Amrit Lal Meena

Notes:

Senior officer Amritlal Meena will be appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Bihar. He was till now serving as Union Coal Secretary. Late on Saturday evening, the central government relieved him from his current post and sent him back to his parent cadre Bihar. Amritlal Meena, who is a 1989 batch IAS officer, has held various important posts in his 35 years of administrative career.

16. Name the person who recently took over as the Vice Chief of the Air Force, who has more than 4500 flying hours and experience of leading various Indian Air Force units?

A - Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh

B - Air Marshal Tejinder Singh

C - Air Marshal Arjun Pratap

D - Air Marshal Sandeep Rao

Correct Answer: B - Air Marshal Tejinder Singh

Notes:

Air Marshal Tejinder Singh has taken over as the Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force. The Ministry of Defense confirmed this appointment. After assuming charge, he paid tribute to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives at the National War Memorial.

17. Who was awarded the Olympic Order in recognition of his support for the success of the Olympic Games Paris 2024?

A - Thomas Bach

B - Jean-Michel Blanquer

C - Emmanuel Macron

D - Mario Duplantier

Correct Answer: C - Emmanuel Macron

Notes:

French President Emmanuel Macron was awarded the gold medal for his exceptional contribution to the Olympic Movement. The honour was given to him by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for his unwavering support for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games and his commitment to the Olympic ideals. Macron fully supported Paris' bid to host the Olympics after becoming president in 2017.

18. Who was awarded the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award, known as Asia's Nobel Prize, in 2024?

A - Hayao Miyazaki

B - Isao Takahata

C - Mamoru Hosoda

D - Satoshi Kon

Correct Answer: A - Hayao Miyazaki

Notes:

Japanese film director Hayao Miyazaki has been announced to receive the 2024 Ramon Magsaysay Award. Miyazaki, whose famous films include 'Princess Mononoke', 'Spirited Away', 'Howl's Moving Castle', 'My Neighbour Totoro' and 'The Boy and the Heron', has created animated films based on environmental conservation.

19. In which event did Nishad Kumar win a silver medal at the 2024 Paris Paralympics?

A - Men's long jump T47

B - Men's high jump T47

C - Men's javelin throw F46

D - Men's 100m race T47

Correct Answer: B - Men's high jump T47

Notes:

Nishad Kumar of India won a silver medal in the men's T47 high jump final at the Paris Paralympics. He finished second with his season's best jump of 2.04m. Earlier, Nishad Kumar had also won a silver medal at the Tokyo Paralympics. Townsend-Roberts of the US won the gold medal with a jump of 2.08m, taking him ahead of India's Nishad Kumar.

20. Which stadium in Bihar will host the 2024 Women's Hockey Asian Champions Trophy?

- A - Rajgir Hockey Stadium
- B - Patna Sports Complex
- C - Moin-ul-Haq Stadium
- D - Gandhi Maidan

Correct Answer: A - Rajgir Hockey Stadium

Notes:

Rajgir in Bihar will host an important event on the international hockey map. The 8th Women's Asian Champions Trophy Hockey Tournament 2024 will be held at the newly-built Rajgir Hockey Stadium from 11 to 20 November 2024. This will be India's second consecutive hosting of the tournament. Asian Hockey Federation President Dato Fumio Ogura announced India as the host on 29 August 2024.

21. Who is the first Indian woman to win two Paralympic medals in athletics?

- A - Avani Lekhara
- B - Mona Agarwal
- C - Rubina Francis
- D - Preeti Pal

Correct Answer: D - Preeti Pal

Notes:

India's female para athlete Preeti Pal has created history by winning a bronze medal in the 200m (T35) event at the Paris Paralympics 2024. Preeti won the medal with a personal best time of 30.01 seconds. She has become the first Indian female athlete to win two medals in track and field. Athletes affected by hypertonia and coordination disorders participate in the T35 category.

22. Who won the gold medal in the men's singles SL3 category at the 2024 Paris Paralympics, thereby getting his first Paralympic gold medal in para-badminton?

- A - Avani Lekhara
- B - Nitesh Kumar
- C - Pramod Bhagat
- D - Manoj Sarkar

Correct Answer: B - Nitesh Kumar

Notes:

Nitesh Kumar of India won the gold medal in the men's singles badminton SL3 category at the Paris 2024 Paralympics. He defeated Tokyo 2020 silver medallist Daniel Bethell of Great Britain 21-14, 18-21, 23-21. The match lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes. Nitesh's win is India's second consecutive gold medal in the SL3 category;

23. Who has recently assumed the additional charge of Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), effective from September 1, 2024?

- A - Srikant Madhav Vaidya
- B - Sanjeev Singh
- C - V. Satish Kumar
- D - Rajesh Kumar

Correct Answer: C - V. Satish Kumar

Notes:

Srivastava V. Satish Kumar has assumed the additional charge of Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), following the end of the tenure of Srikant Madhav Vaidya. Kumar has served in various key positions at IOCL for over 35 years and under his leadership the company modernized retail outlets, excelled in high-octane fuel and clean energy solutions.

24. In which event did Yogesh Kathunia win the silver medal at the Paris 2024 Paralympics, throwing a season-best of 42.22m to claim his second Paralympic silver medal?

- A - Discus Throw
- B - Shot Put
- C - Long Jump
- D - Javelin Throw

Correct Answer: A - Discus Throw

Notes:

India has got its 8th medal at the Paris Paralympics. Yogesh Kathunia won the silver medal in the men's discus throw F56 event. He covered a distance of 42.22m in the first throw and then covered distances of 41.50m, 41.55m, 40.33m and 40.89m in the other throws respectively.

25. Luis Suarez has recently announced his retirement from international football. He is from which South American country?

- A - Uruguay
- B - Argentina
- C - Brazil
- D - Chile

Correct Answer: A - Uruguay

Notes:

Uruguayan football legend Luis Suarez has announced his retirement from international football. Uruguay's all-time top scorer Suarez revealed his decision in a press conference on Monday. He informed that Uruguay's FIFA World Cup qualifier match against Paraguay on September 6 will be his last international match.

26. In which event did Sumit Antil win gold at the Paris Paralympics 2024 and become the first Indian man to defend his title?

- A - Shot put F57
- B - Long jump T63
- C - Javelin throw F64
- D - Discus throw F56

Correct Answer: C - Javelin throw F64

Notes:

Sumit Antil created history by winning gold in the men's javelin throw F64 category at the Paris 2024 Paralympics, becoming the first Indian para-athlete to defend his title at the Paralympics. The 26-year-old Sumit achieved the feat with a new Paralympic record of 70.59m, which was even better than his previous record set at Tokyo 2020.

27. Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar won bronze medals in which event at the Paris 2024 Paralympics?

- A - Mixed Team Badminton S-26
- B - Mixed Team Recurve Archery
- C - Mixed Team Compound Archery
- D - Tag-Team Wrestling A-12

Correct Answer: C - Javelin throw F64

Notes:

Indian archers Sheetal Devi and Rakesh Kumar brought glory to the nation by winning the bronze medal in the mixed team compound archery event at the Paris Paralympics 2024. After a loss in the semifinals, they defeated Eleonora Sarti and Matteo Bonacina of Italy in a hard-fought 156-155 contest.

28. The second phase of Exercise Tarang Shakti 24 is being held at which place?

- A - Air Force Station Jodhpur
- B - Air Force Station Ambala
- C - Air Force Station Bathinda
- D - Air Force Station Hashimara

Correct Answer: A - Air Force Station Jodhpur

Notes:

The second phase of Tarang Shakti-2024 started from Jodhpur Airbase on Thursday. This multination air exercise involves the air forces of India, Japan, America, Australia, Greece, UAE and Hungary. The inauguration will be on August 30. The first phase was held from 6-14

August at Sulur Air Force Station in Tamil Nadu, in which Britain, France, Germany and Spain participated.

29. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Brunei on a bilateral visit. Brunei is located in which continent?

- A - Europe
- B - Asia
- C - South America
- D - Africa

Correct Answer: B - Asia

Notes:

High Commissioner Alok Amitabh Dimri described Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Brunei as "historic" and said that this is the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister. Modi arrived in Brunei on Tuesday, where he will hold high-level meetings with Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and members of the royal family.

30. Who were honoured with the FICCI Young Leader's Youth Icon Award by Shashwat Goenka?

- A - Ranveer Singh and Virat Kohli
- B - Shah Rukh Khan and P.V. Sindhu
- C - Ayushmann Khurrana and Neeraj Chopra
- D - Hrithik Roshan and Deepika Padukone

Correct Answer: C - Ayushmann Khurrana and Neeraj Chopra

Notes:

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) recently held its prestigious Young Leaders Awards in New Delhi. The event recognised the achievements of talented individuals from various fields.

31. Which country has announced the Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) to improve its visa system and promote tourism from India and China?

- A - South Africa
- B - Australia
- C - Canada
- D - New Zealand

Correct Answer: A - South Africa

Notes:

South Africa has announced a new Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS), primarily aimed at the emerging tourism markets of India and China. The scheme will come into effect from January 2025 and aims to improve the visa system and promote job creation in the tourism sector. Currently, Indian tourists account for only 3.9 per cent of all international tourists visiting South Africa.

32. Which company was awarded the CSR Times Award 2024 for its 'Hunger Free World' project?

- A - Tanishq
- B - Malabar Group
- C - Kalyan Jewellers
- D - PC Jeweller

Correct Answer: B - Malabar Group

Notes:

Malabar Group has been honoured with the prestigious CSR Times Award 2024 for its 'Hunger Free World' project. The award is given to companies that demonstrate exceptional commitment to social responsibility. Goa Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant was the chief guest at the ceremony organised by the Goa government.

33. Who has been appointed as the head coach of the Pakistan hockey team?

- A - Shahnaz Sheikh
- B - Hanif Khan
- C - Naseer Ali
- D - Tahir Zaman

Correct Answer: D - Tahir Zaman

Notes:

Former Pakistan hockey Olympian Tahir Zaman has been appointed as the head coach ahead of the Asian Champions Trophy. Zaman will join the team in Hulunbuir, China, where the tournament begins on September 8. The appointment comes after Roelant Oltmans declined to join the team demanding a long-term contract.

34. Which initiative won the National e-Governance Gold Award for Administrative Reforms and District Level e-Governance Initiatives at the National e-Governance Conference 2024?

- A - Smart Varanasi Project
- B - Digital India Programme
- C - Lab Mitra
- D - e-Sampada Yojana

Correct Answer: C - Lab Mitra

Notes:

Kashi's 'Lab Mitra' initiative won the Gold Award at the National eGovernance Conference 2024 held at Jio Convention Center, Mumbai. The award was given to Varanasi District Magistrate S Rajlingam, Chief Development Officer Himanshu Nagpal, Chief Medical Officer Dr Sandeep Chaudhary, and Project Coordinator Ashutosh Singh.

35. Who won the silver medal for India in the men's shot put - F46 final at the Paris Paralympics?

- A - Sachin Khilari
- B - Praveen Kumar
- C - Sumit Antil
- D - Mariyappan Thangavelu

Correct Answer: A - Sachin Khilari

Notes:

Sachin Khilari won the 21st medal for India by winning the silver medal in the men's shot put F46 event at the Paris Paralympics 2024. He won the medal with an Asian record of 16.32 meters, while Greg Stewart of Canada won the gold with a season's best throw of 16.38 meters. Luka Bekovic of Croatia won the bronze medal with a personal best performance of 16.27m.

36. Recently _____ has become a global ambassador for L'Oreal Paris and will be seen in the brand's global campaigns alongside Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, who is also a global ambassador for the brand.

- A - Alia Bhatt
- B - Deepika Padukone
- C - Kiara Advani
- D - Priyanka Chopra

Correct Answer: A - Alia Bhatt

Notes:

French cosmetic brand L'Oreal Paris has announced Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt as its new global brand ambassador. Bhatt now joins L'Oreal's international list of ambassadors, which includes famous personalities like Viola Davis, Jane Fonda, Eva Longoria, Kendall Jenner, Elle Fanning, and Camila Cabello. Helpline - 7086334049

37. Where in Maharashtra was the Vishwashanti Buddha Vihar inaugurated by President Draupadi Murmu in September 2024?

- A - Pune
- B - Nagpur
- C - Satara
- D - Udgir

Correct Answer: D - Udgir

Notes:

President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the Vishwashanti Buddha Vihar in Udgir in Latur district of Maharashtra on Wednesday, September 4. President Murmu began her Maharashtra tour on Monday and reached Udgir via helicopter from Nanded on Wednesday morning. Prayers were held there after the inauguration ceremony.

38. Under the aegis of which mission, the "Vishnu Yudh Abhyas" mock drill on pandemic preparedness was conducted in Ajmer, Rajasthan?

- A - National One Health Mission
- B - National Urban Health Mission
- C - Ayushman Bharat Mission
- D - National Rural Health Mission

Correct Answer: A - National One Health Mission

Notes:

Under the National One Health Mission (NOHM), a comprehensive national mock drill called "Vishnu Yudh Abhyas" was conducted in Ajmer district of Rajasthan from August 27 to August 31. The aim of the exercise was to test the preparedness and response of the National Joint Outbreak Response Team (NJORT) comprising experts from human health, animal husbandry, and wildlife fields.

39. The administration of which district in Nagaland launched the Wokha Sathi WhatsApp chatbot, which won the Gold Award at the National e-Governance Awards 2023-2024?

- A - Kohima
- B - Wokha
- C - Dimapur
- D - Mokochung

Correct Answer: B - Wokha

Notes:

The innovative "Wokha Sathi" WhatsApp chatbot of the Wokha district administration has been awarded the prestigious Gold Award at the National Awards for e-Governance Scheme 2023-2024. The award was presented by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis during the 27th National e-Governance Conference held in Mumbai on 3 September 2024.

40. Who became the oldest Indian to swim solo across the English Channel in 2024?

- A - Siddharth Agarwal
- B - Satish Kumar
- C - Srikanth Vishwanathan
- D - Rajiv Malhotra

Correct Answer: A - Siddharth Agarwal

Notes:

Siddharth Agarwal, a 49-year-old swimmer from Bengaluru, on August 29, 2024 set a record for becoming the oldest Indian to swim across the English Channel. He completed the 42-km distance in 15 hours and six minutes, breaking the previous record set by Srikanth Vishwanathan in 2018. Agarwal, who did not take up swimming in his youth, attributed his success to the rigorous training he did with coach Satish Kumar.

41. Who was named the first Indian ambassador of the ITTF Foundation during Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) season five?

- A - Mihai Bobocica
- B - Sharath Kamal
- C - Rajdeep Saha
- D - Tathagata Majumdar

Correct Answer: B - Sharath Kamal

Notes:

On the 11th day of Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) season 5 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Indian table tennis player Sharath Kamal was named the first Indian ambassador of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Foundation. Princess Zeina Shaban of Jordan and UTT President Vita Dani were present during the announcement.

42. Team India's Dharambir won the gold medal by setting a new Asian record in which event at the Paris 2024 Summer Paralympic Games?

- A - Club Throw (Men) - F51
- B - Javelin Throw (Men) - F52
- C - Discus Throw (Men) - F53
- D - Long Jump (Men) - F50

Correct Answer: A - Club Throw (Men) - F51

Notes:

Dharambir broke the Asian record by winning the gold medal in the men's club throw F51 event at the Paralympics. 35-year-old Dharambir threw 34.92 meters, while Pranav Surma won the silver medal with a throw of 34.59 meters. Dharambir dedicated his achievement to his coach Amit Kumar Saroha and hoped that this medal will inspire future para athletes.

43. Which fintech company launched India's first multi-brand cobranded credit card in partnership with RuPay and Yes Bank?

- A - PhonePe
- B - Super Money
- C - Amazon Pay
- D – POP

Correct Answer: D - POP

Notes:

POP, a fintech start-up founded by former Flipkart employees, has launched India's first multi-brand co-branded credit card, the YEB BANK POP-CLUB RuPay Credit Card. The card is developed in collaboration with RuPay and Yes Bank and aims to simplify UPI transactions. It was launched at the Global Fintech Festival.

44. In which state, 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Initiative' is being launched to build around 24,800 rainwater harvesting structures?

A - Maharashtra

B - Gujarat

C - Rajasthan

D - Telangana

Correct Answer: B – Gujarat

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the 'Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari' initiative in Surat, Gujarat, which aims to strengthen community participation in water conservation. The initiative is in line with 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain' and promotes collective water management for long-term water security.

45. Who received the 'Gender Diversity' award at the Indian Steel Conference 2024?

A - Dr. Dasari Radhika

B - Dr. Nirmala Rao

C - Dr. Sunita Sharma

D - Dr. Priya Menon

Correct Answer: A - Dr. Dasari Radhika

Notes:

The Indian Steel Association (ISA) presented the prestigious 'Gender Diversity Award' to Dr. Dasari Radhika, DGM (HR), RINL, the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, at the Indian Steel Conference 2024 in New Delhi. The award was presented by Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha, former Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India. Dr. Radhika has shown remarkable resilience and determination to promote women's participation in the steel industry.

46. Who will become the oldest Indian to swim solo across the English Channel in 2024?

A - Sujoy Khanna

B - Rajesh Mehta

C - Siddharth Agarwal

D - Sanjay Kumar

Correct Answer: C - Siddharth Agarwal

Notes:

49-year-old swimmer Siddharth Agarwal from Bengaluru set a record for becoming the oldest Indian to swim solo across the English Channel on August 29, 2024. He completed the 42-km distance in 15 hours and six minutes, breaking the previous record set by Srikanth Vishwanathan in 2018 at the age of 46.

47. Who has been appointed as the vice-chairman of Uttar Pradesh Mahila Aayog in 2024?

A - Babita Chauhan

B - Aparna Yadav

C - Charu Chaudhary

D - Swati Singh

Correct Answer: B - Aparna Yadav

Notes:

The Uttar Pradesh government has made significant changes in the Mahila Aayog. Aparna Yadav, daughter-in-law of Samajwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav, has been appointed as the vicechairman of the UP Mahila Aayog. Charu Chaudhary has also become the vice-chairman along with her, while Babita Chauhan has been appointed as the new chairperson of the commission.

48. Zero Hour will be introduced in which state assembly after preparing standard operating procedures (SOPs)?

A - Punjab

B - Uttarakhand

C - Himachal Pradesh

D – Haryana

Correct Answer: C - Himachal Pradesh

Notes:

Procedures are being prepared for the introduction of Zero Hour in Himachal Assembly, Assembly Speaker Kuldeep Pathania confirmed. During Zero Hour, MLAs can raise issues of public concern that require immediate attention. However, the discretion to raise any issue lies with the Speaker and there is no need to give an immediate reply during this time.

49. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) in 2024?

A - Ajay Tyagi

B - Ashish Chauhan

C - Nehal Vora

D - Vikram Limaye

Correct Answer: C - Nehal Vora

Notes:

Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) has announced the reappointment of Nehal Vora as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO), approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 29, 2024. This appointment is a significant change in the leadership of CDSL, signaling an improvement in the company's corporate direction and governance.

50. Who won India's first Paralympic judo medal in the men's 60 kg (J1) category at the 2024 Paralympics?

A - Akram Shah

B - Kapil Parmar

C - Narendra Singh

D - Angom Anita Chanu

Correct Answer: B - Kapil Parmar

Notes:

Madhya Pradesh judo player Kapil Parmar has won a bronze medal in a historic performance at the Paris Paralympics. The 24-year-old Kapil achieved this success by defeating Brazil's Eliton de Oliveira 10-0 in the men's J1-60 kg category. Kapil, who hails from Sehore, participated in the visually impaired sportspersons category where he performed exceptionally well.

51. What is the name of Star Health's newly launched health insurance policy designed exclusively for persons with disabilities, including visually impaired persons?

A - Special Care Gold

B - Care Plus Health Assist Plan

C - Disability Protection Plan

D - Star Health Vision Plan

Correct Answer: A - Special Care Gold

Notes:

Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited has launched the industry's first insurance policy "Special Care Gold" in Braille for visually impaired and blind persons. The initiative reflects the company's commitment towards inclusivity and accessibility, enabling visually impaired migrants to independently make decisions related to their health and finances.

52. What is the name of India's first fashion forecasting initiative launched by Union Textiles Minister Shri Giriraj Singh in 2024?

A - FashionNXT

B - StyleVision

C - ParidhiNXT

D - Vizio Next

Correct Answer: D - Vizio Next

Notes:

Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh launched the 'Vizio Next' fashion forecasting initiative of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT). A bilingual web portal and India-specific fashion trend book 'Paridhi 24x25' were also launched under this initiative. Union Minister of State for Textiles and External Affairs Pabitra Margherita and Textiles Secretary Rachna Shah were also present at the event.

53. Who won the gold medal in the women's 76 kg freestyle category at the U20 World Championships held in Pontevedra, Spain?

A - Priya Malik

B - Maria Orlevich

- C - Jyoti Berwal
- D - Pooja Gehlot

Correct Answer: C - Jyoti Berwal

Notes:

Jyoti Berwal made India proud by winning the gold medal in the women's 76 kg freestyle category at the Under-20 World Wrestling Championships held in Pontevedra, Spain. Jyoti defeated Ukraine's Maria Orlevich in the final to win the title without conceding a point. She reached the final by defeating wrestlers from Mongolia, China, and Turkey.

54. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh?

- A - Manish Kumar Gupta
- B - Naresh Kumar
- C - Alok Kumar
- D - Anil Baijal

Correct Answer: A - Manish Kumar Gupta

Notes:

Delhi's new Chief Secretary Dharmendra took charge on September 1. Meanwhile, the Union Home Ministry has appointed Delhi Government's Additional Chief Secretary Manish Kumar Gupta as the new Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh.

55. Who won the gold medal for India in the men's high jump T64 final at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, breaking India's previous record of gold medals in the event?

- A - Praveen Kumar
- B - Mariappan Thangavelu
- C - Nishad Kumar
- D - Devendra Jhajharia

Correct Answer: A - Praveen Kumar

Notes:

India's Praveen Kumar won the gold medal in the men's high jump T64 category at the Paris Paralympic Games with a jump of 2.08m, setting an Asian record. The 21-year-old Praveen took India's medal tally to 26 with this historic win, which includes 6 gold, 9 silver, and 11 bronze. Earlier, he won the silver medal at Tokyo 2020.

56. Who has been appointed as the new French Prime Minister by French President Emmanuel Macron?

- A - Jean-Luc Mélenchon
- B - Michel Barnier
- C - Francois Hollande
- D - Nicolas Sarkozy

Correct Answer: B - Michel Barnier

Notes:

French President Emmanuel Macron has appointed former EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier as the new prime minister after 50 days of a caretaker government. The 73-year-old Barnier was appointed after Macron's team attempted to unite diverse groups in parliament and avoid potential instability against the government.

57. Recently, where was the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 held?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Mumbai
- [C] Chennai
- [D] Hyderabad

Correct Answer: B [Mumbai]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 held at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai.

The event is organized jointly by the Payments Council of India, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), and the Fintech Convergence Council (FCC). The GFF is considered one of the world's largest gatherings of fintech startups, investors, experts, bankers, and regulators from around the globe.

58. Which organization has introduced 'Dispute Resolution Scheme (e-DRS)', recently seen in news?

- [A] Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- [B] Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- [C] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: B [Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)]

Notes:

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) launched the Dispute Resolution Scheme (e-DRS), 2022 to simplify and speed up resolving income tax disputes. This scheme aims to cut down on litigation and offer a quicker, more affordable solution for taxpayers. Under section 245MA of the Income-tax Act, 1961, taxpayers can resolve disputes electronically via Dispute Resolution Committees (DRCs). DRCs, present in all 18 regions, can amend orders, reduce penalties, or drop prosecutions, and must make decisions within six months of the application.

59. Recently, where was the '7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah' launched?

- [A] Jaipur, Rajasthan
- [B] Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- [C] Patna, Bihar
- [D] Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Correct Answer: B [Gandhinagar, Gujarat]

Notes:

The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah began from 1 September at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, focusing on nutrition awareness and well-being. Union Minister Annpurna Devi, Gujarat's Chief Minister Bhupendrabhai Patel, and other officials attended the event. The day started with a nationwide tree-planting drive called "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam," promoting nutrition and environmental sustainability. Union Minister Annpurna Devi outlined Poshan 2.0's pillars: good governance, convergence, capacity building, and community participation. Nutri-baskets were distributed to mothers, and schemes like Vahli Dikri Yojna were highlighted. The campaign will focus on issues like anemia, growth monitoring, and complementary feeding, supporting the vision of a 'Suposhit Bharat.'

60. Musi River, which was seen in the news, is a tributary of which river?

- [A] Godavari River
- [B] Krishna River
- [C] Kaveri River
- [D] Narmada River

Correct Answer: B [Krishna River]

Notes:

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) advised citizens to stay indoors due to heavy rains causing the Musi River to rise. The Musi River flows through Telangana and is a tributary of the Krishna River. The river was historically known as the Muchukunda River. Hyderabad is situated on its banks, with the river dividing the old and new parts of the city. The Musi River originates in the Anantagiri Hills near Vicarabad, covering about 240 km before joining the Krishna River. Two dams, Himayat Sagar and Osman Sagar, are constructed over the Musi River.

61. Which day is observed as 'World Coconut Day (WCD)' annually?

- [A] 1 september
- [B] 2 September
- [C] 3 September
- [D] 4 September

Correct Answer: B [2 September]

Notes:

World Coconut Day is observed every year on September 2nd to highlight the importance of coconuts. It aims to raise awareness about various uses of coconuts and promote sustainable farming practices. The theme for World Coconut Day 2024 is "Coconut for a Circular Economy: Building Partnership for Maximum Value." The day was first celebrated in 2009, initiated by the International Coconut Community (ICC), a UNESCAP intergovernmental body. The ICC includes 21 coconut-producing countries, with India as a founding member. The ICC's headquarters is located in Jakarta, Indonesia, and it was known as the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community until 2018.

62. eShram Portal, recently seen in the news, was launched by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Labour and Employment
- [C] Ministry of Rural Development
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Labour and Employment]

Notes:

The Ministry of Labour & Employment launched the eShram portal on 26th August 2021. In just three years, over 30 crore unorganised workers registered on eShram, showing rapid adoption. The portal aims to be a “One-Stop-Solution” for unorganised workers, integrating with other platforms. This integration was highlighted in the 2024-25 Budget speech to improve access to social security schemes. eShram will help unorganised workers access schemes like PMJJBY, PMSBY, AB-PMJAY, and others. A two-way integration with the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) is also underway to enhance service accessibility.

63. Recently, where was the “World Deaf Shooting Championship 2024” held?

- [A] Beijing, China
- [B] New Delhi, India
- [C] Paris, France
- [D] Hanover, Germany

Correct Answer: D [Hanover, Germany]

Notes:

Indian shooter Dhanush Srikanth won three gold medals at the 2024 World Deaf Shooting Championship. World Deaf Shooting Championship 2024 being held at Hanover in Germany. The championship, organized by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf, is being held from August 29 to September 8, 2024.

64. ‘Nambike Nakshe’ scheme, recently seen in the news, is introduced by which state?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: B [Karnataka]

Notes:

Bengaluru’s Deputy Chief Minister, D.K. Shivakumar, launched the ‘Nambike Nakshe’ scheme to streamline building approvals. The scheme simplifies the process for properties up to 4,000 square feet within Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) areas. It allows property owners to obtain provisional approval for building plans from certified architects or engineers. This change lets owners start planning their buildings sooner, bypassing initial

approval complexities. It benefits landowners in areas developed by the Bangalore Development Authority and Karnataka Housing Board, often with plots around 50×80 feet.

65. Deepti Jeevanji won which medal in the women's 400m T20 event at the 2024 Paris Paralympics?

- [A] Gold
- [B] Silver
- [C] Bronze
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: C [Bronze]

Notes:

India's Deepti Jeevanji won a bronze medal in the women's 400m T20 race at the Paris Paralympics 2024. She completed the race in 55.82 seconds. Jeevanji secured third place, finishing behind Yuliia Shuliar from Ukraine, who clocked 55.16 seconds. The second-place finisher was Aysel Onder from Turkey, who holds the world record and finished in 55.23 seconds. This achievement highlights Jeevanji's significant performance on an international stage.

66. 'Na Anka famine', recently seen in news, was associated with which state?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Jharkhand
- [C] Bihar
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: D [Odisha]

Notes:

The Union Education Minister proposed renaming Ravenshaw University due to its association with the Na Anka Famine during Thomas Edward Ravenshaw's tenure. The Na Anka Famine, also known as the Great Odisha Famine, devastated Odisha in 1866, two years before Ravenshaw University was founded in 1868. The famine was so severe that about one-third of Odisha's population died. It occurred during the 9th Regnal year of King Divya Singha Deva of Orissa. Thomas Edward Ravenshaw, a British bureaucrat and colonial commissioner of Odisha, witnessed the famine's devastating impact firsthand.

67. Smart Cities Mission (SCM), recently seen in the news, is an initiative of which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Urban Development
- [B] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- [C] Ministry of Rural Development
- [D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs]

Notes:

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs announced that 90% of the Smart Cities Mission projects are completed. The remaining 10% are delayed due to legal issues, department clearances, land acquisition, construction in hilly areas, and resource availability in smaller cities. Out of 100 smart cities, 17 cities have finished all their projects, and 34 cities have completed over 90%. The Smart Cities Mission, launched in 2015, aims to develop cities with good infrastructure, a sustainable environment, and better quality of life. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, selecting 100 cities through a two-stage competition.

68. What are “Globba tyrnaensis and Globba janakiae”, recently seen in news?

- [A] New species of medicinal herbs
- [B] New species of plants from the ginger family
- [C] Rare species of cactus
- [D] Newly discovered species of frogs

Correct Answer: B [New species of plants from the ginger family]

Notes:

Two new ginger species, *Globba tyrnaensis* and *Globba janakiae*, were discovered in Meghalaya’s Double Decker Living Root Bridge area. These plants, called “dancing girls” for their flower movement, belong to the *Globba* genus of ornamental plants in the ginger family. *Globba tyrnaensis* was found in Tyrna village at 731 meters elevation and also near Thangkharang Park. It has orange flowers, large anthers, and produces bulbils for propagation. *Globba janakiae*, with fewer than 10 individuals, has unique heart-shaped labellum and is critically endangered. It honors botanist EK Janaki Ammal.

69. Recently, the Union Minister of Science and Technology virtually inaugurated how many new NIDHI i-TBIs across India?

- [A] 7
- [B] 8
- [C] 10
- [D] 12

Correct Answer: B [8]

Notes:

The Union Minister of Science and Technology virtually inaugurated 8 new NIDHI i-TBIs and a Department of Science and Technology’s initiative (DST-NIDHI) website at IIT Delhi, marking 8 years of DST-NIDHI. The National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) was launched in 2016 to nurture start-ups by supporting and scaling innovations. NIDHI involves central and state governments, academic institutions, financial bodies, and private sectors. It is funded by the National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB).

70. Recently, a group of researchers discovered a ‘Myristica swamp forest’ in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra

- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Telangana
- [D] Madhya Pradesh

Correct Answer: A [Maharashtra]

Notes: Researchers recently found a Myristica swamp forest in Kumbhalgarh, Maharashtra, protected by the local community. Myristica swamps are freshwater habitats dominated by evergreen trees from the Myristicaceae family. These swamps are called living fossils due to their ancient origin of 140 million years. They have large roots protruding from waterlogged soil, which stays flooded all year. Found mainly in the Western Ghats, they also exist in the Andaman, Nicobar Islands, and Meghalaya. These swamps depend on valley shape, heavy rainfall (3000 mm), and water availability. They retain water like a sponge and store more carbon than regular forests. They support diverse species, such as the Myristica Swamp Treefrog in Kerala sanctuaries.

71. Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana, recently seen in the news, was launched by which state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Uttarakhand
- [C] Haryana
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: A [Madhya Pradesh]

Notes:

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav recently announced an additional benefit under the Ladli Behna Yojana. Launched on March 15, 2023, the scheme aims to enhance women's economic independence, improve health and nutrition for women and their children, and boost their role in family decisions. Women aged 21 to 60 receive Rs 1250 per month under the scheme. The program is managed by the Department of Women and Child Development.

72. Nilgiri Mountain Railway, recently seen in the news, is situated in which state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Himachal Pradesh
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: D [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

The Coonoor railway station, part of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR), is being transformed under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, drawing criticism from heritage enthusiasts. The NMR line, known as the Ooty toy train, runs 45.88 km from Mettupalaiyam to Ooty, located in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore and Nilgiri districts. The train first ran on June

15, 1899, after plans were initiated in 1854. The railway was operated by Madras Railway under a government agreement. In 2005, the NMR was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, highlighting its cultural and historical significance.

73. Paraguay River, recently seen in the news, flows through which three countries?

- [A] Guyana, Bolivia, Peru
- [B] Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina
- [C] Venezuela, Colombia, Chile
- [D] Peru, Suriname, Venezuela

Correct Answer: B [Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina]

Notes:

The Paraguay River is facing its lowest water level in over a century. It is the fifth-largest river in South America and a main tributary of the Paraná River. The river originates in Mato Grosso, Brazil, and flows through Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina. A key feature of its upper basin is the Pantanal, a vast seasonal swamp. The climate in the river's drainage basin is hot and humid, with dry winters and heavy summer rains. This significant drop in water level poses challenges for the regions relying on the river.

74. Recently, which northeastern state has approved the implementation of the Inner Line Permit in Chumoukedima, Niuland, and Dimapur districts?

- [A] Arunachal Pradesh
- [B] Nagaland
- [C] Manipur
- [D] Mizoram

Correct Answer: B [Nagaland]

Notes:

Nagaland has approved the implementation of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) in Chumoukedima, Niuland, and Dimapur districts.

ILP is an official travel document issued by the government, allowing Indian citizens to enter protected areas for a limited time. It regulates movement near India's international borders and protects tribal cultures in northeastern states. ILP originates from the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulations of 1873. There are ILP types for tourists and longer stays, like employment. States under ILP include Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Manipur.

75. Which country recently took seat among UN member states at 79th session of the UN General Assembly?

- [A] Palestine
- [B] Yemen
- [C] Afghanistan
- [D] Sudan

Correct Answer: A [Palestine]

Notes:

The 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly started in New York. Palestine, despite not being a full UN member, was given a seat among member states in the General Assembly Hall. Palestinian envoy Riyad Mansour was seated at a table marked "State of Palestine," positioned between Sri Lanka and Sudan.

76. Veli-Akkulam Lake, recently seen in the news due to ecological degradation, is located in which state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: A [Kerala]

Notes:

Researchers from the University of Kerala recently presented a study at the Estuarine & Coastal Sciences Association (ECSA) 60 conference in Hangzhou, revealing significant ecological decline in Veli-Akkulam Lake. Over 30 years, non-native species have invaded the lake, altering its nutrient flow and disrupting the food web. Using the Ecopath Model, the study highlights a major decline in native species like prawns and cichlids, while invasive species have surged. Initially, in the 1990s, the lake was rich in native species, but now, its ecosystem is severely impacted. Veli-Akkulam Lake, a 20-acre freshwater lake in Kerala, is fed by the Veli River.

77. Recently, Arun Goel has been appointed as India's ambassador to which country?

- [A] Bulgaria
- [B] Greece
- [C] Croatia
- [D] Albania

Correct Answer: C [Croatia]

Notes:

Arun Goel, a retired IAS officer and former Election Commissioner of India, has been appointed as India's Ambassador to Croatia by the Ministry of External Affairs. Following his retirement in March 2024, this new role highlights his continued contribution to public service. His extensive experience in governance and administration will help strengthen diplomatic relations between India and Croatia, marking an important step in his distinguished career.

78. INS Malpe and INS Mulki, recently seen in the news, belongs to which type of class?

- [A] Kamorta
- [B] Abhay

[C] Mahe

[D] Saryu

Correct Answer: C [Mahe]

Notes:

INS Malpe and INS Mulki, two anti-submarine warfare shallow watercraft vessels, were launched by the Indian Navy at Cochin Shipyard. These are the fourth and fifth indigenously built vessels of this type. They belong to the Mahe Class and will replace the Navy's Abhay Class ASW Corvettes. The vessels are designed for anti-submarine operations, mine-laying, sub-surface surveillance, and search and rescue in coastal waters. They are 78 meters long, can reach speeds of 25 knots, and have an endurance of 1,800 nautical miles. They feature state-of-the-art SONAR, torpedoes, and advanced weapon systems.

79. Recently, who has been appointed as new finance secretary of India?

[A] Arun Kumar

[B] Susheel Kumar Trivedi

[C] Tuhin Kanta Pandey

[D] Jitendra Kumar

Correct Answer: C [Tuhin Kanta Pandey]

Notes:

Tuhin Kanta Pandey has been appointed as the new Finance Secretary. He is a senior IAS officer from the 1987 Odisha Cadre. He currently serves in the Finance Ministry, overseeing the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) and the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).

80. What is theme of 'World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)' for 2024-2026?

[A] Changing the Narratives on Suicide

[B] Creating Hope Through Action

[C] Working Together to Prevent suicide

[D] One World Connected

Correct Answer: A [Changing the Narratives on Suicide]

Notes:

World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is observed annually on September 10 to raise awareness about suicide prevention globally. First held in 2003, its goal is to educate the public on suicidal behavior and ways to prevent it. Suicide is a significant cause of death, affecting various aspects of society, mental health, and financial well-being. Over 700,000 suicides occur worldwide each year, impacting many lives. The 2024 theme, "Changing the Narratives on Suicide," focuses on "Telling our Stories," encouraging open discussions about suicide at all levels of society.

81. Which state recently sanctioned Rs 500 crore for the rejuvenation of 5,000 minor irrigation tanks?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: B [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

Tamil Nadu government has approved ₹500 crore to rejuvenate 5,000 minor irrigation tanks in rural areas. The project aims to improve water storage and manage local water resources, particularly for agriculture. Funding includes ₹250 crore from the State Budget and ₹250 crore as a grant from the State Finance Commission. The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department will manage the funds. Tamil Nadu has 22,051 minor irrigation tanks and 69,777 ponds or ooranis. Panchayat unions manage the irrigation tanks, while village panchayats take care of the ponds and ooranis.

82. Recently, which state government has decided to celebrate 17 September as 'Praja Palana Day'?

- [A] Telangana
- [B] Haryana
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: A [Telangana]

Notes: Telangana government will celebrate September 17 as Telangana Praja Palana Day, marking Hyderabad's 1948 integration into India. Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari issued orders for national flag hoisting at government offices, urban local bodies, and gram panchayats. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will hoist the flag in Hyderabad, while ministers will do the same at district headquarters. In 2023, the BRS government marked it as National Integration Day. The Union government celebrates it as Hyderabad Liberation Day, commemorating the 1948 police action under Operation Polo that merged Hyderabad with India.

83. Recently, where was the "BRICS National Security Advisers' meeting" held?

- [A] Russia
- [B] China
- [C] India
- [D] Brazil

Correct Answer: A [Russia]

Notes:

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met Russian President Vladimir Putin on 12 September 2024 during the BRICS national security advisors meeting. Russia is the current chair of BRICS and will host all related meetings in 2024, including the 16th BRICS summit in Kazan from 22 to 24 October 2024. President Putin invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to

attend the summit. The BRICS national security advisors' conclave took place in St. Petersburg from 11 to 13 September 2024, attended by 10 member countries, including India, Russia, Brazil, China, and others. The meeting was hosted by Russian NSA Sergei Shoigu.

84. 'Storm Shadow Missile', recently seen in the news, is jointly developed by which two countries?

- [A] Russia and China
- [B] United Kingdom and France
- [C] Australia and New Zealand
- [D] India and Japan

Correct Answer: B [United Kingdom and France]

Notes:

The United Kingdom has allowed Ukraine to use Storm Shadow cruise missiles against Russian targets. Storm Shadow is a long-range, air-launched cruise missile with low observability. It was jointly developed by the UK and France, known as SCALP-EG in France. The missile is designed to hit high-value stationary targets like airbases, radar stations, communications hubs, and ports. It is used by the air forces of countries including Egypt, India, Italy, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE.

85. Which organization recently released a report titled "Future Pandemic Preparedness and Emergency Response: A Framework for Action"?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] UNDP
- [C] WHO
- [D] FAO

Correct Answer: A [NITI Aayog]

Notes:

NITI Aayog released an Expert Group Report on future pandemic preparedness, reflecting on COVID-19 challenges.

It highlights the "One Health" approach for zoonotic disease threats. Issues faced during COVID-19 included outdated laws, fragmented data sources, and weak industry-research links. Key recommendations include enacting a Public Health Emergency Management Act (PHEMA) to cover broader crises. It proposes creating an Empowered Group of Secretaries for pandemic preparedness, setting up a special fund, and improving data integration. It calls for a stronger surveillance network, predictive modeling, and innovation hubs for vaccine development and skill-building.

86. Veli-Akkulam Lake, recently seen in the news due to ecological degradation, is located in which state?

- [A] Kerala

[B] Maharashtra

[C] Gujarat

[D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: A [Kerala]

Notes:

Researchers from the University of Kerala recently presented a study at the Estuarine & Coastal Sciences Association (ECSA) 60 conference in Hangzhou, revealing significant ecological decline in Veli-Akkulam Lake. Over 30 years, non-native species have invaded the lake, altering its nutrient flow and disrupting the food web. Using the Ecopath Model, the study highlights a major decline in native species like prawns and cichlids, while invasive species have surged. Initially, in the 1990s, the lake was rich in native species, but now, its ecosystem is severely impacted. Veli-Akkulam Lake, a 20-acre freshwater lake in Kerala, is fed by the Veli River.

87. What is the name of the scheme recently launched in Maharashtra to support early-stage women-led startups?

[A] Savitribai Phule Women Startup Scheme

[B] Rani Laxmibai Entrepreneur Scheme

[C] Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme

[D] Mahatma Gandhi Skill Enhancement Scheme

Correct Answer: C [Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme]

Notes:

The Prime Minister addressed the National PM Vishwakarma Program in Maharashtra. He launched the 'Acharya Chanakya Skill Development' scheme and 'Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme' of the Maharashtra Government. The Punyashlok Ahilyadevi scheme offers financial assistance of up to ₹25 lakh for early-stage women-led startups. The PM Vishwakarma Program is a central sector scheme launched by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in 2023 for five years. It supports artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools, covering eighteen traditional trades initially under the scheme.

88. Hakwata community, recently seen in news, is associated with which country?

[A] Malaysia

[B] Zimbabwe

[C] Chile

[D] Somalia

Correct Answer: B [Zimbabwe]

Notes:

The Hakwata community in Chipinge, Zimbabwe, has benefited from a 200 kW solar mini-grid, providing electricity to nearly 80 households, schools, and businesses. The project,

funded by the UNDP and the UK's FCDO, demonstrates significant development in an area previously reliant on expensive generators and lacking access to the national grid.

89. What is the name of the new COVID variant that is spreading rapidly worldwide?

- [A] XEC
- [B] MV.1
- [C] JN2.0
- [D] FEP

Correct Answer: A [XEC]

Notes:

The new COVID variant, XEC, first detected in Germany in August 2024, is a recombinant variant formed by the fusion of KS.1.1 and KP.3.3. It has shown a growth advantage over other variants and is spreading rapidly, with cases reported in 27 countries. XEC is expected to become the dominant variant globally due to its genetic similarities and mutations that enhance its ability to bind to human cells.

90. Recently, what innovative pest control solution was developed by scientists from JNCASR and ICAR-NBAIR?

- [A] Organic pesticides
- [B] Sustainable pheromone dispenser
- [C] Insect-resistant crops
- [D] Chemical repellents

Correct Answer: B [Sustainable pheromone dispenser]

Notes:

Researchers from JNCASR and ICAR-NBAIR have created a sustainable pheromone dispenser that ensures a controlled release rate of pheromones, significantly reducing pest control costs. This innovation utilizes a mesoporous silica matrix, allowing for stable pheromone release and improved efficiency in pest management. The technology aims to benefit farmers by transitioning from laboratory research to large-scale industrial production, thus enhancing agricultural practices while promoting environmentally friendly methods in pest control.

91. What is the name of the semiconductor fabrication plant recently established through the India-US partnership?

- [A] Prakash
- [B] Shakti
- [C] Surya
- [D] Udaan

Correct Answer: B [Shakti]

Notes:

India establishes its first national security semiconductor fabrication plant named 'Shakti' through a collaboration with the U.S. This initiative marks the first technology partnership involving the US Space Force and Indian businesses, with an emphasis on manufacturing infrared, gallium nitride, and silicon carbide semiconductors. The project aims to enhance capabilities in advanced sensing, communication, and power electronics, addressing critical needs in both military and civilian applications, while reducing India's reliance on semiconductor imports.

92. Which state government recently launched 'Mukhyamantri Nagar Unnayan Prkalp' scheme?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Tripura
- [C] Assam
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: B [Tripura]

Notes:

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha launched the 'Mukhyamantri Nagar Unnayan Prkalp' project. The project is funded by the Asian Development Bank with Rs 530 crore. It aims to improve drinking water infrastructure in 12 cities. The plan aims to solve water issues for over 75,000 families in three years. It includes laying 305 km of pipelines, building 25 deep tubewells, 18 iron removal plants, four water treatment plants, and 19 reservoirs. The second phase will cover eight more cities, including Agartala.

93. Which ministry recently hosted the 'National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming' in New Delhi?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Health
- [C] Ministry of Rural Development
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Rural Development]

Notes:

The Ministry of Rural Development hosted the National Conclave on Gender Mainstreaming in New Delhi. This event was held under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission. It focused on strengthening gender-responsive community institutions and strategies for gender integration.

94. Exercise Eastern Bridge VII, recently in the news, is a joint military exercise between India and which country?

- [A] Bangladesh
- [B] UAE
- [C] Iran

[D] Oman

Correct Answer: D [Oman]

Notes:

7th edition of 'Exercise Eastern Bridge VII' was conducted by the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO) to enhance military cooperation and interoperability. It was held at Masirah (Oman). It involved complex air operations and tactical drills, improving strategic capabilities. The exercise fostered camaraderie through joint briefings and cultural exchanges, highlighting the commitment of both nations to regional peace and security. This collaboration aims to strengthen ties and prepare for emerging security challenges in the region.

95. What is "Staphylococcus aureus (S. aureus)", recently seen in news?

[A] Virus

[B] Fungus

[C] Bacteria

[D] Protozoa

Correct Answer: C [Bacteria]

Notes:

Antimicrobial resistance is a major crisis of the 21st century, with Staphylococcus aureus playing a significant role. S. aureus is a gram-positive, sphere-shaped bacterium commonly found on the skin and in the noses of about 30% of people.

Usually harmless, it can cause infections, particularly skin infections, which may lead to blisters, abscesses, and swelling. The bacteria can spread through the bloodstream to organs like heart valves and bones. Transmission occurs through direct contact, contaminated objects, or inhaling droplets from sneezing or coughing. S. aureus can also be transmitted between humans and animals.

96. Recently, Anura Kumara Dissanayake has been elected as the president of which country?

[A] Sri Lanka

[B] Bhutan

[C] Bangladesh

[D] Nepal

Correct Answer: A [Sri Lanka]

Notes:

Anura Kumara Dissanayake, born on November 24, 1968, in Galewela, has transformed Sri Lankan politics by leading the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) party to victory in a groundbreaking election, securing 42.31% of the vote. His rise from a rural background to the presidency marks a significant shift in the country's political landscape, particularly following the economic crises and public dissatisfaction with the traditional political elite.

Anura's leadership represents a departure from the party's militant past towards a more democratic and reformist approach, resonating with the electorate's desire for change.

97. Which organization developed 'Food Import Rejection Alerts' portal, recently launched at the Global Food Regulators Summit 2024?

- [A] Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- [B] Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- [C] National Institute of Food Technology
- [D] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Correct Answer: A [Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)]

Notes:

The Food Import Rejection Alerts (FIRA) portal was launched at the Global Food Regulators Summit 2024 by FSSAI. This online portal notifies about food import rejections at Indian borders. It aims to inform the public and food safety authorities about these rejections. The portal facilitates quick information exchange on food safety and health risks globally. It enables authorities to take immediate action to prevent risks. FIRA also serves as a database for tracking rejected food products, improving risk management.

98. What is the name of scheme recently approved by Bihar government to improve rural infrastructure?

- [A] Mukhyamantri Sehrikanan Yojana
- [B] Chief Minister Infrastructure Project Development Fund scheme
- [C] Mukhyamantri Gramin Setu Nirman Yojana
- [D] Mukhyamantri Gatishakti Yojana

Correct Answer: C [Mukhyamantri Gramin Setu Nirman Yojana]

Notes:

The Bihar government recently approved the "Mukhyamantri Gramin Setu Nirman Yojana" (MGSNY) to improve rural infrastructure. The scheme aims to enhance connectivity by constructing 1,000 small bridges in rural areas. It focuses on remote regions that struggle with poor infrastructure. The initiative will help address accessibility issues during monsoon seasons when rivers overflow and cut off villages.

99. Recently, where was the India's first CO₂-to-methanol pilot plant launched?

- [A] Chennai
- [B] Gorakhpur
- [C] Pune
- [D] Kochi

Correct Answer: C [Pune]

Notes:

India's first CO₂-to-Methanol pilot plant with 1.4 TPD capacity launched in Pune. The project is supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India. It is

a collaboration between IIT Delhi and Thermax Limited under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP). The plant aims to advance Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) technologies, aligning with India's climate goals from COP 26. NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Petroleum are working on a policy to introduce 15% methanol-blended diesel, reducing crude oil imports. The project cost is approximately Rs. 31 crore.

100. Recently, where was the “10th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region Conference” held?

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Chennai
- [D] Bengaluru

Correct Answer: B [New Delhi]

Notes:

The Indian Parliament hosted the 10th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference in New Delhi for two days. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla chaired the conference, attended by 46 Presiding Officers, 25 Speakers, and other legislative officials from States and Union Territories. The theme is 'The Role of Legislative Bodies in the Attainment of Sustainable and Inclusive Development.' The CPA India Region was established in 2004 and includes 31 Member Branches, including the Indian Parliament and 30 State and Union Territory Legislatures.

101. Recently, which airport has been named as “Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Airport”?

- [A] Jorhat Airport
- [B] Gaya Airport
- [C] Pune Airport
- [D] Raipur Airport

Correct Answer: C [Pune Airport]

Notes: The Maharashtra government approved renaming Pune airport as Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Pune International Airport. Sant Tukaram Maharaj was a 17th-century Marathi poet and Hindu saint. He is widely known as Tuka, Tukobaraya, or Tukoba in Maharashtra.

102. What is the primary purpose of introducing ‘Robotic Mules’ in the Indian army?

- [A] Enhance combat and surveillance missions
- [B] Medical evacuation
- [C] Supply transportation
- [D] To conduct military exercises with other nations

Correct Answer: A [Enhance combat and surveillance missions]

Notes:

The Indian Army inducted 100 robotic Multi-Utility Legged Equipment (MULE) for combat areas, especially in high altitudes. MULEs enhance combat and surveillance missions with thermal cameras and radars for reconnaissance in tough terrains. These robots operate in extreme temperatures (-40 to +55°C), carry a 15kg payload, and can climb stairs and hills. They are durable, agile, and equipped with electro-optics and infrared tech for object recognition, even moving through rivers. MULEs improve surveillance and supply delivery, reducing reliance on animal transport by 50-60% by 2030. China also uses robotics, hinting at a new military technology race.

103. Kangan assembly constituency, recently seen in the news, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Jammu & Kashmir
- [B] Ladakh
- [C] Himachal Pradesh
- [D] Punjab

Correct Answer: A [Jammu & Kashmir]

Notes:

The Kangan assembly constituency is part of the larger Jammu & Kashmir region, which has been undergoing elections amid significant political interest. The area is known for its high voter turnout, particularly among the Gujjar community. Voter concerns include local governance issues and the impact of central rule since 2019, emphasizing the need for elected representation.

104. What is the 'Axis of Resistance', recently highlighted in Middle Eastern conflicts?

- [A] A military alliance led by Iran
- [B] A peace treaty between Israel and Palestine
- [C] A humanitarian organization in Gaza
- [D] An economic coalition of Middle Eastern countries

Correct Answer: A [A military alliance led by Iran]

Notes:

The Axis of Resistance is a coalition led by Iran, comprising groups like Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Houthis. This alliance opposes Israeli actions and Western influence in the region, utilizing asymmetric warfare tactics. Iran supports these groups militarily and financially, intensifying their capabilities against Israel. The Axis poses a significant ideological and military challenge, particularly with Hezbollah's proximity to Israel and Hamas's ongoing resistance in Gaza, amidst a deepening humanitarian crisis due to the ongoing conflict. The situation remains volatile, with potential for further escalation.

105. Which day is observed as "World Rabies Day" annually?

- [A] 27 September

[B] 28 September

[C] 29 September

[D] 30 September

Correct Answer: B [28 September]

Notes:

World Rabies Day is observed on 28 September. The theme for 2024 is “Breaking Rabies Boundaries,” emphasizing that One Health is for everyone. Rabies is a viral disease affecting the central nervous system and is preventable through vaccination. In 99% of human rabies cases, transmission occurs through dog bites. Rabies is caused by an RNA virus from the rhabdovirus family. The virus can enter the nervous system directly or replicate in muscle tissue before moving to the brain. Once it reaches the nervous system, it causes acute brain inflammation.

106. What is the theme of 9th Ayurveda Day, recently announced by Ministry of Ayush?

[A] Ayurveda innovation for Global Health

[B] Ayurveda for One Health

[C] Ayurveda for Nutrition

[D] Madhumeh Mission

Correct Answer: A [Ayurveda innovation for Global Health]

Notes:

Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav announced the theme for the 9th Ayurveda Day as “Ayurveda Innovation for Global Health.” Ayurveda Day will be celebrated on October 29. The theme highlights Ayurveda’s potential contributions to global health through innovative practices. Ayurveda Day is observed annually on Dhanwantari Jayanti, also known as Dhanteras. Since 2016, this celebration emphasizes India’s commitment to promoting Ayurveda as part of its holistic healthcare system and traditional medicine culture.

107. Which country became the 101st member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

A - Bhutan

B - Nepal

C - Sri Lanka

D – Bangladesh

Correct Answer: B - Nepal

Notes:

On September 9, 2024, Nepal officially confirmed to become the 101st member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA). The document was handed over by Nepal's Charge d'Affaires, Surendra Thapa to ISA officials in New Delhi. Nepal's membership reflects its commitment to promote renewable energy and combat climate change.

108. . Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Croatia?

A - Rajiv Kumar

B - Suresh Mathur

C - Arun Goel

D - Vinod Rai

Correct Answer: C - Arun Goel

Notes:

Arun Goel has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Croatia, and he will replace Raj Kumar Srivastava. The Ministry of External Affairs announced the appointment on September 7, 2024. Goel, who is a retired IAS officer of the 1985 batch of Punjab cadre, was the Election Commissioner of India from November 21, 2022 to March 9, 2024

109. What is the name of the supercomputing system developed under the National Supercomputing Mission inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Pune?

A - PARAM Vishwakarma

B - PARAM Siddhi

C - PARAM Rudra

D - PARAM Shakti

Correct Answer: C - PARAM Rudra

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated the PARAM Rudra supercomputing system, an important milestone towards India's technological advancement and self-reliance.

110. B. Vanlalvanna, a 1998 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has recently been appointed as India's next ambassador to which country?

A - Thailand

B - Cambodia

C - Vietnam

D – Laos

Correct Answer: B - Cambodia

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated the PARAM Rudra Supercomputing System, a significant milestone in India's march towards technological advancement and self-reliance.

October - 2024

1. As per recent data, which state leads the country in installed capacity for rooftop solar power under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana?

[A] Gujarat

[B] Rajasthan

[C] Madhya Pradesh

[D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: A [Gujarat]

Notes:

PM Modi visited solar panels installed under the PM Muft Bijli Solar Yojana in Gujarat. The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Solar Yojana encourages rooftop solar adoption by offering financial subsidies and easier installation. Households can get up to 300 units of free electricity each month. Gujarat leads in rooftop solar capacity with 4,195 MW, followed by Maharashtra with 2,487 MW, and Rajasthan with 1,269 MW. India's total installed rooftop solar power capacity is 13,889 MW.

2. Sea Robins, a unique fish species known for their “walking” abilities, are primarily found in which type of habitat?

[A] Tropical and subtropical oceans

[B] Underground caves

[C] Saline lakes

[D] Fresh water rivers

Correct Answer: A [Tropical and subtropical oceans]

Notes:

A recent study in Current Biology explored the evolutionary adaptations of Sea Robins, a unique fish species known for their “walking” abilities. These bottom-dwelling fish, found in tropical and subtropical oceans, have six leg-like appendages that are extensions of their fins. This adaptation allows them to walk on the seafloor and taste hidden prey. The study reveals that the genes responsible for these appendages are similar to those that form human limbs, offering insights into how ancient fish evolved into four-limbed animals, including humans.

3. Which organization recently published an atlas confirming the presence of Tsetse flies in 34 African countries?

[A] World Health Organization (WHO)

[B] Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

[C] United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

[D] International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Correct Answer: B [Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)]

Notes:

Tsetse flies, genus Glossina, are found in 34 African countries, according to a new atlas by FAO. These blood-sucking insects give birth to larvae that pupate in the soil. Tsetse flies are classified into three groups: fusca (forest), morsitans (savanna), and palpalis (riverine). They inhabit areas along rivers, lakes, and dense forests, including rainforests. They transmit Trypanosoma parasites, causing sleeping sickness in humans and nagana in livestock.

Nagana leads to billions of dollars in agricultural losses annually. Tsetse flies range from Northern Senegal to South Africa's Kwazulu-Natal province.

4. When is the 'International Day of Older Persons' observed every year?

- [A] October 1
- [B] October 2
- [C] October 3
- [D] October 4

Correct Answer: A [October 1]

Notes:

The 34th International Day of Older Persons is observed on 1 October 2024. The day highlights the challenges and opportunities of population ageing and promotes a society for all ages. It recognizes the contributions and wisdom of older persons. The UN defines older persons as 65 years or older; in India, it's 60 years or older. The day was first observed on 1 October 1991, after a 1990 UN resolution. The 2024 theme is "Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide."

5. Recently, two critically endangered species of amphibians, *Micrixalus spelunca* and *Nyctibatrachus indraneili*, were found in which tiger reserve?

- [A] Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- [B] Anamalai Tiger Reserve
- [C] Mudumalai Tiger Reserve
- [D] Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve

Correct Answer: C [Mudumalai Tiger Reserve]

Notes:

Two critically endangered amphibian species, *Micrixalus spelunca* (cave dancing frog) and *Nyctibatrachus indraneili* (Indraneil's night frog), were discovered in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is located in the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu and is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. This biosphere reserve includes Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala, Bandipur National Park in Karnataka, Mukurthi National Park, and Silent Valley, making it a vital area for biodiversity conservation.

6. What natural disaster recently led to reports of stranded manatees, an aquatic mammal, in Florida?

- [A] Hurricane Helene
- [B] Tsunami
- [C] Earthquake
- [D] Flood

Correct Answer: A [Hurricane Helene]

Notes:

Biologists and the public are responding to reports of stranded manatees in Florida following Hurricane Helene. Manatees are aquatic mammals that belong to the Sirenia group, which also includes dugongs. They have paddle-shaped tails, while dugongs have fluked tails resembling those of whales. Manatees live in shallow coastal areas and rivers. There are three species of manatees: the Amazonian manatee, which lives only in freshwater; the African manatee, found in tropical West Africa; and the Caribbean manatee, located in Florida and the West Indies.

7. Who became the first woman officer to serve as the Director-General of the Armed Forces Medical Services (DG AFMS)?

- [A] Parisha Santoshi
- [B] Punita Arora
- [C] Arti Sarin
- [D] Shaliza Dhami

Correct Answer: C [Arti Sarin]

Notes:

Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin became the first woman to serve as Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS). The DGAFMS oversees medical policy matters for the Armed Forces and reports to the Ministry of Defence.

Before this role, she held key positions, including DG Medical Services for the Navy and Air Force, and Director of Armed Forces Medical College, Pune. Over her 38-year career, she served in all three branches of the Indian Armed Forces. She has received several awards, including the Ati Vishist Seva Medal in 2024.

8. Negro River, which was seen in the news, is a tributary of which river?

- [A] Niger River
- [B] Zambezi River
- [C] Amazon River
- [D] Nile River

Correct Answer: C [Amazon River]

Notes:

The Negro River, a main tributary of the Amazon, recently dropped to its lowest level in 122 years. It is one of the largest tributaries of the Amazon River and one of the world's largest rivers by discharge. Originating from eastern Colombia, it flows through Colombia, Venezuela, and Brazil before joining the Amazon at Manaus. The river spans about 1,400 miles, with 850 miles in Brazil. The river was named "Negro" for its dark water due to decomposed organic matter and tannins. It is the world's largest blackwater river. The Central Amazon Ecological Corridor, a giant protected area, surrounds it.

9. Which organization has formulated a National Agriculture Code (NAC)?

- [A] National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

[B] Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

[C] Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

[D] Ministry of Agriculture

Correct Answer: C [Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)]

Notes:

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is developing a National Agriculture Code (NAC) similar to the National Building and Electrical Codes. The NAC will cover the entire agriculture cycle, from crop selection to post-harvest operations. It will have two parts: general principles for all crops and crop-specific standards for paddy, wheat, oilseeds, and pulses. It aims to guide farmers, universities, and officials in agriculture. NAC will address input management, sustainability, natural farming, organic farming, and IoT in agriculture. It will support quality standards, decision-making, and capacity building in Indian agriculture.

10. Recently, the third 25T Bollard Pull (BP) Tug, Ashva was launched in which city?

[A] Visakhapatnam

[B] Mumbai

[C] Kolkata

[D] Chennai

Correct Answer: C [Kolkata]

Notes:

The Third 25T Bollard Pull Tug, named Ashva, was launched on October 3, 2024, in Kolkata. Ashva is part of the Government of India's "Make in India" initiative. It was built following the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) classification rules.

The tug will boost the Indian Navy's operational capabilities, aiding in critical tasks and enhancing maritime support infrastructure.

11. What is the theme of "Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2024", hosted by Indian Army?

[A] Drivers in Nation Building: Fuelling Growth through Comprehensive Security

[B] India's Path to Viksit Bharat

[C] Securing India and Indo-Pacific Region

[D] Innovations in Military Technology

Correct Answer: A [Drivers in Nation Building: Fuelling Growth through Comprehensive Security]

Notes:

The Indian Army, along with the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), holds the Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2024 on October 24-25, 2024 in New Delhi. The event will focus on "Drivers in Nation Building: Fuelling Growth through Comprehensive Security." Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi emphasized a vision for a secure and prosperous India by 2047 at the curtain-raiser event. The dialogue aims to promote discussions, build strategic partnerships, and create actionable insights for national security and development. It will

provide a platform for national and international leaders, policymakers, and experts to share their knowledge on security through development.

12. What is the objective of 'PM E-DRIVE Scheme', launched by Ministry of Heavy Industries?

- [A] Promote Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption and establish charging infrastructure
- [B] Reduce public transportation usage
- [C] Increase petrol vehicle production
- [D] None of the above

Correct Answer: A [Promote Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption and establish charging infrastructure]

Notes:

The Ministry of Heavy Industries launched the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme. The scheme aims to boost the adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs) and create essential charging infrastructure nationwide for cleaner transportation. Key components include subsidies for electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, ambulances, trucks, and other emerging EVs. It offers e-vouchers for EV buyers and promotes e-ambulances, e-buses, and e-trucks. Public charging stations will be established in cities with high EV use, supported by a financial outlay of ₹10,900 crore over two years.

13. Recently, where was India's Maritime Decarbonization Conference held?

- [A] Bengaluru
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Hyderabad
- [D] Chennai

Correct Answer: B [New Delhi]

Notes:

The Conference on Maritime Decarbonization in India, co-hosted by the Ministry of Ports and the Asian Development Bank, concluded in New Delhi. It emphasized the importance of green shipping and sustainable port operations. It aimed to align India's maritime sector with global climate goals, discussing initiatives like the Harit Sagar Green Port Guidelines and the goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2070. This reflects India's commitment to transforming its maritime industry for a sustainable future.

14. Which organization recently faced criticism from India for its report on religious minorities?

- [A] International Buddhist Confederation
- [B] Amnesty International
- [C] United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)
- [D] Human Rights Watch

Correct Answer: C [United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)]

Notes:

India rejected a report by the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) on religious minority abuses.

USCIRF is an independent U.S. federal agency created by the 1998 International Religious Freedom Act. It monitors global religious freedom violations and provides policy recommendations to the U.S. President, Secretary of State, and Congress.

USCIRF's nine commissioners are appointed by the President or Congressional leaders, with support from a nonpartisan staff. It issues an annual report on religious freedom, highlighting "Countries of Particular Concern." The report uses international standards, including Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to assess violations.

15. India has recently joined which global platform to enhance its domestic energy efficiency?

[A] Association for Renewable Energy and Clean Technology

[B] International Energy Efficiency Hub

[C] United States Department of Energy

[D] Renewable Energy Agency

Correct Answer: B [International Energy Efficiency Hub]

Notes:

The Union Cabinet, led by the Prime Minister of India, has approved India's membership in the Energy Efficiency Hub. This global platform, established in 2020, promotes energy efficiency worldwide. It succeeded the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC), of which India was a member. The hub connects governments, international organizations, and private entities to share knowledge and solutions. Sixteen countries, including the U.S., U.K., and China, are members. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) will represent India in the Hub. India's participation will enhance its energy efficiency initiatives and contribute to climate change efforts. This aligns with India's goals for sustainable development and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

16. The Chenchus Tribe primarily resides in which state?

[A] Andhra Pradesh

[B] Jharkhand

[C] Madhya Pradesh

[D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: A [Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

The Chenchus, a Telugu-speaking tribe in the Nallamala forests of Andhra Pradesh, struggle with declining work under MGNREGA due to modernization. They are a Scheduled Tribe and have maintained their traditional lifestyle without adapting to modernity. Chenchus live in

small villages called “Penta” and gather forest products like fruits, tubers, honey, and tamarind for minimal income. They rely on bows, arrows, and knives for hunting. Village elders, called “Peddamanishi,” hold authority in social matters. Chenchus have ties to the Srisailem temple and enjoy special privileges there.

17. Which organization has formulated a National Agriculture Code (NAC)?

- [A] National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- [B] Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- [C] Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture

Correct Answer: C [Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)]

Notes:

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is developing a National Agriculture Code (NAC) similar to the National Building and Electrical Codes. The NAC will cover the entire agriculture cycle, from crop selection to post-harvest operations. It will have two parts: general principles for all crops and crop-specific standards for paddy, wheat, oilseeds, and pulses. It aims to guide farmers, universities, and officials in agriculture. NAC will address input management, sustainability, natural farming, organic farming, and IoT in agriculture. It will support quality standards, decision-making, and capacity building in Indian agriculture.

18. What type of missile is “VSHORADS”, developed by DRDO?

- [A] Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS)
- [B] Man-portable air-defence system (MANPADS)
- [C] Terminal high altitude area defence system (THAAD)
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: B [Man-portable air-defence system (MANPADS)]

Notes:

DRDO completed development trials of the 4th Generation Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORAD) with three successful tests at Pokhran, Rajasthan. VSHORAD is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) designed to neutralize low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges. It was developed by DRDO’s Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad, with industry partners. The missile features advanced technologies like a miniaturised Reaction Control System (RCS) and integrated avionics, and is propelled by a dual-thrust solid motor.

19. When is National Wildlife Week 2024 observed?

- [A] September 1-7
- [B] October 2-8
- [C] November 10-16
- [D] December 20-26

Correct Answer: B [October 2-8]

Notes:

National Wildlife Week 2024 in India was celebrated from October 2 to 8, with the theme “Safeguarding Our Natural Heritage.” The event was first commemorated in 1957, having evolved from Wildlife Day, which was observed in 1955. It was established by the Indian Board of Wildlife in 1952. It aimed to raise awareness about wildlife protection. Wildlife Week has since become an annual event focused on promoting conservation and highlighting India’s rich biodiversity.

20. Which rare species of leopard has recently identified in Odisha?

- [A] Snow Leopard
- [B] Black Panther
- [C] Arabian Leopard
- [D] Javan Leopard

Correct Answer: B [Black Panther]

Notes:

Odisha has reported the presence of rare melanistic leopards, known as black panthers, in three forest divisions based on the All Odisha Leopard Estimation-2024. This species is particularly vulnerable to poaching, and the state is taking measures to protect them. The survey revealed a total of 696 leopards in Odisha, an increase from previous estimates, highlighting the importance of conservation efforts in the region, especially in the Similipal Tiger Reserve, which also houses unique Royal Bengal tigers.

21. Who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2024?

- [A] Gabriel Garcia
- [B] Alexander Pushkin
- [C] Han Kang
- [D] Haruki Murakami

Correct Answer: C [Han Kang]

Notes:

South Korean author Han Kang won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature. She is the first Korean to receive this honor. Her work is known for its “intense poetic prose” that addresses historical traumas and the fragility of life. Notable works include The Vegetarian (Man Booker International Prize winner in 2016), The White Book, Human Acts, and Greek Lessons.

22. Which coalfield in Jharkhand has been identified as having high potential for coal bed methane generation?

- [A] Jharia coalfield
- [B] South Karanpura coalfield
- [C] Giridih coalfield
- [D] Auranga coalfield

Correct Answer: B [South Karanpura coalfield]

Notes:

A study by scientists from the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences in Lucknow found significant potential for hydrocarbon generation in the eastern South Karanpura coalfield in Jharkhand. The research used microscopic palynomorph analysis and geochemical assessments, showing the eastern Sirka coalfield has more hydrocarbon potential than the Giddi coalfield. The South Karanpura coalfield has 28 major coal blocks and is vital for India's energy sector. There is growing interest in exploring unconventional hydrocarbon resources like coal bed methane and shale gas due to increasing energy demands and the shift toward green energy.

23. Which state has become the third state to conduct a caste-based census?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Telangana
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: C [Telangana]

Notes:

The Telangana government has started a comprehensive household caste survey to ensure fair resource distribution among all communities. This makes Telangana the third state to conduct a caste-based headcount, following Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. The survey aims to plan and implement various opportunities for the socio-economic and educational improvement of OBCs, SCs, STs, and other weaker sections. It focuses on enhancing employment and political opportunities for these communities in the state.

24. According to EnviStats India-2024 report, which tiger reserve has been ranked first for its leopard population?

- [A] Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve
- [B] Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve
- [C] Sariska Tiger Reserve
- [D] Pench Tiger Reserve

Correct Answer: B [Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve]

Notes:

The recently released 'EnviStats India-2024' report ranked the Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) first among India's 55 tiger reserves for its leopard population, estimating around 360 leopards. The report states that 270 leopards inhabit the reserve, while another 90 move through the area. India's overall leopard population is estimated at 13,874, with 569 leopards in Andhra Pradesh. NSTR also hosts more than 80 tigers across 1,401 square kilometers. Conservation efforts, including ensuring food and water sources and fire prevention measures, have boosted the leopard population.

25. Where was the India's first Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers inaugurated?

- [A] Jaipur
- [B] Varanasi
- [C] Pune
- [D] Indore

Correct Answer: C [Pune]

Notes: The Union Minister inaugurated India's first Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers in Jejuri, Pune, Maharashtra. This facility focuses on developing technology for producing Polylactic Acid (PLA) bioplastic. Biopolymers are made from biological sources such as fats, vegetable oils, and sugars. They offer advantages over synthetic polymers, including biodegradability, allowing for easy decomposition by bacteria in soil. They also promote carbon neutrality since the CO₂ released during their degradation can be reabsorbed by replacement crops.

26. Which country is the host of ISSF Junior World Cup in 2025?

- [A] Nepal
- [B] Myanmar
- [C] Bhutan
- [D] India

Correct Answer: D [India]

Notes:

The ISSF Junior World Cup will be hosted by India in 2025, confirmed by ISSF President Luciano Rossi. Mr. Rossi made this announcement at a press conference before the ISSF World Cup Final in New Delhi. He praised India for its growing role in promoting the sport of shooting globally. India is recognized for its talented athletes and commitment to enhancing shooting infrastructure. Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), attended the press conference.

27. Which state government launched the Anna Bhagya Scheme (ABS)?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Karnataka]

Notes:

The Anna Bhagya Scheme (ABS) is a cash transfer initiative launched in Karnataka, aimed at enhancing food security by providing unconditional cash transfers to beneficiaries, enabling them to purchase food grains. This innovative approach has shown to improve household welfare, increase financial inclusion, and facilitate savings among marginalized communities. The scheme was introduced as a response to the unavailability of additional rice for distribution, marking a significant shift from traditional food rationing methods. Recent

studies indicate that ABS has positively impacted consumption patterns and financial behavior among its beneficiaries.

28. Which state government recently approved the Damanganga-Vaitarna-Godavari river-linking project?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: A [Maharashtra]

Notes:

Maharashtra Cabinet approved the Damanganga-Vaitarna-Godavari and Damanganga-Ekdare-Godavari river-linking projects. These projects aim to address water scarcity in North Maharashtra and Marathwada regions. The total cost of the projects is ₹15,710 crore. The Damanganga-Vaitarna-Godavari project received ₹13,497 crore in funding, providing 160.97 MLD of water and irrigating 33,110 hectares. The Damanganga-Ekdare-Godavari project was approved with ₹2,213 crore, supplying 100 MLD of water and irrigating 12,998 hectares. These initiatives aim to significantly improve irrigation and water availability, especially in Sinnar taluka, Nashik district.

29. Hellfire Missiles, which were seen in the news, are developed by which country?

- [A] India
- [B] Russia
- [C] France
- [D] United States of America

Correct Answer: D [United States of America]

Notes:

India signed a deal with the US to buy 170 AGM-114R Hellfire missiles. The AGM-114 Hellfire is a laser-guided, short-range air-to-ground missile used by the US military and 30 allies. It was developed by USA in 1972 to counter Soviet tanks and is used against armored vehicles, radar systems, helicopters, and more. Hellfire missiles are used on UAVs like Predator and Reaper drones.

30. Which national park recently emerged as India's second butterfly diversity hub?

- [A] Kaziranga National Park
- [B] Keoladeo National Park
- [C] Periyar National Park
- [D] Rajaji National Park

Correct Answer: A [Kaziranga National Park]

Notes:

Over 446 butterfly species have been recorded in Assam's Kaziranga National Park (KNP), making it the second-highest in India after Namdapha National Park, Arunachal Pradesh. Kaziranga is located in Assam's Golaghat and Nagaon districts. It is the largest undisturbed area in the Brahmaputra Valley floodplain. The park was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985. The Diphlu River flows through the core tiger habitat, while the Moradifalu River runs along its southern boundary.

31. Which two organizations jointly published the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report?

- [A] United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)
- [B] World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- [C] United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO)
- [D] International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Trade Organization (WTO)

Correct Answer: A [United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)]

Notes:

The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2024 is published by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI). The report focuses on the theme "Poverty Amid Conflict," linking poverty data with violent conflict. Countries at war show higher deprivation across all 10 MPI indicators compared to non-conflict countries. 1.1 billion people (~18%) in 112 countries live in acute multidimensional poverty. India has the largest number of people in extreme poverty at 234 million. MPI measures poverty across education, health, and living standards. India introduced its National MPI (NMPI) in 2021, adding Maternal Health and Bank Account as indicators.

32. Where was the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) started?

- [A] London, United Kingdom
- [B] Cali, Colombia
- [C] New Delhi, India
- [D] Moscow, Russia

Correct Answer: B [Cali, Colombia]

Notes:

The 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) started in Cali, Colombia. The CBD has 196 contracting parties and is the most comprehensive binding international agreement on nature conservation. It was opened for signing at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. The CBD aims to conserve biological diversity, promote sustainable use, and ensure fair sharing of benefits from genetic resources. The governing body, the COP, meets every two years to

review progress and set priorities. The Secretariat is located in Montreal, Canada, and supports implementation through the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols.

33. What is the name of the exercise recently conducted by the Sudarshan Chakra Corps at Jhansi?

- [A] SWAVLAMBAN SHAKTI
- [B] RAHAT
- [C] SHAKTI
- [D] YUDH ABHYAS

Correct Answer: A [SWAVLAMBAN SHAKTI]

Notes:

The 'Exercise SWAVLAMBAN SHAKTI' is conducted by the Sudarshan Chakra Corps at Babina Field Firing Ranges near Jhansi. This exercise focuses on integrating niche and emerging technologies into the Indian Army's offensive strategies. It involves approximately 1,800 personnel and showcases over 50 new technology equipment (NTEs) from more than 40 industry partners, including advanced drones and robotic systems. The aim is to enhance combat readiness and foster collaboration between the Indian Army and the defence industry, boosting indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities.

34. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of National Commission for Women?

- [A] Anita Sharma
- [B] Uma Devi
- [C] Vijaya Rahatkar
- [D] Meenakshi Negi

Correct Answer: C [Vijaya Rahatkar]

Notes:

Vijaya Rahatkar has been appointed as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW). The appointment was notified by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Rahatkar previously served as Chairperson of the Maharashtra State Commission for Women and Mayor of Aurangabad. She also held roles as BJP National Secretary and President of the party's women wing. Dr. Archana Majumdar has been appointed as a member of the NCW.

35. What is the theme for World Osteoporosis Day 2024?

- [A] Say No to Fragile Bones
- [B] Step Up for Bone Health-Build Better Bones
- [C] Protect your future
- [D] Take action for bone health

Correct Answer: A [Say No to Fragile Bones]

Notes:

World Osteoporosis Day is observed on October 20 each year to raise awareness about osteoporosis and metabolic bone diseases. Organized by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF), the campaign engages communities in over 90 countries with local initiatives. Osteoporosis weakens bones, making them fragile and prone to fractures, especially among postmenopausal women and the elderly. The day began in the UK in 1996, with the IOF taking over in 1997. The 2024 theme, "Say No to Fragile Bones," emphasizes the need for proactive measures to protect bone health and reduce fracture risks.

36. What is the theme of the 14th biennial lake conference held in Moodbidri?

- [A] Wetlands for Human Wellbeing
- [B] Biodiversity Management
- [C] Water Conservation Strategies
- [D] Ecosystem Restoration

Correct Answer: A [Wetlands for Human Wellbeing]

Notes:

The 14th biennial lake conference took place in Moodbidri, Karnataka from October 17 to 20, 2024, focusing on the theme "Lake 2024 – wetlands for human wellbeing." It called for the government to notify ecologically sensitive panchayats under Section 5(1) of the Environment Protection Act 1986 for better ecosystem health. The conference highlighted the ineffectiveness of most Gram Panchayat Biodiversity Management Committees since the Biodiversity Act 2002. It recommended that zilla panchayats supervise these committees through a phased program by State Biodiversity Boards to improve ecosystem health and resource management.

37. Where was the 12th edition of Joint Military Training (JTM) exercise between the India and Singapore conducted?

- [A] Air Force Station Bidar, Karnataka
- [B] Air Force Station Kalaikunda, West Bengal
- [C] Air Force Station Begumpet, Telangana
- [D] Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Correct Answer: B [Air Force Station Kalaikunda, West Bengal]

Notes:

On October 21, 2024, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) started the 12th Joint Military Training (JMT) exercise at Air Force Station Kalaikunda, West Bengal. The bilateral phase will run from November 13 to 21, 2024, focusing on advanced air combat simulations and joint mission planning. This phase aims to improve interoperability and combat readiness while promoting knowledge exchange. RSAF is sending its largest contingent yet, including aircrew and support for F-16, F-15, G-550 AEW&C, and C-130 aircraft. The IAF will use Rafale, Mirage 2000, Su-30 MKI, Tejas, MiG-29, and Jaguar aircraft.

38. Which organization members recently adopted the Rome Declaration on Water Scarcity in Agriculture?

- [A] Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI)
- [B] Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS)
- [C] Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- [D] Water and Agriculture Information Center (WAIC)

Correct Answer: C [Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)]

Notes:

Member countries of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, Heads of Delegations and partners of the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) adopted the Rome Declaration on Water Scarcity in Agriculture during the High-level Rome Water Dialogue. This event occurred alongside FAO's annual World Food Forum. The declaration aims to tackle water scarcity, which is worsened by the climate crisis. WASAG was launched at the 2016 UN Climate Conference in Marrakesh to help countries with water scarcity challenges. The initiative focuses on supporting nations in managing water scarcity issues effectively.

39. Which space organization is associated with Remove Debris In-Orbit Servicing (RISE) mission?

- [A] Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- [B] European Space Agency (ESA)
- [C] China National Space Administration (CNSA)
- [D] Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Correct Answer: B [European Space Agency (ESA)]

Notes:

The Remove Debris In-Orbit Servicing (RISE) mission is a European Space Agency (ESA) mission that will demonstrate the ability to dock with and control the orbit of geostationary satellites. The mission aims to extend satellite life through refueling and refurbishment. RISE will prevent new space debris and promote a circular economy in orbit. ESA signed a €119 million contract with D-Orbit to co-fund the mission, launching in 2028. The mission will demonstrate safe docking and maneuvering of geostationary satellites. The mission will operate in the geostationary graveyard orbit, 100 km above active satellites, where old satellites are "parked" after completing their missions.

40. What is the current IUCN status of Giant salmon carp, which was recently sighted in Mekong River?

- [A] Critically Endangered
- [B] Endangered
- [C] Vulnerable
- [D] Least concern

Correct Answer: A [Critically Endangered]

Notes:

The Giant Salmon Carp, thought to be extinct, has been spotted three times in the Mekong River in recent years. This fish, also known as the Mekong giant salmon carp, can grow up to 4 feet long and has a distinctive knob on its lower jaw.

It is found in northern Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand and has seen its population decline by over 90% due to overfishing and habitat loss. The fish is critically endangered, according to the IUCN. The Mekong River is the longest in Southeast Asia and supports many large fish species while creating a fertile delta in southern Vietnam.

41. Which country developed a guided bomb named SPICE 2000?

- [A] Israel
- [B] China
- [C] Russia
- [D] Ukraine

Correct Answer: A [Israel]

Notes:

Israel deployed a SPICE 2000 bomb to target a building in Beirut. SPICE 2000 is a guided, “smart” bomb made by Israel’s Rafael Advanced Defense Systems. It uses advanced GPS and electro-optical sensors for precise targeting. The bomb’s guidance system ensures accuracy in hitting designated locations.

42. Where was the 8th Uttarakhand Bird Festival held recently?

- [A] Benog Wildlife Sanctuary
- [B] Sonanadi wildlife sanctuary
- [C] Nandhaur Binsar wildlife sanctuary
- [D] Askot wildlife sanctuary

Correct Answer: A [Benog Wildlife Sanctuary]

Notes:

The 8th Uttarakhand Bird Festival was held at Benog Wildlife Sanctuary near Mussoorie from October 18 to 20, featuring 95 bird species and 22 butterfly species. Notable birds spotted include the Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, Long-tailed Broadbill, Immaculate Cupwing, Black-faced Warbler, and Green-winged Teal. The Yellow-rumped Honeyguide sighting is unusual, as it typically lives at higher elevations. Benog Wildlife Sanctuary, established in 1993, is located 11 km from Mussoorie in Uttarakhand’s Garhwal region. It is part of Rajaji National Park, situated on pine-clad slopes and surrounded by snow-capped Himalayan peaks.

43. Which ministry recently launched the 21st Livestock Census?

- [A] Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying
- [B] Ministry of Rural Development
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture

[D] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying]

Notes:

The Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying launched the 21st Livestock Census, which is conducted every five years. The first census took place in 1919-20, with the 20th edition using mobile technology for the first time. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries oversees the census, tracking counts of domesticated animals, poultry, and stray animals. The 21st Census introduces data on pastoral animals, the role of pastoralists, livestock-based income, and gender details of stray cattle.

44. Recently, India's first private military aircraft factory was inaugurated in which state?

[A] Haryana

[B] Kerala

[C] Gujarat

[D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: C [Gujarat]

Notes:

Prime Minister Modi and Spanish PM Pedro Sanchez inaugurated the Tata Aircraft Complex in Vadodara, Gujarat. It is India's first private military aircraft production facility. The complex will manufacture C295 aircraft, enhancing India-Spain relations and supporting 'Make in India, Make for the World.' The Airbus C295, originally designed by Spanish company CASA, is a medium tactical transport aircraft also suited for medical evacuations, disaster response, and maritime patrol.

45. What is Salt Typhoon, which was recently seen in news?

[A] A telecommunications company

[B] A hacking group

[C] A weather phenomenon

[D] A government agency

Correct Answer: B [A hacking group]

Notes:

Salt Typhoon is a name given by Microsoft cybersecurity experts to a Chinese hacking group suspected of infiltrating U.S. telecommunications systems. This group has targeted high-profile individuals, including presidential candidates, as part of a broader intelligence-gathering operation. The incident raises concerns about the vulnerabilities in U.S. data networks and the potential access to sensitive information related to national security and political campaigns. The name reflects Microsoft's practice of naming hacking groups after weather phenomena.

46. What is the name of scheme recently launched by Rajasthan government to promote private investment?

[A] Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS) 2024

[B] Rising Rajasthan Investment Plan (RRIP) 2024

[C] Rajasthan Economic Development Program (REDP) 2024

[D] Rajasthan Industrial Growth Scheme (RIGD) 2024

Correct Answer: A [Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS) 2024]

Notes:

Rajasthan launched the Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme (RIPS) 2024 to attract private investment with expanded financial incentives. RIPS 2024 improves upon RIPS 2022 by covering more sectors and offering increased financial benefits. It includes new sunrise sectors like Aero & Space, Defence, Drones, Semiconductors, Agri-Tech, and Waste Recycling. The first three mega projects in these sectors receive a 25% additional sunrise booster and a 10% extra incentive over asset creation.

47. What is the primary source of water for the Thottiyar Hydroelectric scheme in Idukki, Kerala?

[A] Chalakudy River

[B] Deviyar River

[C] Chaliyar River

[D] Pamba River

Correct Answer: B [Deviyar River]

Notes:

The Thottiyar Hydroelectric scheme, inaugurated by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, utilizes water from the Deviyar stream, which connects to the Periyar River. This project, with a capacity of 40 MW, is notable for its low water requirement for power generation. The scheme includes a check dam and a complex system of canals and penstock pipes, designed to optimize electricity production while ensuring water is released back into the Periyar River post-generation.

48. Which day is celebrated as Ayurveda Day 2024?

[A] 28 October

[B] 29 October

[C] 30 October

[D] 31 October

Correct Answer: B [29 October]

Notes:

The 9th Ayurveda Day is observed on October 29, 2024 (Dhanteras), in over 150 countries. Prime Minister Modi launched health projects worth ₹12,850 crore to mark the occasion. Ayurveda Day, started in 2016, is celebrated on Dhanvantari Jayanti, honouring Dhanvantari, the mythological physician of the gods. Ayurveda, meaning 'Knowledge of Life,' aims for holistic balance in body, mind, and spirit. The 2024 theme, "Ayurveda

Innovations for Global Health,” focuses on promoting Ayurveda’s role in tackling global health issues.

49. According to recent study, which island country is highly suitable for the reintroduction of clouded leopard?

- [A] Malta
- [B] Indonesia
- [C] Taiwan
- [D] Tonga

Correct Answer: C [Taiwan]

Notes:

The Island of Taiwan is suitable for the reintroduction of the clouded leopard. Clouded leopards (*Neofelis nebulosa*) have distinct cloud-shaped patches on their pale-yellow to brown fur, helping them blend into dense forests. They are found in Southeast Asia, including India, China, and Malaysia, and prefer dense evergreen forests. Their conservation status is listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN, and they are protected under CITES Appendix I and the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Schedule I.

50. What is the name of the village in Rajasthan transforming into a zero-waste model using green technology?

- [A] Aandhi
- [B] Barmer
- [C] Mandawa
- [D] Banswara

Correct Answer: A [Aandhi]

Notes:

Aandhi, a village near Jaipur, is adopting a zero-waste model through innovative green technologies. Initiatives include an Organic Waste Bio-Methanation Plant, Vermifiltration Technology, and Constructed Wetlands, which convert waste into resources, support renewable energy, and improve water management. These efforts align with India’s sustainability goals, showcasing how rural communities can leverage technology for environmental stewardship and community upliftment, contributing to a cleaner and more sustainable future.

51. In which state was a 'Gaushala' with a bio-CNG plant inaugurated by Prime Minister Modi?

- A - Maharashtra
- B - Madhya Pradesh
- C - Gujarat
- D - Rajasthan

Correct Answer: B - Madhya Pradesh

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi digitally inaugurated a Gaushala with a bio-CNG plant in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. The inauguration took place on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti along with the laying of foundation stones for various projects worth Rs 685 crore under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' and 'Amrit Yojana'.

52. Who was sworn in as the first woman President of Mexico in October 2024?

- A - Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador
- B - Eva Longoria
- C - Claudia Sheinbaum
- D - Maria de los Angeles

Correct Answer: C - Claudia Sheinbaum

Notes:

Claudia Sheinbaum was sworn in as Mexico's first female president and promised to protect the social safety net and popular policies after 200 years of independence. She faces serious challenges such as high violence, a weak economy and a hurricane-ravaged Acapulco.

53. NITI Aayog has launched the first state chapter of Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) in which state?

- A - Andhra Pradesh
- B - Telangana
- C - Karnataka
- D - Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C - Karnataka

Notes:

NITI Aayog has set up the first state chapter of Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) in Telangana to strengthen the ecosystem for women entrepreneurs. It aims to provide support to women entrepreneurs through digital skills, financial services, mentoring, and market linkages.

54. In October 2024, who won the first China Open title by defeating Jannik Sinner?

- A - Carlos Alcaraz
- B - Rafael Nadal
- C - Novak Djokovic
- D - Roger Federer

Correct Answer: A - Carlos Alcaraz

Notes:

Carlos Alcaraz made a brilliant comeback after trailing by one set to win the China Open title. He defeated world number one Jannik Sinner in a thrilling final. Alcaraz won the match by a score of 6-7 (6/8), 6-4, 7-6 (7/3), which was his fourth ATP title this year and 16th

overall. The match lasted three hours and 21 minutes and became the longest men's singles match in China Open history.

55. Which country will import 40 MW of power from Nepal through India's power grid?

- A - India
- B - Bhutan
- C - Bangladesh
- D – Myanmar

Correct Answer: C - Bangladesh

Notes:

Nepal is going to sign a tripartite agreement next week to export 40 MW of power to Bangladesh through India, which is Nepal's selling power to a third country. The agreement will be signed on July 28 between officials of Nepal Electricity Authority, Bangladesh Power Development Board and India's NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam.

56. Which state inaugurated India's first supercapacitor manufacturing facility at Keltron?

- A - Tamil Nadu
- B - Karnataka
- C - Goa
- D – Kerala

Correct Answer: D – Kerala

Notes:

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated India's first supercapacitor manufacturing facility at Kalayassery in Kannur on October 1, 2024. The initiative is being considered as an important milestone for Keltron and India's electronics sector.

57. Indian shooter Khushi has recently won a bronze medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 position event at the ISSF Junior World Championships. Where was the championship held?

- A - Lima
- B - Tokyo
- C - Beijing
- D - Osaka

Correct Answer: A - Lima

Notes:

Khushi won a bronze medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 position at the ISSF Junior World Championships 2024 in Lima, Peru on Wednesday, helping India top the medal tally. India has won a total of 15 medals, including 10 gold, 1 silver and 4 bronze. The US is second with 10 medals.

58. When is World Animal Day celebrated?

- A - October 1
- B - October 4
- C - October 10
- D - October 15

Correct Answer: A - Lima

Notes:

October 4 is celebrated as World Animal Day, an occasion to raise awareness of the importance of animals and their welfare. It started in 1925 in Berlin, Germany, organized by Heinrich Zimmermann, and was attended by more than 5,000 people. The day also coincides with the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi.

59. Which organisation has recognised India's progress in promoting maternal health and family planning?

- A - UNFPA
- B - WHO
- C - UNDP
- D - UNICEF

Correct Answer: A - UNFPA

Notes:

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has recognised India's progress in maternal health and family planning. UNFPA Executive Director, Dr Natalia Kanam felicitated Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava, highlighting UNFPA's commitment towards partnering with India.

60. Which initiative has been approved by the Union Cabinet to continue from July 2024 to December 2028 under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)?

- A - Supply of organic rice
- B - Universal health programme
- C - Supply of fortified rice
- D - Distribution of subsidized wheat

Correct Answer: C - Supply of fortified rice

Notes:

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the continuation of the universal supply of fortified rice under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) from July 2024 to December 2028.

61. Who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 2024 for their contribution to protein structure prediction?

- A - David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper
- B - Mounji G. Bawendi and Louis E. Bruce
- C - John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton

D - Victor Ambrose and Gary Ruvkun

Correct Answer: A - David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper

Notes:

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has announced the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry to be awarded in two parts. David Baker will receive the first part for his work in computational protein design, while the second part will be shared by Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper for their contributions to protein structure prediction.

62. Where is PM Modi scheduled to attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit?

A - Bangkok, Thailand

B - Vientiane, Laos

C - Jakarta, Indonesia

D - Hanoi, Vietnam

Correct Answer: B - Vientiane, Laos

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Laos on a two-day visit from October 10 to 11, where he will attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit. The visit is being made at the invitation of Laos President Sonexay Siphandone, who is the current chair of ASEAN.

63. Where has the Cabinet approved the development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) to showcase India's 4,500-year-old maritime history?

A - Mumbai, Maharashtra

B - Chennai, Tamil Nadu

C - Lothal, Gujarat

D - Kochi, Kerala

Correct Answer: C - Lothal, Gujarat

Notes:

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal in Gujarat. The project is an effort to preserve and showcase India's 4,500-year-old maritime heritage.

64. The first carrier exercise between the Indian Navy and the Italian Navy took place in which Indian state?

A - Goa

B - Maharashtra

C - Tamil Nadu

D - Gujarat

Correct Answer: A - Goa

Notes:

The Indian Navy and the Italian Navy conducted a historic maritime exercise off the Goa coast from October 1 to 6, involving Carrier Strike Groups (CSGs) from both sides. The sea phase of the exercise was led by INS Vikramaditya and ITS Cavour. The Italian CSG, commanded by Rear Admiral Giancarlo Ciappina, departed from Taranto on June 1 for the Indo-Pacific region.

65. Ratan Tata, chairman of one of India's largest conglomerates, Tata Sons, died at the age of 86. In which year did Ratan Tata receive the Padma Vibhushan?

- A - 2000
- B - 2004
- C - 2012
- D - 2008

Correct Answer: D - 2008

Notes:

Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of India's largest conglomerate Tata Sons, died on Wednesday at the age of 86. He was admitted to a Mumbai hospital for intensive care. The Maharashtra government on Thursday declared a day of mourning in the state to pay tribute to Ratan Tata. Ratan Naval Tata was born on 28 December 1937.

66. Who has won the silver medal in the men's trap event at the ISSF Shooting World Cup?

- A - Anant Jeet Singh Naruka
- B - Sonam Maskar
- C - Akhil Shekhawat
- D - Vivaan Kapoor

Correct Answer: D - Vivaan Kapoor

Notes:

Indian shooter Vivaan Kapoor won the silver medal in trap shooting at the ISSF World Cup Final held in New Delhi. He scored 44 points while competing against Olympic champions, while China's Qi Ying won the gold medal with 47 points. Vivaan expressed his resolve to win a gold medal at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

67. Who has been appointed as the Director of Cricket at JSW Sports, which oversees teams like Delhi Capitals and Pretoria Capitals?

- A - Virat Kohli
- B - M.S. Dhoni
- C - Sourav Ganguly
- D - Rahul Dravid

Correct Answer: C - Sourav Ganguly

Notes:

Former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly has been appointed as the Director of Cricket at JSW Sports. In this new role, Ganguly will oversee all cricket operations of the

organisation, including the Delhi Capitals men's and women's IPL teams and Pretoria Capitals, which compete in the SA20 League.

68. India's first self-powered indoor air quality monitoring facility, "Pawan Chitra", was inaugurated by Dr Jitendra Singh at which airport?

- A - Thiruvananthapuram International Airport
- B - Chennai International Airport
- C - Bengaluru International Airport
- D - Delhi International Airport

Correct Answer: A - Thiruvananthapuram International Airport

Notes:

Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh unveiled India's first airport based selfpowered indoor air quality monitoring facility, Pawan Chitra, at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport.

69. Who has been recommended by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud as the next Chief Justice of India?

- A - Justice B.V. A) Justice Nagaratna
- B - Justice Surya Kant
- C - Justice Sanjiv Khanna
- D - Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra

Correct Answer: C - Justice Sanjiv Khanna

Notes:

Chief Justice of India Justice D.Y. Chandrachud has recommended the appointment of Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court, as his successor. Chandrachud will retire on November 8, and if the government approves, Khanna will become the 51st Chief Justice of India, whose term will end on May 13, 2025.

70. In which state, all residential schools were renamed as 'Maharshi Valmiki Residential Schools' on the occasion of Maharishi Valmiki Jayanti?

- A - Tamil Nadu
- B - Karnataka
- C - Andhra Pradesh
- D - Maharashtra

Correct Answer: B - Karnataka

Notes:

The state government led by Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has decided to rename all government residential schools as Maharishi Valmiki Residential Schools. Along with this, Raichur University will be renamed as Maharishi Valmiki University. The announcement was made on the occasion of Valmiki Jayanti, which is celebrated on October 17.

71. Who was honoured at the 2024 Conscious Company Awards in Johannesburg for global humanitarian work?

- A - Dalai Lama
- B - Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
- C - Mohanji
- D - Sadhguru

Correct Answer: C - Mohanji

Notes:

Renowned humanitarian Mohanji received a special honour for his global humanitarian leadership at the 9th Conscious Company Awards held in Johannesburg, South Africa on September 19, 2024. The award recognises ethical and visionary leaders who demonstrate conscious leadership in organisations.

72. Which bank has received a mutual fund distribution licence from the Association of Mutual Funds in India in October 2024?

- A - India Post Payments Bank
- B - Jio Payments Bank
- C - Fino Payments Bank
- D - Airtel Payments Bank

Correct Answer: B - Jio Payments Bank

Notes:

Jio Payments Bank, a subsidiary of Jio Financial Services, has received a mutual fund distribution license, issued by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi). This allows distribution of direct plans of mutual fund schemes under the Category 1 Execution-Only Platform (EOP).

73. When is International Abhidhamma Day celebrated?

- A - 16 November
- B - 20 September
- C - 17 October
- D - 15 December

Correct Answer: C - 17 October

Notes:

International Abhidhamma Day is celebrated on October 17, highlighting the profound philosophical tradition of Buddhism. India, the birthplace of Buddhism, has preserved the teachings of Gautama Buddha, which focus on mental discipline, self-awareness and ethical conduct.

74. Which country has introduced a new visa-on-arrival policy for Indian citizens?

- A - Saudi Arabia
- B - Qatar

C - United Arab Emirates

D – Oman

Correct Answer: C - United Arab Emirates

Notes:

The UAE has announced a new visa-on-arrival policy, which eases entry for permanent residents of the US, United Kingdom and European Union countries. The Indian mission shared this information on social media. Under the new policy, Indian citizens with ordinary passports and their family members will be able to obtain visas on arrival at all entry points in the UAE.

75. Which organisation won the two awards for HR Excellence in the Public Sector Undertakings category at the SHRM India HR Awards 2024?

A - NTPC

B - SJVN

C - BHEL

D – ONGC

Correct Answer: B - SJVN

Notes:

SJVN has received two major awards at the SHRM India HR Awards 2024: 1st Runner-up in 'Excellence in Managing Workforce' and 2nd Runner-up in 'Excellence in Benefits and Well Being'. These awards were received by Shri Chandrashekhar Yadav, Executive Director (HR) during the 13th Annual Conference held in New Delhi.

76. When is Police Commemoration Day observed?

A - 21 October

B - 15 November

C - 26 January

D - 1 March

Correct Answer: A - 21 October

Notes:

Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on 21 October in India, dedicated to the memory of those policemen who have been martyred while serving the country. This day is also known as Police Martyrs' Day. On Police Memorial Day, tributes are paid to policemen across the country and their sacrifice is honored.

77. The first international flagship research center of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, which is set to start in early 2025, is going to be established in which country?

A - London, United Kingdom

B - California, United States

C - Dubai, United Arab Emirates

D - Victoria, Australia

Correct Answer: C - Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Notes:

The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT Madras) is going to set up its first international flagship centre in Dubai, which will focus on research, innovation and entrepreneurship. The centre will launch in early 2025 and will specialise in advanced areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), data science, robotics and sustainable energy.

78. Where will Prime Minister Narendra Modi attend the BRICS summit on October 22-23?

- A - Moscow
- B - Kazan
- C - St. Petersburg
- D – Sochi

Correct Answer: B - Kazan

Notes:

The Ministry of External Affairs on Friday informed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Russia to attend the 16th BRICS summit to be held in Kazan, Russia on October 22-23. The visit is being made at the invitation of President Vladimir Putin. Prime Minister Modi is also planning to hold bilateral meetings with counterparts and invited leaders of BRICS member countries during this period.

79. Who has been appointed as the mentor for Nepal's cricket team in the ICC World Cricket League-2?

- A - Sanath Jayasuriya
- B - Mahela Jayawardene
- C - Pubudu Dassanayake
- D - Kumar Sangakkara

Correct Answer: C - Pubudu Dassanayake

Notes:

The Cricket Association of Nepal (CAN) has appointed Pubudu Dassanayake as the mentor of the Nepali cricket team for the upcoming tri-series under the ICC World Cricket League-2. The tournament will be held in the US from October 25 to November 4, featuring teams from Nepal, the US and Scotland.

80. Who has become the fourth Indian cricketer to score 9,000 Test runs?

- A - Virat Kohli
- B - Rohit Sharma
- C - Ravindra Jadeja
- D - Cheteshwar Pujara

Correct Answer: A - Virat Kohli

Notes:

Indian cricket legend Virat Kohli completed 9000 Test runs during the first Test match against New Zealand at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. He achieved this milestone at a time when India's first innings ended at just 46 runs, which is their lowest score on home ground.

81. When is World Statistics Day celebrated?

- A - 29 June
- B - 20 October
- C - 1 January
- D - 15 August

Correct Answer: B - 20 October

Notes:

World Statistics Day is observed every five years on 20 October with the aim of celebrating the contribution of statistics to socio-economic development. It was first observed on 20 October 2010 under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission. It was initiated on 3 June 2010 with the United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/267.

82. When is United Nations Day celebrated?

- A - 24 October
- B - 1 January
- C - 15 August
- D - 21 March

Correct Answer: A - 24 October

Notes:

United Nations Day is celebrated every year on 24 October, the anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945. The charter details the rights and responsibilities of member countries. The theme for 2024 has not yet been announced. On 24 October 2023, the "Environmental Symphony:

83. Who became the first Indian woman to score 50 international goals?

- A - Bala Devi
- B - Sunita Chhetri
- C - Manisha Kalyan
- D - Jyoti Gulia

Correct Answer: A - Bala Devi

Notes:

Indian women's football's 'goal machine' Bala Devi set a new record by scoring 50 international goals against Pakistan in the 2024 SAFF Women's Championship. The achievement was greeted with a standing ovation from the audience. Bala dedicated the milestone to her father, who played a key role in her career.

84. Who won the WR Chess Masters Cup?

- A - Maxime Vachier-Lagrave
- B - Arjun Erigassi
- C - Magnus Carlsen
- D - Levon Aronian

Correct Answer: B - Arjun Erigassi

Notes: Grand Master Arjun Erigassi achieved a new feat by winning the WR Chess Masters Cup, which was not done by any Indian player. He won the title by defeating Maxime Vachier- Lagrave in Armagedon and earned 20,000 pounds and 27.84 FIDE Circuit Points. However, he missed out on crossing 2800 points as his opponent drew two classical games.

85. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW)?

- A - Dr. Archana Majumdar
- B - Vijaya Rahatkar
- C - Nirmala Sitharaman
- D - Smriti Irani

Correct Answer: B - Vijaya Rahatkar

Notes:

The Central Government has appointed Vijaya Kishor Rahatkar as the new chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW), replacing Rekha Sharma. The notification was issued on Saturday. Rahatkar will hold the post for a term of three years or till the age of 65, as prescribed under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990

86. The "Scam Se Bachao" campaign was launched in collaboration with which organization?

- A - Google
- B - Meta
- C - Amazon
- D - Microsoft

Correct Answer: B - Meta

Notes:

Meta, which is the parent company of WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram, has launched a new safety campaign "Scam Se Bachao". The campaign aims to make users aware of cyber fraud and online scams. Meta has roped in Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana as the brand ambassador of this campaign.

87. Who will inaugurate the National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Abhiyan?

- A - Ram Nath Thakur
- B - Shivraj Singh Chouhan

C - Narendra Modi

D - Amit Shah

Correct Answer: B - Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Notes:

Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated the National Agriculture Conference – Rabi Abhiyan 2024 at NASC, Pusa Campus, New Delhi. The objective of this conference is to review the previous agricultural seasons and set targets for the Rabi season.

88. In which state has the Pink Alarm initiative been started in government hospitals?

A - Uttar Pradesh

B - Madhya Pradesh

C - Rajasthan

D - Maharashtra

Correct Answer: B - Madhya Pradesh

Notes:

A new initiative has been started for the safety of women employees of government hospitals in Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, in which special 'pink alarms' have been installed. These alarms have been installed in the district hospital and medical college, so that women can get immediate help by sounding the siren if they feel threatened.

89. Where was the Lighthouse Tourism Conclave 2024 held?

A - Mumbai

B - Puri

C - Kolkata

D - Chennai

Correct Answer: B - Puri

Notes:

The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways inaugurated the two-day Lighthouse Tourism Conclave in Puri, Odisha. 100 experts participated in the conference, which aims to highlight the potential of lighthouse tourism and develop strategies for the conservation of historical lighthouses.

90. Which country did New Zealand defeat to win the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup?

A - Australia

B - England

C - India

D - South Africa

Correct Answer: D - South Africa

Notes:

The New Zealand women's cricket team won the ICC T20 World Cup after 23 years, defeating South Africa by 32 runs in the final. Batting first, New Zealand scored 158 for 5 in 20 overs. In response, the South African team fell 32 runs short of the target in 20 overs. New Zealand bowlers performed brilliantly, putting the South African team under pressure and failing to win the match.

91. Which real estate developer has won the 'Distinguished Redevelopment Project Award 2024'?

- A - Oberoi Realty
- B - Godrej Properties
- C - Vaidya Spaces Pvt Ltd
- D - Hiranandani Developers Pvt Ltd

Correct Answer: C - Vaidya Spaces Pvt Ltd

Notes:

Mumbai-based developer Vaidya Spaces Pvt Ltd won the 'Prestigious Redevelopment Project Award 2024', which is an emotional occasion for them as the first generation architect of the organization, Sitaram Khanderao Vaidya, was associated with the construction of the iconic Taj Hotel. The fifth generation of Vaidya Spaces is now carrying forward his legacy.

92. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Staff Selection Commission (SSC)?

- A - S. Gopalakrishnan
- B - Rakesh Ranjan
- C - Manoj Soni
- D - Vikram Dev Dutt

Correct Answer: B - Rakesh Ranjan

Notes:

Rakesh Ranjan, a 1992 batch IAS officer of Manipur cadre, has recently been appointed as the chairman of the Staff Selection Commission (SSC). The appointment has been made under a notification issued by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Ranjan's post will be in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India, and the post of chairman of the SSC has been temporarily upgraded.

93. Who has won their first ATP 250 men's doubles title at the Almaty Open?

- A - Sumit Nagal and Arjun Khade
- B - Nicolas Barrientos and Skander Mansoori
- C - Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan
- D - Ritwik Choudhary Bollippalli and Arjun Kadhe

Correct Answer: D - Ritwik Choudhary Bollippalli and Arjun Kadhe

Notes:

Tennis players Arjun Kadhe from Maharashtra and Ritwik Bollippalli from Telangana made a stunning comeback by winning the men's doubles title at the Almaty Open 2024 ATP 250 tennis tournament held in Almaty, Kazakhstan. This is their first title on the ATP Tour.

93. Who has won the Femina Miss India World 2024 crown?

- A - Aayushi Dholakia
- B - Nikita Porwal
- C - Meenakshi Ahuja
- D - Rekha Pandey

Correct Answer: B - Nikita Porwal

Notes:

Nikita Porwal from Madhya Pradesh was crowned Femina Miss India 2024 in Mumbai on October 16. It was the 60th edition of the beauty pageant, in which Nikita's calm presence and smile won the hearts of the judges. She was crowned by last year's winner Nandini Gupta.

94. Who has been appointed as the President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICC)?

- A - Abhuday Jindal
- B - Ratan Tata
- C - Mukesh Ambani
- D - N.R. Narayana Murthy

Correct Answer: A - Abhuday Jindal

Notes:

The Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) has appointed Abhuday Jindal as the new President. The announcement came during the ICC's annual plenary session in New Delhi, where Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal emphasized on supporting young leaders and women entrepreneurs.

95. Who took over as Indonesia's 8th President after winning nearly 60 percent of the vote in the February 14 election?

- A - Joko Widodo
- B - Prabowo Subianto
- C - Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono
- D - Megawati Sukarnoputri

Correct Answer: B - Prabowo Subianto

Notes:

Indonesia's Prabowo Subianto was sworn in as President on Sunday, becoming the country's eighth President. The 73-year-old former special forces commander won the February 14 election with nearly 60 percent of the vote, and has been appointed Joko Widodo's son Gibran Rakabuming Raka as his Vice President.

96. Deepika Kumari lost to whom in the women's recurve final of the 2024 Archery World Cup?

- A - Sara Lopez
- B - Li Jiaman
- C - Alejandra Valencia
- D - Kim Woo-Jin

Correct Answer: B - Li Jiaman

Notes:

Indian archer Deepika Kumari won the silver medal in the women's recurve category at the Archery World Cup Final but lost 0-6 to China's Li Jiaman in the final. Deepika defeated Yang Xiaolei 6-0 in the quarter-finals while giving a tough fight against Alejandra Valencia in the semi-finals.

97. Which state became the first state in India to implement Dalit subquota by sub-classifying Scheduled Castes (SCs) into Disadvantaged Scheduled Castes (DSC) and Other Scheduled Castes (OSC)?

- A - Punjab
- B - Haryana
- C - Rajasthan
- D - Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: B - Haryana

Notes:

Haryana has taken the historic step of becoming the first state to implement sub-quota for the Dalit community by sub-classifying Scheduled Castes (SCs). The decision was taken after the Supreme Court's August 2023 verdict allowing states to provide reservation by dividing SCs and STs communities.

98. Who has won the gold medal in the men's S4 100m freestyle event at the National Para-Swimming Championships held in Panaji in 2024?

- A - Lakhan Singh
- B - Rajesh Kumar
- C - Suresh Meena
- D - Amit Sharma

Correct Answer: A - Lakhan Singh

Notes:

The 24th National Para-Swimming Championships kicked off in Goa on Sunday with participants from different states showcasing their skills. In the men's events at the event, Rajasthan's Lakhan Singh won gold in the S4 100m freestyle while Odisha's Narhari won in the S5 category. Maharashtra's Chaitanya Biswas won gold in the S6 100m freestyle.

99. Who was appointed as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Jharkhand by the Election Commission in 2024?

- A - Anurag Gupta
- B - Rajesh Kumar
- C - Ajay Kumar Singh
- D - Rakesh Asthana

Correct Answer: C - Ajay Kumar Singh

Notes:

The Election Commission has appointed Ajay Kumar Singh as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Jharkhand, replacing Anurag Gupta. Ajay Kumar Singh is a 1989 batch IPS officer and was selected from a panel of three IPS officers sent by the state government. The appointment holds significance in the backdrop of the assembly elections to be held next month.

100. Which team has won the title of Senior Women's InterDepartmental National Hockey Championship by defeating Indian Oil 3-1?

- A - Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- B - Sports Authority of India (SAI)
- C - Indian Oil
- D - Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB)

Correct Answer: D - Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB)

Notes:

Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) won the title by defeating Indian Oil 3-1 in the Senior Women's Inter-Departmental National Hockey Championship. Indian Oil took the lead in the 18th minute with a goal from Deepika, but Railways' Vandana Katariya equalised a minute later.

101. Where will the new missile testing range be developed in Andhra Pradesh as per the recent approval given by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)?

- A - Visakhapatnam
- B - Kalaikunda
- C - Kakinada
- D - Nagayalanka

Correct Answer: D - Nagayalanka

Notes:

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved setting up of a new missile testing range at Nagayalanka village in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh.

102. What is the name of the app launched by the Kerala government for reporting traffic rule violations?

- A - Citizen Sentinel
- B - Traffic Guardian
- C - Rule Keeper
- D - Citizen Reporter

Correct Answer: A - Citizen Sentinel

Notes:

The Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) of Kerala has launched the "Citizen Sentinel" mobile application on October 18, 2024, which allows citizens to participate in road safety. Users can capture photos or videos of traffic violations and report them. The app has been implemented by Kerala after Chhattisgarh and Odisha and has been developed by the National Informatics Center (NIC).

103. Where was the state's first Inland Container Depot (ICD) inaugurated in Bihar?

- A - Madhepura
- B - Siwan
- C - Bihta
- D - Sitamarhi

Correct Answer: C - Bihta

Notes:

Bihar's Industry Minister Nitish Mishra on Monday inaugurated the state's first dry port and Inland Container Depot (ICD) at Bihta on the outskirts of Patna. This dry port has been set up with the aim of promoting logistics in the state through storage, customs services and multi-modal transportation.

104. Which city will host the 2026 Commonwealth Games?

- A - Glasgow
- B - Birmingham
- C - Melbourne
- D - Sydney

Correct Answer: A - Glasgow

Notes:

India has suffered a major setback from the Commonwealth Games 2026 with several major sports being dropped. The games will be held in Glasgow from 23 July to 2 August 2026, but only 10 sports have been included in it. Important sports for India such as hockey, badminton, shooting, wrestling, cricket and table tennis have been excluded from this edition.

105. Who was elected as the President of Vietnam during the 8th session of the National Assembly in 2024?

- A - To Lam
- B - Nguyen Xuan Phuc

C - Pham Minh Chinh D - Luong Cuong **Correct Answer: D - Luong Cuong** **Notes:** Luong Cuong, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), has been elected as the new President of Vietnam. He was elected to the presidency for a term until 2026 at the 8th session of the 15th term National Assembly (NA). In this election, 91.67 percent of the 440 delegates voted in his favour.

106. Who is the only Indian player selected in the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 Team of the Tournament?

- A - Mithali Raj
- B - Harmanpreet Kaur
- C - Poonam Yadav
- D - Smriti Mandhana

Correct Answer: B - Harmanpreet Kaur

Notes:

Indian captain Harmanpreet Kaur has been included in the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup squad, which also has three players each from champions New Zealand and runners-up South Africa. Harmanpreet scored 150 runs in four matches and also scored an unbeaten half-century.

107. Which state has won the 24th National Para-Swimming Championship 2024?

- A - Rajasthan
- B - Tamil Nadu
- C - Karnataka
- D - Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C - Karnataka

Notes:

The 24th National Para-Swimming Championship concluded in Panaji, Goa, with Karnataka winning the overall championship and scoring 392 points. Maharashtra finished second with 378 points and Rajasthan third with 248 points. The competition was organized by the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) and Goa Paralympic Association.

108. Which company received the SHRM HR Excellence Award for 'Inclusion, Equity and Diversity' and 'Managing a Distributed Workforce' at the SHRM India Annual Conference 2024?

- A - Tata Steel
- B - SAIL
- C - Vedanta
- D - JSW Steel

Correct Answer: B - SAIL

Notes:

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) was awarded the SHRM – HR Excellence Award in the 'Excellence in Inclusion, Equity and Diversity' and 'Excellence in Distributed Workforce Management' categories at the SHRM India Annual Conference 2024 held in New Delhi.

109. Which country has been officially declared malaria-free by the World Health Organization in 2024, becoming the second country in the world to receive this status that year?

- A - Egypt
- B - Morocco
- C - United Arab Emirates
- D - Cape Verde

Correct Answer: A - Egypt

Notes:

Egypt achieved a significant public health milestone by being formally declared 'malaria-free' by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 20 October 2024. It has become the second country to receive malaria-free certification in 2024 after Cape Verde.

110. Which submarine was commissioned as India's fourth nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) at the shipbuilding hub of Visakhapatnam?

- A - INS Arihant (S2)
- B - INS Arighat (S3)
- C - S4*
- D - S4

Correct Answer: D - S4

Notes:

India launched its fourth nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) at Visakhapatnam on 16 October 2024. It is codenamed S4 and 75% of its components are manufactured in India. The S4 submarine is equipped with K-4 nuclear ballistic missiles with a range of 3,500 kilometers, which can be fired from a vertical launching system.

111. What is the name of the first franchise-based shooting league announced by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)?

- A - Indian Shooting League
- B - National Shooting League
- C - Shooting League of India
- D - Shooting Premier League

Correct Answer: C - Shooting League of India

Notes:

India is going to get its first franchise league named "Shooting League of India" (SLI), which has been announced by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI). The league has received approval from the governing body of the association and the first edition will be held in March 2025 after the approval of the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF).

112. When is United Nations Day celebrated?

- A - 24 October
- B - 21 September
- C - 10 December
- D - 1 January

Correct Answer: A - 24 October

Notes:

United Nations Day is celebrated every year on 24 October, which has been continuing since 1948. The day commemorates the founding of the United Nations in 1945, which aims to promote collective action to advance peace, development and the protection of human rights.

November - 2024

1. Which day is observed as National Unity Day?

- [A] 29 October
- [B] 30 October
- [C] 31 October
- [D] 27 October

Correct Answer: C [31 October]

Notes:

National Unity Day is observed every year on October 31 to honor Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was a key leader in India's independence struggle and served as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister. This day commemorates his efforts to unite diverse princely states into one nation and promotes national solidarity.

2. What is the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2024?

- [A] Self Reliance with Integrity
- [B] Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity
- [C] Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation
- [D] Corruption Free India for a developed National

Correct Answer: B [Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity]

Notes:

Vigilance Awareness Week 2024, themed “Culture of Integrity for Nation’s Prosperity,” runs from October 28 to November 3. Central Vigilance Commissioner Shri Praveen Kumar Srivastava and Vigilance Commissioner Shri A.S. Rajeev led the Integrity Pledge at Satarkata Bhawan, New Delhi. A three-month campaign supporting this week runs from August 16 to November 15, 2024. A special event at Vigyan Bhawan on November 8 will feature the President of India as Chief Guest. Ministries and departments are focusing on capacity building, systemic improvements, guideline updates, complaint resolutions, and digital transparency to enhance accountability.

3. What is the IUCN conservation status of the North Atlantic right whale, that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Least Concern
- [B] Vulnerable
- [C] Endangered
- [D] Critically Endangered

Correct Answer: D [Critically Endangered]

Notes:

Researchers reported a 4% increase in the North Atlantic right whale population since 2020, following a 25% decline from 2010 to 2020. These migratory whales spend winters in warmer waters and migrate to the poles in late summer. They inhabit temperate and subpolar waters of the North Atlantic and North Pacific oceans. Right whales are often found near bays and peninsulas in shallow, coastal waters, mainly along the East Coast of the United States and Canada. They feed by skimming plankton at or just below the water’s surface. Conservation status: IUCN lists North Atlantic right whales as critically endangered.

4. Bibek Debroy, who recently passed away, was associated with which field?

- [A] Sports
- [B] Journalism
- [C] Economics
- [D] Entertainment

Correct Answer: C [Economics]

Notes:

Bibek Debroy, the chairman of the Prime Minister’s Economic Advisory Council (EAC-PM), recently passed away. EAC-PM is an independent body that advises the Prime Minister on economic issues. It analyzes economic matters referred by the Prime Minister and addresses macroeconomic concerns. The council’s role is advisory and non-binding on the government. It promotes economic understanding through reports and public engagement. EAC-PM is led by a chairperson and includes eminent economists, with no fixed number of members. The NITI Aayog acts as the nodal agency for administrative support to the council.

5. Bali Padyami festival is celebrated in which state?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Jharkhand
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: B [Karnataka]

Notes: Karnataka celebrates the Bali Padyami festival today, marking the fourth day of Deepavali. The festival honors Asura king Bali Chakravarty, who visits Earth as per a boon from Lord Vishnu. Bali Padyami follows worship of Ganga Matha, Naraka Chaturdashi, and Lakshmi Pooja on the preceding days. Temples are decorated with colorful rangoli, and thousands of lamps are lit at night. Special Abhisheka rituals with milk and auspicious ingredients are performed for the deity. Houses display triangular images of King Bali, made from clay or cow dung and adorned with flowers, symbolizing prosperity and welfare.

6. Which ministry has launched the Digital India Common Service Centre (DICSC) project?

- [A] Ministry of Defence
- [B] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture
- [D] Ministry of Science and Technology

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology]

Notes: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched the Digital India Common Service Centre (DICSC) project to reduce the digital divide in rural India. The project begins in Pilibhit and Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, providing access to e-governance, financial, and commercial services. A total of 4,740 model DICSC centers will be set up in gram panchayats across 10 districts nationwide. Pilibhit will have 720 centers, Gorakhpur 1,273, and other districts include Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (870), Chamba (309), Khammam (589), Gandhinagar (288), Mamit (100), Jodhpur (415), Leh (95), and Puducherry (81).

7. Ningol Chakkouba festival is celebrated in which state?

- [A] Manipur
- [B] Assam
- [C] Nagaland
- [D] Mizoram

Correct Answer: A [Manipur]

Notes:

Ningol Chakkouba, a key festival in Manipur, was celebrated with enthusiasm. Traditionally held on the second lunar day of Hiyangei month, its origins trace back to King Nongda Lairen Pakhangba's rule. "Ningol" means "married woman," and "Chakkouba" means "feast invitation," where married daughters are invited by their parents for a family feast. The

festival strengthens bonds among brothers, sisters, and parents. Initially celebrated by the Meitei community, it is now observed by many other communities as well.

8. Hingot War festival is associated with which state?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Madhya Pradesh]

Notes:

The traditional 'Hingot war Festival' takes place annually in Gautampura, Madhya Pradesh. Participants throw "burning arrows" (Hingots) at each other in this event. This tradition is seen as a display of bravery, not just a ritual. This annual event involves two rival groups, Kalangi and Turra, who engage in a fiery battle by throwing 'Hingot' rockets at each other. Thousands of spectators attended, with extensive safety measures by the administration and police to protect them.

9. What kind of disorder is Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) that was recently seen in news?

- [A] A rare neurological disorder
- [B] A type of sleep-related breathing disorder
- [C] An autoimmune disease
- [D] A digestive disorder

Correct Answer: B [A type of sleep-related breathing disorder]

Notes:

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is linked to a higher risk of dementia, especially in women, as shown by a study of over 18,500 adults. OSA is the most common sleep-related breathing disorder where breathing repeatedly stops and starts during sleep due to an airway blockage. This disruption in breathing lowers oxygen levels, causing frequent awakenings and poor sleep quality. Symptoms include snoring and fatigue, with risks increasing in middle-aged and older adults. OSA affects cardiovascular health, mental well-being, and safety. Treatments include positive airway pressure devices, mouthpieces, and surgery in some cases.

10. Which tribe primarily inhabits Meluri, newly declared district of Nagaland?

- [A] Angami Naga
- [B] Pochury Naga
- [C] Sumi Naga
- [D] Lotha Naga

Correct Answer: B [Pochury Naga]

Notes:

Meluri, home to the Pochury Naga tribe, is now the 17th district of Nagaland. The state government has elevated Meluri Sub-Division from Phek District to a full district, effective immediately. Chief Secretary Dr. J. Alam issued the official notification on November 2. The new district will include the area previously known as Meluri Sub-Division. This decision aims to enhance governance and development in the region, following Cabinet approval on November 1.

11. Shanan Hydropower Project, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Uttarakhand
- [C] Himachal Pradesh
- [D] Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Himachal Pradesh]

Notes:

The Himachal Pradesh government is working to reclaim the 110 MW Shanan Hydropower Project from Punjab, asserting its rightful ownership. The project, commissioned in 1932, was India's first megawatt-capacity hydroelectric project. It is located in Joginder Nagar, Mandi district, Himachal Pradesh. It is built on the Uhl River. It was leased to Punjab in 1925 for 99 years, with the lease expiring in March 2024. Himachal Pradesh now seeks ownership, claiming the land originally belonged to it. The project is currently under Punjab's control, and Himachal is seeking central government support for the transfer.

12. Kishanganga, that was recently seen in news, is a tributary of which river?

- [A] Sutlej
- [B] Beas
- [C] Jhelum
- [D] Ravi

Correct Answer: C [Jhelum]

Notes:

India issued a formal notice on August 30, 2024, to review and modify the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) under Article XII (3). The move reflects India's need for sustainable water resources to meet growing domestic demands and support clean energy development. Article XII allows treaty modifications but requires high-level agreements, making changes challenging. Previous attempts to modify water-sharing, like the Kishenganga arbitration in 2013, show that reaching consensus with Pakistan is difficult. The Kishanganga River, called the Neelum River in Pakistan, is a tributary of the Jhelum River. It flows through Jammu and Kashmir before joining the Jhelum in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

13. Which state government has recently declared snakebite envenomation as a notifiable disease?

- [A] Tamil Nadu

- [B] Bihar
- [C] Jharkhand
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: A [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

Tamil Nadu has declared snakebite envenomation a notifiable disease under the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939. Snakebite envenomation is life-threatening and a major health concern in rural, snake-endemic areas, affecting agricultural workers, children, and tropical/subtropical populations. WHO lists snake antivenoms as essential medicines and has launched a global strategy to reduce snakebite-induced deaths and disabilities. India's National Action Plan for Snakebite aims to reduce snakebite deaths by 50% by 2030 through a 'One Health' approach. The notifiable status will enhance data collection, improve clinical infrastructure, ensure anti-venom supply, and integrate reporting into the State's health information system.

14. Which day is observed as National Education Day?

- [A] November 10
- [B] November 11
- [C] November 12
- [D] November 13

Correct Answer: B [November 11]

Notes:

National Education Day is celebrated on November 11 in honor of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, India's first Education Minister. It emphasizes the role of education in shaping India's future, with 65% of the population under 35 needing quality education and skill development. The Indian government promotes education access through initiatives and laws, including the 86th Amendment, which guarantees free education for ages 6-14 as a Fundamental Right. The Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, ensures quality elementary education. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, launched under PM Modi, aims to modernize India's education system for the 21st century.

15. The Kayakalp Scheme is launched by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- [B] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [C] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- [D] Ministry of Tourism

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Health and Family Welfare]

Notes:

The Rajasthan College Education Commissionerate directed 20 government colleges to paint their facades and entry halls orange under the Kayakalp Scheme. The Kayakalp Scheme, launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2015 under Swachh Bharat

Abhiyan, aims to promote cleanliness and improve healthcare quality. It focuses on cleanliness, hygiene, infection control, and eco-friendly practices in Public Health Facilities (PHFs). The scheme rewards PHFs for outstanding cleanliness and hygiene and encourages regular assessment. Assessments occur at three levels: internal, peer, and external, with scores documented yearly to track improvements.

16. Arrow-3 Missile Defence System was jointly developed by Israel and which country?

- [A] Russia
- [B] India
- [C] United States
- [D] France

Correct Answer: C [United States]

Notes:

Israel's Defence Ministry is working with Germany to deploy the Arrow-3 missile interception system in 2025. Arrow-3 is an exo-atmospheric anti-ballistic missile defense system developed by Israel Aerospace Industries and the U.S. Missile Defense Agency. It targets ballistic missiles outside the atmosphere, using two-stage solid-fueled interceptors. The system has a range of 2,400 km and can intercept threats at altitudes of 100 km. It is hypersonic, traveling five times the speed of sound, and uses hit-to-kill technology for missile destruction. It also features advanced radar and tracking systems.

17. Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government launched the state's first double-decker electric bus service in which city?

- [A] Lucknow
- [B] Gorakhpur
- [C] Varanasi
- [D] Ayodhya

Correct Answer: A [Lucknow]

Notes:

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the state's first double-decker electric bus service in Lucknow, emphasizing its significance for environmental protection and traffic management. The initiative aims to reduce pollution and improve urban transport. Yogi Adityanath also mentioned plans to expand this electric bus service to other major cities in Uttar Pradesh, highlighting the state's commitment to sustainable transport solutions.

18. Subansiri Lower Hydro Electric Project (SLHEP) is located on the border of which two states?

- [A] Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh
- [B] Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Arunachal Pradesh and Assam

[D] Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Arunachal Pradesh and Assam]

Notes:

Power generation at the controversial Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project is set to begin next year. The project is a gravity dam under construction on the Subansiri River, located on the borders of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. It is a run-of-river hydroelectric project and will be the largest in India once completed. The dam will be 116 meters high from the river bed and 130 meters from the foundation, with a length of 284 meters. Developed by National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC), the project will generate 2,000 MW from eight 250 MW units upon completion.

19. Which country recently received Fast Interceptor Crafts (FICs) from India to enhance its maritime security?

[A] Tanzania

[B] Mozambique

[C] Nigeria

[D] Kenya

Correct Answer: B [Mozambique]

Notes:

India gifted two Fast Interceptor Crafts (FICs) to Mozambique to strengthen its maritime security. The FICs are equipped with machine guns and bullet-resistant cabins for enhanced coastal patrolling. This aid aims to help Mozambique combat terrorism and insurgency, especially in Cabo Delgado province. The gesture reflects India's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties and regional security. This cooperation highlights the growing defence and security partnership between India and Mozambique.

20. The Gotti Koya tribes are predominantly found in which states of India?

[A] Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha

[B] Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra

[C] Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

[D] Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Bihar

Correct Answer: A [Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha]

Notes:

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has requested reports on the Gotti Koya tribals' status from the Union Home Ministry and four states. The Koya tribe is one of India's few multi-racial and multi-lingual tribal communities. Their population is concentrated in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha. The Koyas speak Koya, a Dravidian language, closely related to Gondi and influenced by Telugu.

21. Senna tora, an invasive plant species, has recently emerged in which Tiger reserve?

[A] Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

- [B] Melghat Tiger Reserve
- [C] Namdapha Tiger Reserve
- [D] Kamlang Tiger Reserve

Correct Answer: A [Mudumalai Tiger Reserve]

Notes:

The Tamil Nadu Forest Department is working to remove a new invasive plant species, *Senna tora*, in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR). *Senna tora*, native to Central America, has recently appeared in the Sigur and Moyar areas of MTR's buffer zone. Officials are concerned that this plant may spread, threatening MTR's open grasslands, crucial for local wildlife like elephants, deer, and Indian gaur. The plant's cyclical nature and preference for drier areas complicate management efforts, as it could significantly disrupt the fragile ecosystem already facing other invasive flora.

22. Where was the world's largest coral colony recently discovered?

- [A] Solomon Islands
- [B] Papua New Guinea
- [C] Indonesia
- [D] Australia

Correct Answer: A [Solomon Islands]

Notes:

Researchers recently discovered the world's largest coral colony in the Solomon Islands. The Solomon Islands are a Pacific archipelago of nearly 1,000 islands, with six main islands and over 900 smaller ones, covering 461,000 sq.km. It is located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. It borders Vanuatu to the southeast and Papua New Guinea to the west. The terrain is mostly mountainous with forests, and the capital, Honiara, is on the largest island, Guadalcanal.

23. Marbled Map butterfly, which was seen in the news, is endemic to which regions in India?

- [A] Ladakh and Uttarakhand
- [B] Eastern Ghats and Odisha
- [C] Western Ghats and Telangana
- [D] Assam and Arunachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: B [Eastern Ghats and Odisha]

Notes:

The Marbled Map butterfly is an endemic species found only in the Eastern Ghats and Odisha. A recent study documented 190 butterfly species in the region, showcasing its unique biodiversity. The research underscores the need for conservation efforts, as butterfly populations are threatened by human encroachment and climate change. The Eastern Ghats, a biodiversity hotspot, serves as a crucial habitat for these species, making their protection vital for maintaining ecological balance and health in the region.

24. What is the objective of the 'Know Your Medicine (KYM)' app launched by NADA India?

- [A] To provide health insurance for athletes
- [B] To educate athletes and coaches about anti-doping
- [C] To eliminate the disease of TB
- [D] To create dietary plans for athletes

Correct Answer: B [To educate athletes and coaches about anti-doping]

Notes:

The Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports launched a national appeal to combat doping in sports. Athletes, coaches, and the sports community are encouraged to use NADA India's 'Know Your Medicine (KYM)' app. The KYM app is part of NADA's mission to boost anti-doping awareness and education. It lets users check if a medicine or ingredient is prohibited by WADA. The app promotes fair sports by helping athletes make informed choices. Unique features include image and audio search, plus sport-specific information, making it user-friendly for athletes and sports personnel.

25. Lake Kariba, which was seen in the news, is located between which two countries?

- [A] Tanzania and Uganda
- [B] Chad and Cameroon
- [C] Zambia and Zimbabwe
- [D] Burundi and Rwanda

Correct Answer: C [Zambia and Zimbabwe]

Notes:

A severe drought has lowered the water levels of Lake Kariba, threatening to shut down the Kariba Dam for the first time in its 65-year history, impacting Zambia and Zimbabwe's economies. Lake Kariba is the world's largest man-made lake, spanning 2,000 square miles along the Zambia-Zimbabwe border. Formed by damming the Zambezi River, the Kariba Dam is 128 meters high and provides power to both countries. The lake hosts 102 islands, including Chete Island, which has the world's largest protected wetlands and the largest population of African elephants.

26. What is the IUCN status of the Red-Headed Vulture, which was recently sighted in Kasaragod, Kerala?

- [A] Endangered
- [B] Critically Endangered
- [C] Vulnerable
- [D] Least Concern

Correct Answer: B [Critically Endangered]

Notes:

The Red-Headed Vulture, also called the Asian King vulture or Pondicherry Vulture, was sighted for the first time at Manhampothikunnu near Mavungal in Kasaragod, Kerala. It is a dark, medium-sized vulture with a reddish head and loose neck flaps. It is found in Central India, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and parts of Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. It is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

27. Prajnesh Gunneswaran, who recently announced his retirement, is associated with which sports?

- [A] Wrestling
- [B] Tennis
- [C] Badminton
- [D] Boxing

Correct Answer: B [Tennis]

Notes:

Indian tennis player Prajnesh Gunneswaran, 35, announced his retirement on November 15, 2024. He won a singles bronze at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games and peaked at world No. 75 in ATP rankings in 2019. Gunneswaran turned pro in 2010, achieving a singles record of 11–28 and a doubles record of 1-1. His highest doubles ranking was 248, reached in 2018. Competed in all four Grand Slams, with his best performance at the Australian Open in 2019 and 2020. His career highlight includes defeating world No. 18 Nikoloz Basilashvili at the Indian Wells Masters in 2019.

28. Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary, which was seen in the news, is part of which biosphere reserve?

- [A] Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- [B] Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve
- [C] Nokrek Biosphere Reserve
- [D] Manas Biosphere Reserve

Correct Answer: A [Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve]

Notes:

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) recommended notifying Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary as a core and critical area of Bandipur Tiger Reserve, but it hasn't been implemented yet. The sanctuary, which is about 30.32 sq km, supports a high density of wildlife and is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, which includes other protected areas like Bandipur and Nagarahole in Karnataka, Mudumalai in Tamil Nadu, and Wayanad in Kerala, highlighting its importance in conservation efforts.

29. Thai sacbrood virus (TSBV), that was recently seen in news, primarily affects which species?

- [A] Peacock
- [B] Honeybee

[C] Butterfly

[D] Spider

Correct Answer: B [Honeybee]

Notes:

Pathogen spillover from managed honey bees to wild pollinators poses a significant threat. Thai Sacbrood Virus (TSBV) affects honeybee larvae, killing them and hindering colony growth, particularly endangering Asiatic honeybees (*Apis cerana indica*). The virus spreads through the movement of bee colonies for pollination and honey production. TSBV caused a major outbreak in South India in 1991-1992, wiping out about 90% of Asiatic honey bee colonies. The virus resurfaced in Telangana in 2021 and has also been reported in countries like China and Vietnam.

30. Where was the 19th G20 Leaders' Summit held?

[A] New Delhi, India

[B] Paris, France

[C] Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[D] London, United Kingdom

Correct Answer: C [Rio de Janeiro, Brazil]

Notes:

The G20 summit is being held in Rio de Janeiro at the Modern Art Museum, hosted by Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Leaders, including PM Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden, and China's Xi Jinping, are discussing trade, climate change, and international security. PM Modi addressed the summit on "Social Inclusion and the Fight against Hunger and Poverty." The G20, established in 1999, became a forum for Heads of State/Government in 2008. It includes 19 countries and the EU, with special invitees like the UN and the World Bank. G20's decisions influence policies but are not legally binding.

31. When is World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) observed in 2024?

[A] 18-24 November

[B] 21-26 December

[C] 1-7 November

[D] 10-16 December

Correct Answer: A [18-24 November]

Notes:

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is held annually from November 18-24 to raise AMR awareness. This year's WAAW theme, "Educate. Advocate. Act now," stresses the urgent need for AMR action. WHO estimates AMR caused 1.27 million deaths in 2019 and contributed to 4.95 million deaths globally. Key AMR risk factors in developing nations include high population, limited healthcare, and misuse of antimicrobials. The 2024 UN Political Declaration on AMR aims for 60% of countries to have funded AMR action plans by

2030. Immediate global action is needed to educate, advocate, and commit resources to tackle AMR for future health security.

32. Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Chhattisgarh
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Chhattisgarh]

Notes:

The Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary in Chhattisgarh recently welcomed a young male tiger, marking the first tiger sighting in nearly 40 years. Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Raipur district, Chhattisgarh. The rivers Balmedhi, Jonk, and Mahanadi flow through the sanctuary, with Balamdehi River forming its western boundary and Jonk River its northeastern boundary. The area, spanning 244.66 sq. km, has a sufficient prey base and water availability, but challenges remain in protecting the sanctuary from poachers and ensuring a stable food cycle for the tigers.

33. What type of exercise is Sanyukt Vimochan 2024 recently conducted by Indian Army?

- [A] Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise
- [B] Counter-terrorism exercise
- [C] Joint-military exercise
- [D] Maritime exercise

Correct Answer: A [Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise]

Notes:

The Indian Army conducted the 'Sanyukt Vimochan 2024' exercise on 18-19 November in Ahmedabad and Porbandar, Gujarat. It is an annual multilateral Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise by the Konark Corps of Southern Command. The inaugural event in Ahmedabad included a Table Top Exercise on managing cyclones in Gujarat's coastal region. The exercise focused on interagency coordination for efficient disaster response. A Multi-Agency Capability Demonstration at Porbandar's Chowpatty Beach simulated logistics, rapid response, and disaster management in a cyclone scenario.

34. Recently, the third regional event of the 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman' Campaign was held at which institute?

- [A] IIT Bombay
- [B] IIT Guwahati
- [C] IIT Kanpur
- [D] IIT Roorkee

Correct Answer: B [IIT Guwahati]

Notes:

The third regional event of the 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman' campaign was held at IIT Guwahati under the DISHA scheme by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice. The campaign marks the 75th anniversary of the Indian Constitution's adoption and India becoming a Republic. It was launched on January 24, 2024, by the Vice President at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. The initiative aims to raise awareness about the Indian Constitution, promote understanding of legal rights, and emphasize its role as the supreme authority defining governance and safeguarding rights.

35. What is the name of India's first indigenously developed antibiotic targeting antimicrobial resistance (AMR)?

- [A] Azithromycin
- [B] Ciprofloxacin
- [C] Nafithromycin
- [D] Amoxicillin

Correct Answer: C [Nafithromycin]

Notes:

Nafithromycin, developed by Wockhardt with support from BIRAC, is India's first indigenously produced antibiotic targeting antimicrobial resistance (AMR). It is designed to treat Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia (CABP) and is ten times more effective than azithromycin. This significant breakthrough follows 14 years of research and aims to address the global health crisis of AMR, which is responsible for millions of deaths annually. The drug awaits final approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) for public use.

36. Which state has launched India's first dedicated Global Capability Centres (GCC) policy?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: A [Karnataka]

Notes:

Karnataka is the first state in India to launch a dedicated GCC (Global Capability Centers) policy. The policy aims to establish 500 new GCCs by 2029, creating 3.5 lakh jobs and \$50 billion in economic output. The 'Beyond Bengaluru' initiative promotes GCC growth in tier-2 and tier-3 cities like Mysuru, Mangaluru, and Hubballi-Dharwad. India's GCC market is valued at \$64.6 billion, with Bengaluru hosting over 875 GCCs contributing \$22.2 billion.

37. What is the primary objective of the "VISION Portal" recently launched by government?

[A] To empower underprivileged youth through education, skill development, and sustainable livelihoods

[B] To establish new startups

[C] To provide scholarships for engineering students

[D] To promote research in higher education

Correct Answer: A [To empower underprivileged youth through education, skill development, and sustainable livelihoods]

Notes:

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the VISION (“Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network”) Portal in New Delhi on November 21, 2024. The portal aims to empower underprivileged youth through education, skill development, and sustainable livelihoods. India has the third-largest startup ecosystem, growing from 350 startups in 2014 to 1.67 lakh in 2024. The Startup India programme, launched in 2016, nurtures innovation and supports startups, particularly for disadvantaged groups like SCs, STs, and women. The VISION Portal was developed by the Utsav Foundation, a Gurugram-based non-profit focusing on youth empowerment and skill development.

38. Where was the India’s first Constitution Museum inaugurated recently?

[A] Indore, Madhya Pradesh

[B] Jaisalmer, Rajasthan

[C] New Delhi, India

[D] Sonipat, Haryana

Correct Answer: D [Sonipat, Haryana]

Notes:

India’s first Constitution Museum was inaugurated on November 23, 2024, at O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) in Sonipat, Haryana. The museum was launched by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla during the National Convention on the Constitution of India. It celebrates the 75-year journey of the Indian Constitution and pays tribute to its architects. The museum features sections dedicated to the Constitution’s parts, their significance, and the historical debates behind its creation. The initiative aims to enhance public understanding of the Constitution and serve as a key educational destination.

39. Who has been appointed as new President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for 2024-25?

[A] Jyotsna Suri

[B] Harsha Vardhan Agarwal

[C] Subhrakant Panda

[D] Uday Shankar

Correct Answer: B [Harsha Vardhan Agarwal]

Notes:

Harsha Vardhan Agarwal, Managing Director and Vice Chairman of Emami Group, became the President of FICCI for 2024-25, succeeding Anish Shah. FICCI's new office bearers include Senior Vice President Anant Goenka (Vice Chairman of RPG Group) and Vice President Vijay Sankar (Chairman of Sanmar Group). FICCI is a major business lobby group in India, representing business interests and lobbying for favorable policies. Founded in 1927, FICCI claims to be the largest business organization in India.

40. Which institution has developed STRONG (STring Representation Of Nanopore Geometry), a novel language for nanopore research?

- [A] Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru
- [B] Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- [C] Banaras Hindu University
- [D] Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

Correct Answer: A [Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru]

Notes:

Indian Institute of Science (IISc) introduced STRONG (STring Representation Of Nanopore Geometry), a new language for encoding nanopore shapes as character sequences. STRONG helps machine learning models predict nanopore properties accurately. It assigns letters to atomic configurations, improving understanding of nanopore geometries. This tool supports applications like gas separation and enhances data analysis. STRONG's integration with neural networks boosts prediction accuracy. This breakthrough marks a significant advancement in materials science and computational research.

41. Recently, which country has become the 104th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- [A] Guyana
- [B] Armenia
- [C] El Salvador
- [D] Cuba

Correct Answer: B [Armenia]

Notes:

Armenia became the 104th full member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) on November 15, 2024. ISA is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization founded by India and France to promote solar energy globally. The alliance aims to mobilize over USD 1000 billion by 2030 for large-scale solar energy deployment. Armenia's membership was formalized with the exchange of the ratified Framework Agreement between Armenian Ambassador Vahagn Afyan and India's Ministry of External Affairs.

42. Which state is the host of Khelo India Youth Games 2025?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh
- [B] Maharashtra

- [C] Bihar
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: C [Bihar]

Notes:

Bihar will host the Khelo India Youth Games 2025 in April, marking its addition to the Khelo India map. For the first time, Bihar will also host the Khelo India Para Games, following the Youth Games with a 10-15 day gap. The first Para Games edition was held in Delhi last year. The Khelo India Youth Games 2023 were in Tamil Nadu. Bihar plays a key role in the Ministry's infrastructure development and grassroots athlete support.

43. Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar was instituted by which institution?

- [A] Sangeet Natak Akademi
- [B] Rabindra Bharati University
- [C] Madras Music Academy
- [D] Calcutta School of Music

Correct Answer: A [Sangeet Natak Akademi]

Notes:

The Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for 2022 and 2023 recently conferred to 82 young artists in a ceremony in New Delhi. It was instituted by Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2006, it honors artists under 40 in music, dance, drama, folk arts, and puppetry. The award includes Rs 25,000, a plaque, and an angavastram. The award aims to encourage young artists in India. Ustad Bismillah Khan was a renowned Shehnai musician who performed at India's first Republic Day in 1950 and was the first Indian at the Lincoln Centre in the USA.

44. Project Veer Gatha 4.0 is an initiative of which ministries?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Education
- [B] Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Education
- [C] Ministry of Communication and Ministry of Defence
- [D] Ministry of Urban Development and Ministry of MSME

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Education]

Notes:

Over 1.76 crore school students from all 36 States and UTs have participated in Project Veer Gatha 4.0. It was launched in 2021. The project aims to spread stories of courage and sacrifice of Gallantry Awardees among students. It encourages students to create projects based on these heroic tales, fostering patriotism. The project has been held annually since 2021, with editions in 2021, 2022, and 2023. It is a joint initiative by the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Education.

45. Kyasanur Forest Disease, which was seen in the news, has emerged in which state?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Odisha

[C] Bihar

[D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: A [Karnataka]

Notes:

Chikkamagaluru health officials are on alert to prevent Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD), also called Monkey Fever. KFD is a tick-borne viral haemorrhagic disease first reported in Karnataka's Kyasanur Forest in 1957. The disease is caused by the Kyasanur Forest Disease Virus, part of the tick-borne encephalitis complex. It spreads through tick bites or contact with infected animals, especially monkeys, but not between humans. Symptoms include high fever, nausea, diarrhea, and sometimes neurological or haemorrhagic issues. With a 5–10% fatality rate, there is no cure; supportive care is vital. A vaccine is available in affected regions.

46. Which Union Ministry is associated with “Nayi Chetna 3.0 – Pahal Badlaav Ki” initiative?

[A] Ministry of Women and Child Development

[B] Ministry of Home Affairs

[C] Ministry of Rural Development

[D] Ministry of Agriculture

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Rural Development]

Notes:

The third edition of Nayi Chetna 3.0 – Pahal Badlaav Ki was launched to combat gender-based violence. It is organized by DAY-NRLM under the Ministry of Rural Development, it runs from 25th November to 23rd December 2024 across India. The campaign is led by the Self-Help Group network and aims to raise awareness and promote grassroots action. It embodies a people's movement with the slogan “Ek Saath, Ek Awaaz, Hinsa Ke Khilaaf” (United Voice Against Violence). The initiative involves collaboration across nine key Ministries and Departments.

47. What type of disease is Sjögren's disease, that was recently seen in news?

[A] Cardiovascular disease

[B] Respiratory disease

[C] Autoimmune disease

[D] Genetic disorder

Correct Answer: C [Autoimmune disease]

Notes:

Sjögren's disease is a chronic autoimmune disorder where the immune system mistakenly attacks moisture-producing glands, particularly the salivary and lacrimal glands, leading to symptoms like dry mouth and dry eyes. It is significantly more common in women and often remains undiagnosed for years, causing considerable distress. Awareness and proper

diagnosis are crucial for effective management, which may involve lifestyle adjustments and medications to alleviate symptoms and improve the quality of life for those affected.

48. What is the IUCN status of the “Dunlin bird” that was spotted at Kerala Bird Race?

- [A] Near threatened
- [B] Vulnerable
- [C] Endangered
- [D] Critically Endangered

Correct Answer: A [Near threatened]

Notes:

Dunlin, a migratory shorebird, was spotted during the Kochi edition of the Kerala Bird Race. It has a droopy, down-curved black bill and is medium-sized with orange feathers in summer and a gray back in winter. Dunlins breed in coastal tundra and winter along mudflats, estuaries, and coastlines. They primarily eat insects, mollusks, worms, and crustaceans. The species is listed as “Near Threatened” by the IUCN, facing threats from habitat loss, global warming, invasive plants, and avian influenza. A group of Dunlins is called a “flight,” “fling,” or “trip.”

49. Which organization developed a biopolymer-based seed coating technology for seed treatment?

- [A] ICAR-Central Institute of Research on Cotton Technology
- [B] ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture
- [C] ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research
- [D] ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute

Correct Answer: C [ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research]

Notes:

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research (IIOR) has developed a biopolymer-based seed coating technology that enhances crop yields by 25-30%. This innovative method protects beneficial microbes and nutrients, promoting stress resilience under climate change. The technology, known as Film Coating Biopolymer Composition, gradually releases active ingredients, offering economic benefits to farmers by reducing input costs. IIOR is recognized for its advancements in eco-friendly agricultural technologies.

50. Which country was re-elected to the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for the 2025-2026?

- [A] Myanmar
- [B] China
- [C] India
- [D] Indonesia

Correct Answer: C [India]

Notes:

India has been re-elected to the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for the 2025-2026 term, reaffirming its dedication to global peace. The PBC, formed in 2005, advises the UN on peacebuilding efforts in conflict-affected regions. India, a founding member, actively shapes initiatives within the Commission. The PBC fosters collaboration among UN bodies, member states, and other actors, promoting peace through strategic, integrated approaches. It prioritizes nationally-led efforts and coordinates humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actions, involving briefers from peacekeeping missions.

51. How many medals were won in the Under-19 World Boxing Championship held in Colorado, USA?

- A - 12
- B - 13
- C - 17
- D - 21

Correct Answer: C - 17

Notes:

India's boxers performed brilliantly in the first U19 World Boxing Championship held in Colorado, USA from 25 October to 5 November 2024 and won a total of 17 medals, including 3 gold. The gold medal winning boxers were Parthvi Grewal, Vanshika Goswami, and Hemant Sangwan. Apart from this, the Indian team also won 8 silver and 5 bronze medals.

52. Recently, in which Australian city did External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurate India's fourth consulate?

- A - Melbourne
- B - Brisbane
- C - Perth
- D - Sydney

Correct Answer: B - Brisbane

Notes:

Indian Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar inaugurated India's first Consulate in Queensland in Brisbane, Australia on 4 November 2024, which will further strengthen India-Australia relations. Queensland is home to about 100,000 people of Indian origin, and the state is India's second-largest export market to Australia.

53. Which Indian table tennis player recently won the title in both men's singles and mixed doubles at the WTT Feeder Caracas?

- A - Harmeet Desai
- B - Manika Batra
- C - G Sathiyan
- D - Sharath Kamal

Correct Answer: A - Harmeet Desai

Notes:

Harmeet Desai of India won the men's singles title at the WTT Feeder Caracas 2024 table tennis tournament in Venezuela, defeating Jo Seyfried of France 3-0. Along with this, he also won the mixed doubles title along with Kritika Roy, defeating Jorge Campos and Daniela Fonseca of Cuba 3-2.

54. Where did the 5th edition of the India-Vietnam joint military exercise 'Vinbax' start recently?

- A - Hanoi
- B - New Delhi
- C - Ambala
- D - Ho Chi Minh City

Correct Answer: C - Ambala

Notes:

The 5th VINBAX 2024 exercise between India and Vietnam began in Ambala on November 4 and will continue till November 23. The exercise will be held in Ambala and Chandimandir, with the aim of enhancing military cooperation and interoperability of the two countries.

55. Who was recently appointed as the third Director General of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) during the 7th International Solar Alliance (ISA) Summit held in New Delhi?

- A - Dr. Ajay Mathur
- B - Suresh Prabhu
- C - Ashish Khanna
- D - Piyush Goyal

Correct Answer: C - Ashish Khanna

Notes:

India and France have been re-elected as the President and Co-Chair of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), as announced on the opening day of the 7th ISA Assembly held in New Delhi. India will continue to be the President of ISA till 2026, while France will be the Co-Chair.

56. When is the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict observed?

- A - 5 November
- B - 6 November
- C - 5 December
- D - 6 December

Correct Answer: B - 6 November

Notes:

The "International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict" is observed every year on 6 November. The day was declared by the United Nations General Assembly on 5 November 2001, to focus on preventing damage to the environment in wars and armed conflicts.

57. Which is the first Indian bank to launch real-time tracking for international transfers through SWIFT GPI?

- A - IDFC FIRST Bank
- B - HDFC Bank
- C - State Bank of India
- D - Paytm Payments Bank

Correct Answer: A - IDFC FIRST Bank

Notes:

IDFC FIRST Bank, in collaboration with SWIFT, has become the first Indian bank to offer real-time tracking service for remittances sent abroad. The service is available on the bank's mobile application and internet banking platform and provides transparency and tracking in cross-border transactions.

58. Recently, which Indian oil and gas company has become the first company to join the United Nations Environment Programme's OGMP 2.0 initiative, committing to reduce methane emissions?

- A - ONGC
- B - Reliance Industries
- C - Cairn Oil & Gas
- D - Indian Oil Corporation

Correct Answer: C - Cairn Oil & Gas

Notes:

Cairn Oil & Gas has taken an important step towards environmental sustainability in India by joining the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s Oil & Gas Methane Partnership (OGMP) 2.0. The company has set a target to reduce methane emissions in 5 years by signing the MoU, and its progress will be reported transparently through OGMP.

59. What is the name of the first Miss World who passed away recently?

- A - Rita Faria
- B - Annika Nils
- C - Kiki Hakansson
- D - Senri Kawaguchi

Correct Answer: C - Kiki Hakansson

Notes:

The first Miss World Kiki Hakansson died in California on November 4 at the age of 95. Born in Sweden, Kiki won the Miss World crown in London in 1951, making the pageant a global

event. After her death, Miss World paid tribute, and her son Chris Anderson described her as a kind and loving mother.

60. When will World Radiography Day 2024 be celebrated?

- A - 8 November
- B - 7 November
- C - 10 November
- D - 5 November

Correct Answer: A - 8 November

Notes:

World Radiography Day is observed on 8 November to raise awareness about radiology, radiation therapy and the important role of radiologists. The day highlights the importance of imaging techniques such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs and fluoroscopy that help in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases.

61. What is the nickname of famous folk singer of Bihar, Sharda Sinha, who passed away recently?

- A - Bihar Kokila
- B - Maithili Rani
- C - Bhojpuri Kokila
- D – Bhojpuri

Correct Answer: A - Bihar Kokila

Notes:

Famous folk singer Sharda Sinha, popularly known as "Bihar Kokila", passed away at the age of 72 due to cancer. Her voice had made a special place in the hearts of people especially during Chhath Puja celebrated in Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh.

62. When is World Tsunami Awareness Day observed?

- A - 8 November
- B - 5 November
- C - 9 November
- D - 10 November

Correct Answer: B - 5 November

Notes:

World Tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD) is observed every year on November 5, with the aim of raising awareness and preparing communities for tsunami hazards. The day was established by the United Nations and its main objective is to provide education about the causes, effects, and rescue strategies of tsunamis.

63. Whom did Indian boxer Mandeep Jangra defeat to win the World Boxing Federation's super featherweight world title?

- A - Ryan Garcia of USA
- B - Vasily Lomachenko of Ukraine
- C - Britain's Conor McIntosh
- D - Teofimo Lopez of USA

Correct Answer: C - Britain's Conor McIntosh

Notes:

Indian professional boxer Mandeep Jangra recently won the WBF super featherweight world title by defeating Britain's Conor McIntosh in the Cayman Islands. The 31-year-old Jangra performed brilliantly in the bout, dominating most of the rounds and proving his stamina for the entire 10 rounds.

64. When will Switzerland's "burqa ban", which prohibits face coverings in public places, come into effect?

- A - December 1, 2024
- B - April 1, 2025
- C - August 1, 2025
- D - January 1, 2025

Correct Answer: D - January 1, 2025

Notes:

Switzerland will have a ban on face coverings in public places, called the "burqa ban", coming into effect from January 1, 2025. The ban was passed via referendum in 2021 and was opposed by Muslim associations. Violators will face fines of up to 1,000 Swiss francs.

65. When is National Cancer Awareness Day observed?

- A - 7 November
- B - 8 November
- C - 9 November
- D - 10 November

Correct Answer: A - 7 November

Notes:

National Cancer Awareness Day, observed on 7 November in India, is based on the birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Marie Curie and was launched in 2014 by Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan. It aims to reduce the risk of cancer, promote early detection and spread awareness about treatment.

66. When is National Legal Services Day observed?

- A - 9 November
- B - 10 November
- C - 7 November
- D - 11 November

Correct Answer: A - 9 November

Notes:

"National Legal Services Day" is celebrated on 9 November in India with the aim of providing free legal services to vulnerable sections of the society, such as women, persons with disabilities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, children, victims of human trafficking and people affected by disasters.

67. Who has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Maldives in November 2024?

- A - K. Krishnamurthy
- B - Munu Mahavar
- C - G. Raghuram
- D - G. Balasubramanian

Correct Answer: D - G. Balasubramanian

Notes:

The Government of India has appointed 1998 batch Indian Foreign Service officer G Balasubramanian as the next High Commissioner of India to Maldives. Balasubramanian, currently serving as India's High Commissioner to Nigeria, is expected to take charge in Maldives soon.

68. Who won the fourth consecutive Formula 1 world title at the Las Vegas Grand Prix?

- A - George Russell
- B - Charles Leclerc
- C - Lewis Hamilton
- D - Max Verstappen

Correct Answer: D - Max Verstappen

Notes:

Max Verstappen won his fourth Formula 1 world championship title by finishing fifth at the Las Vegas Grand Prix. He only needed to score three points more than McLaren's Lando Norris to clinch the title, and Norris finished sixth. However, it was not easy for Verstappen.

69. National Milk Day 2024 celebrates the success of which prominent figure in India's dairy sector?

- A - Dr. Verghese Kurien
- B - Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh
- C - M.S. Swaminathan
- D - Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel

Correct Answer: A - Dr. Verghese Kurien

Notes:

National Milk Day in India is celebrated on 26 November to remember the contribution of Dr. Verghese Kurien, who made India the largest producer and seller of milk and started the White Revolution. Milk is considered an important part of a balanced diet, as it contains

calcium, protein, B-vitamins, and potassium, which help in physical and mental development, especially for children.

70. In November 2024, Dinesh Bhatia has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to which country?

- A - Brazil
- B - Argentina
- C - Guinea
- D - Uruguay

Correct Answer: A - Brazil

Notes:

The Government of India has appointed Dinesh Bhatia, a 1992 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, as the next Ambassador of India to Brazil. Bhatia is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Argentina, where he took over on 21 August 2019, and his accreditation was also extended to Uruguay and Paraguay.

71. Who has been recommended by the Financial Services Bureau (FSIB) for the post of MD and CEO of Indian Bank?

- A - S L Jain
- B - Ashish Pandey
- C - Vinod Kumar
- D - Bhanu Pratap Sharma

Correct Answer: C - Vinod Kumar

Notes:

The Financial Services Bureau (FSIB) on Saturday recommended Vinod Kumar for the post of Managing Director (MD) of Chennai-based Indian Bank. Vinod Kumar, who is currently working as the Executive Director of Punjab National Bank, will replace S L Jain, who is retiring next month.

72. After the victory of INDIA alliance in the 2024 assembly elections, who is going to take oath as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand on November 28?

- A - Babulal Marandi
- B - Champai Soren
- C - Raghubar Das
- D - Hemant Soren

Correct Answer: D - Hemant Soren

Notes:

After a decisive victory in the Jharkhand assembly elections, Hemant Soren will take oath as the Chief Minister on November 28. The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)-led alliance staked claim to form the government by winning 56 seats in the 81-member assembly, while the BJP-led NDA got 24 seats.

73. Who was recently awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment by the Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM) and Washington Adventist University?

- A - Joe Biden
- B - Antonio Guterres
- C - Narendra Modi
- D - Kamala Harris

Correct Answer: C - Narendra Modi

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the 'Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment' by the US Washington Adventist University and AIAM (US-India Alliance for Minorities). The award was given to Prime Minister Modi for his efforts for inclusive development and minority welfare.

74. Whom did Denmark's Anders Antonsen defeat to win the men's singles title at the China Masters 2024?

- A - Viktor Axelsen
- B - Kento Momota
- C - Jonatan Christie
- D - Li Jia Jia

Correct Answer: C - Jonatan Christie

Notes:

On 24 November 2024, Denmark's Anders Antonsen created history by winning the China Masters men's singles title. He defeated Indonesia's Jonatan Christie 21-15, 21-13 in straight games. With this win, Antonsen became the first Danish player to win the men's singles title at the China Masters.

75. What is the name of the report prepared by the World Bank and launched by Dharmendra Pradhan and Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi?

- A - Skill India Report
- B - Jobs at Your Doorstep
- C - Workforce Empowerment Study
- D - Employment Opportunities in India

Correct Answer: B - Jobs at Your Doorstep

Notes:

On 22 November 2024, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launched the World Bank report 'Jobs at Your Doorstep: A Jobs Diagnostics for Young People in Six States' in New Delhi. The report focuses on bridging the skills gap among youth and aligning school curriculum with industry needs.

76. Which country signed a Memorandum of Understanding with India in November 2024 to promote the use of local currencies in cross border transactions?

- A - Maldives
- B - Bangladesh
- C - Sri Lanka
- D – Nepal

Correct Answer: A - Maldives

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Mumbai aimed at promoting the use of the Indian Rupee (INR) and the Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR). The agreement was signed in the presence of RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and MMA Governor Ali Hashim.

77. Who was appointed as the new Prime Minister of Mali by the ruling junta in November 2024?

- A - Assamese Goita
- B - Choguel Chibo
- C - Abdoulaye Maiga
- D - Ibrahim Boubacar Keita

Correct Answer: C - Abdoulaye Maiga

Notes:

On November 21, 2024, the ruling military government (junta) in Mali sacked Prime Minister Choguel Maiga and appointed Abdoulaye Maiga as the new Prime Minister in his place. The move came amid criticism of the junta, especially over the delay in restoring democracy and political tensions.

78. Who has been appointed as the Festival Ambassador for Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024?

- A - Amitabh Bachchan
- B - Pankaj Tripathi
- C - Rajinikanth
- D - Shah Rukh Khan

Correct Answer: B - Pankaj Tripathi

Notes:

Renowned actor Pankaj Tripathi has been appointed as the Festival Ambassador of Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024 (ARM '24). The festival will run from November 22 to December 5, 2024 and will celebrate the rich cultural heritage and creativity of Arunachal Pradesh. Pankaj Tripathi, who started his art journey from a small village in Gopalganj, will participate in the festival with his wife Mridula.

79. Which district of Assam has been officially renamed as Sribhumi?

- A - Sonitpur
- B - Darrang
- C - Dibrugarh
- D – Karimganj

Correct Answer: D - Karimganj

Notes:

The Assam government has renamed Karimganj district as Sribhumi and Karimganj Town as Sribhumi Town on November 21, 2024. The decision was taken by the Assam Cabinet on Tuesday and implemented with immediate effect. General Administration Department Principal Secretary Mukesh Chandra Sahu issued the official notification.

80. Which broadcaster has bagged the exclusive rights to broadcast all ACC cricket tournaments from 2024 to 2031?

- A - Star Sports
- B - ESPN
- C - Viacom18
- D - Sony Sports Networks

Correct Answer: D - Sony Sports Networks

Notes:

Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI) has bagged the media rights for Asian Cricket Council (ACC) tournaments for 2024-2031. The deal is 70% higher than the previous rights deal, reflecting the growing global stature of the ACC Asia Cup. The agreement covers all editions of the men's and women's Asia Cups, the Under-19 Asia Cup and the Emerging Teams Asia Cup.

81. When is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women observed?

- A - 8 March
- B - 25 November
- C - 10 December
- D - 1 January

Correct Answer: B - 25 November

Notes:

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is observed every year on 25 November. The day is marked by the United Nations, and aims to raise awareness about domestic violence, rape, and other forms of violence against women worldwide. The day commemorates the murder of the three Mirabal sisters on the orders of Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo in 1960.

82. When is World Fisheries Day celebrated?

- A - 20 November

B - 21 November

C - 22 November

D - 23 November

Correct Answer: B - 21 November

Notes: World Fisheries Day is celebrated every year on 21 November, with the aim of promoting the importance of healthy marine ecosystems and sustainable fisheries practices. The theme for 2024 is "India's Blue Transformation: Empowering Small-Scale and Sustainable Fisheries", which reflects India's commitment to inclusive growth and sustainability.

83. President of India Smt. Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Orissa Kesari Dr. Harekrishna Mahtab. What is the nickname of Dr. Harekrishna Mahtab?

A - Kalinga Singham

B - Kalinga Tiger

C - Odia Bapu

D - Orissa Kesari

Correct Answer: D - Orissa Kesari

Notes:

President of India Smt. Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Utkal Kesari Dr. Harekrishna Mahtab in New Delhi on November 21, 2024. The President praised him as a visionary leader and eminent writer. She said that Dr. Mahtab understood the importance of cultural awareness along with material development and promoted art, literature, and music in Odisha.

84. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Mizoram in November 2024?

A - H. Lalengmawia

B - Kili Chandra Mouli

C - Khilli Ram Meena

D - R. Sarath Kumar

Correct Answer: C - Khilli Ram Meena

Notes:

Khili Ram Meena has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Mizoram. This information was given by an official on Thursday. Meena, who is a 1993 batch officer of AGMUT cadre, has earlier served as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Recently, he was repatriated to his parent cadre.

85. Who was appointed as the Director of Prosecution by the Tamil Nadu government by a selection committee headed by a retired judge of the Madras High Court?

A - Hassan Mohammed Jinnah

B - V. Subramaniam

C - G. Krishnaraj

D - R. Srinivasan

Correct Answer: C - G. Krishnaraj

Notes: The Tamil Nadu government has appointed advocate G. Krishnaraj as the Director of Prosecution since the state public prosecutor. The appointment came after Hassan Mohammed Jinnah, who was holding additional charge of the post till now, requested to be relieved due to workload.

86. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of Bangladesh?

A - AKM Nurul Huda

B - AMM Nasir Uddin

C - Kazi Habibul Awal

D - Habibul Awal

Correct Answer: B - AMM Nasir Uddin

Notes:

Former secretary AMM Nasir Uddin has been appointed Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), while other election commissioners include former additional secretary Md Anwarul Islam, former district judge Abdur Rahman Masud, former joint secretary Begum Tahmida Ahmed and Brigadier General (retd) Abul Fazal Mohammad Sanaullah.

87. Which country did India defeat to win the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024?

A - China

B - Japan

C - South Korea

D – Malaysia

Correct Answer: A - China

Notes:

India's women's hockey team successfully defended its title by defeating China 1-0 in the final of the Women's Asian Champions Trophy. Deepika's brilliant reverse-hit goal in the 31st minute gave India its second consecutive title. India's defense line performed strongly, and goalkeeper Bichu Devi stopped China's penalty corner.

88. Which country recently became the 104th full member of the International Solar Alliance?

A - Georgia

B - Azerbaijan

C - Armenia

D – Belarus

Correct Answer: C - Armenia

Notes:

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal announced that Armenia has now become the 104th full member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA). ISA was established on 30 November 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Francois Hollande. It aims to expand solar energy, reduce costs, and enhance related technological innovations.

89. Who will launch the 'United Nations International Year of Cooperatives 2025' at the ICA Global Cooperative Conference?

- A - President Draupadi Murmu
- B - Union Minister Amit Shah
- C - United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres
- D - Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Correct Answer: D - Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will announce the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives 2025 at the Global Cooperative Conference being held for the first time in India. The conference will be organized by IFFCO, Ministry of Cooperatives and International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) at Bharat Mandapam, Delhi from 25 to 30 November 2024.

90. Which country did India defeat to win the Bihar Women's Asian Champions Trophy Rajgir 2024?

- A - Japan
- B - Pakistan
- C - China
- D - South Korea

Correct Answer: C - China

Notes:

The Indian women's hockey team won the Bihar Women's Asian Champions Trophy Rajgir 2024 title by 1-0. India defeated China in the final, and won with Deepika scoring the only goal in the 31st minute. For this great performance, Hockey India announced a reward of ₹ 3 lakh per player to the players and ₹ 1.5 lakh per member to the support staff.

91. Who will be honoured with 'Aaj Tak Sahitya Jagriti Lifetime Achievement Award' at Sahitya Aaj Tak 2024?

- A - Javed Akhtar
- B - Gulzar
- C - Amitabh Bachchan
- D - Shashi Tharoor

Correct Answer: B - Gulzar

Notes:

The sixth edition of 'Sahitya Aaj Tak', a literary festival being organised by 'Aaj Tak', will be held from 22 to 24 November at the Major Dhyanchand National Stadium in Delhi. In this event, on 23 November, President of India Smt. Draupadi Murmu will honour prominent personalities who have made literary contributions under the 'Aaj Tak Sahitya Jagriti Samman'.

92. Which company has received the Green World Environment Award in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) category?

- A - NTPC
- B - Indian Oil Corporation
- C - Reliance Industries
- D - Coal India Limited

Correct Answer: D - Coal India Limited

Notes:

Coal India Limited (CIL) has been honoured with the Green World Environment Award and the title of Green World Ambassador. This prestigious international award has been given to CIL for its exemplary work in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). CIL had launched the Thalassaemia Bal Seva Yojana for sustainable treatment of over 600 thalassaemia patients through stem cell transplant (BMT), which has become a landmark CSR project.

93. Who has been elected as the President of the International Mind Sports Association (IMSA)?

- A - Nandan Kumar Jha
- B - Rajesh Malhotra
- C - Pankaj Gupta
- D - Abhinav Sinha

Correct Answer: A - Nandan Kumar Jha

Notes:

India has made significant strides in the world of international sports, when advocate Nandan Jha was elected the international president of the International Mind Sports Association (IMSA). The prestigious appointment was made on November 16, 2024, during the Annual General Assembly of IMSA in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Nandan Jha, who is 44 years old, has become the first Indian to be appointed to the post.

94. Which of the following countries has conferred its highest national award on Prime Minister Modi in November 2024 in recognition of his global leadership?

- A - Saudi Arabia and Egypt
- B - United States and Canada
- C - Guyana and Barbados
- D - Greece and France

Correct Answer: C - Guyana and Barbados

Notes:

Guyana and Barbados will confer their highest national honours on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, taking his number of international awards to 19. Guyana will confer 'The Order of Excellence' on Prime Minister Modi and Barbados will confer 'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados'.

95. Who was crowned Miss Charm India 2024 and will represent India globally at Miss Charm 2024 in Vietnam?

- A - Shivangi Desai
- B - Aditi Sharma
- C - Priya Singh
- D - Riya Gupta

Correct Answer: A - Shivangi Desai

Notes:

22-year-old Shivangi Desai, a final year student of Indian Law School (ILS), Pune, has won the national title of Miss Charm India 2024. The achievement will give her an opportunity to represent India at Miss Charm 2024 to be held in Vietnam in December. Shivangi entered beauty pageants at the age of 16 and has won several prominent titles, such as Miss Teen India North and Miss Universe Gujarat.

96. Who were the recipients of the Indira Gandhi Prize (Peace, Disarmament and Development) for 2023?

- A - Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad
- B - Antonio Guterres and Kailash Satyarthi
- C - Ban Ki-moon and Nihon Hidankyo
- D - Amartya Sen and Kofi Annan

Correct Answer: A - Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad

Notes:

The Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for 2023 was jointly awarded to renowned classical pianist and conductor Daniel Barenboim and Palestinian peace activist Ali Abu Awwad. The award recognises their efforts for a non-violent solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict and their dedication to promoting peace in West Asia.

97. Who was appointed as the Chief Justice of Manipur High Court by the Supreme Court Collegium?

- A - Justice M. Ramasubramanian
- B - Justice V. K. Gupta
- C - Justice R. S. Ramanathan
- D - Justice D. Krishnakumar

Correct Answer: D - Justice D. Krishnakumar

Notes:

The Supreme Court Collegium on November 18 proposed the name of Justice D Krishnakumar as the Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court, and he was appointed within 48 hours. He is currently a judge of the Madras High Court and was appointed on April 7, 2016. The current Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court, Justice Siddharth Mridul, is stepping down at the age of 62.

98. When will National Philosophy Day 2024 be observed?

- A - 26 November 2024
- B - 21 November 2024
- C - 30 November 2024
- D - 1 December 2024

Correct Answer: B - 21 November 2024

Notes:

National Philosophy Day, also known as Vishwa Darshan Diwas, is observed every year on the third Thursday of November. It was established by UNESCO in 2002, and aims to underline the impact of philosophy on human thought and culture. The first official celebration was in November 2002.

99. In which city will PM Modi attend the G20 summit?

- A - Sao Paolo
- B - Rio de Janeiro
- C - Delhi
- D - New York

Correct Answer: B - Rio de Janeiro

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will undertake a crucial three-nation visit to Brazil, Nigeria and Guyana from November 16 to 21. The main objective of this visit is to strengthen India's strategic partnerships, maintain India's active role on global issues and promote multilateral relations.

100. What is the training of CISF's women reserve battalion being prepared keeping in mind?

- A - Including male personnel as well
- B - Dealing with emergency situations
- C - Security of government buildings only
- D - Giving special security training to women

Correct Answer: D - Giving special security training to women

Notes:

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has approved the formation of its first women reserve battalion, a historic step towards women empowerment in the Indian security forces. The decision was announced by CISF on 12 November 2024.

101. Tribal Pride Day is associated with the birth anniversary of which great tribal leader?

- A - Sido-Kanhu
- B - Birsa Munda
- C - Tatya Tope
- D - Rani Durgavati

Correct Answer: B - Birsa Munda

Notes:

November 15 will be celebrated as Tribal Pride Day, an important occasion to honor the unique contribution and struggle of the tribal community. This day is associated with the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, who played an important role in the Indian freedom struggle and fought for tribal rights.

102. How many Jan Aushadhi Kendras did Prime Minister Modi launch at railway stations?

- A - 10
- B - 25
- C - 18
- D - 50

Correct Answer: C - 18

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 18 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJK) at various railway stations across India. This initiative is aimed at making affordable and quality medicines available to passengers across the country.

103. Arvinder Singh Sahni was promoted to which post in Indian Oil?

- A - Executive Director (Operations)
- B - Executive Director (Business Development - Petrochemicals)
- C - General Manager (Marketing)
- D - General Manager (Human Resources)

Correct Answer: B - Executive Director (Business Development - Petrochemicals)

Notes:

Arvinder Singh Sawhney has been appointed as the new Chairman of IndianOil Corporation (IOC), after his term ends on August 31, 2024. He will replace Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, who was the Chairman of IOC till 2024.

104. When and where will the next, 8th Annual India-Sri Lanka Coast Guard Meeting be held?

- A - 2025, Colombo
- B - 2025, New Delhi
- C - 2024, Mumbai
- D - 2025, by Indian Coast Guard

Correct Answer: D - 2025, by Indian Coast Guard

Notes:

The 7th Annual High-Level Meeting was held in Colombo on November 11, 2024, which was attended by senior officials of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Sri Lanka Coast Guard (SLCG). The aim of the meeting was to enhance cooperation in the field of regional maritime security and maritime governance.

105. When has Amandeep Johal been appointed as the CEO of PGTI?

- A - January 2024
- B - January 2025
- C - February 2025
- D - March 2025

Correct Answer: B - January 2025

Notes:

Effective January 2025, Amandeep Johal has been appointed the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). Johal, who has 34 years of experience in Indian and Asian golf, will replace Uttaram Singh Mundy. Mundy played a key role in setting up the PGTI and is now stepping down from the organisation.

106. Who inaugurated Swami Vivekananda Vidya Mandir?

- A - President Draupadi Murmu
- B - Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- C - Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar
- D - Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan

Correct Answer: A - President Draupadi Murmu

Notes:

President of India Smt. Draupadi Murmu inaugurated Swami Vivekananda Vidya Mandir on 12 November 2024. The temple is located at Jhanda Chowk, Silvassa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. On this occasion, President Murmu spoke about the importance of education and education as an effective tool to bring positive change in the society.

107. Who has been appointed as the mentor for women's cricket operations by the Andhra Cricket Association (ACA)?

- A - Mithali Raj
- B - Jhulan Goswami
- C - Smriti Mandhana
- D - Harmanpreet Kaur

Correct Answer: A - Mithali Raj

Notes:

The Andhra Pradesh Cricket Association (ACA) has appointed former Indian women's cricket team captain Mithali Raj as the mentor for women's cricket operations. Mithali Raj is

considered one of the best batsmen in the world of women's cricket, and her performance has always been excellent.

108. Who has been appointed to the role of CEO at Zee Entertainment?

- A - Mukhund Galgali
- B - Punit Goenka
- C - Amit Goenka
- D - Subhash Chandra

Correct Answer: B - Punit Goenka

Notes:

On November 18, Punit Goenka resigned as the Managing Director (MD) of Zee Entertainment and was appointed as the new CEO of the company. With this change, Goenka will now focus his full energy on the company's operations. Zee Entertainment confirmed in its regulatory update that the board has accepted Goenka's resignation and appointed him as the CEO.

109. How many medals did India win in the Bingo World Pickleball Championship?

- A - 35
- B - 28
- C - 11
- D - 41

Correct Answer: B - 28

Notes:

India performed brilliantly in the Bingo World Pickleball Championship (WPC) series, winning a total of 28 medals including 11 gold and also winning the team event title. 55 international players from 17 countries and 500 Indian athletes participated in the event.

110. Who has been appointed as the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India?

- A - K. Sanjay Murthy
- B - Rajiv Mehrishi
- C - Shashi Kant Sharma
- D - Radha Raman Singh Chouhan

Correct Answer: A - K. Sanjay Murthy

Notes:

The government has announced the appointment of K Sanjay Murthy as the next Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. Murthy, a 1989 batch IAS officer of Himachal Pradesh cadre, is currently serving as the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education. He will replace Girish Chandra Murmu, whose term ends on November 20, 2024.

111. Which state won the team championship at the 4th National Finswimming Championships?

- A - Karnataka
- B - Haryana
- C - Uttarakhand
- D - West Bengal

Correct Answer: D - West Bengal

Notes: The 4th National Finswimming Championship 2024 concluded in New Delhi, which saw participation of 1500 participants from 26 states and union territories. In this championship, West Bengal had the distinction of becoming the team champion with 151 medals (67 gold, 43 silver, 41 bronze), while Karnataka secured the runner-up position with 50 medals.

112. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the All India Pickleball Association (AIPA)?

- A - Deepika Padukone
- B - Mandira Bedi
- C - Keshha Mehra
- D - Alia Bhatt

Correct Answer: B - Mandira Bedi

Notes:

The All India Pickleball Association (AIPA) has announced actress and fitness icon Mandira Bedi as the brand ambassador of pickleball. Her association is aimed at increasing women's participation in the sport and popularizing pickleball, which is now growing rapidly worldwide. At present, women account for 40% of the players, and their number is growing faster than men.

113. Who has been appointed as Dubai's sports ambassador to enhance the emirate's sports infrastructure and culture?

- A - Sachin Tendulkar
- B - Harbhajan Singh
- C - Virat Kohli
- D - MS Dhoni

Correct Answer: B - Harbhajan Singh

Notes:

The Dubai Sports Council has appointed four prominent global sports personalities as its sports ambassadors. These include Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh, tennis star Sania Mirza, UFC champion Khabib Nurmagomedov and French footballer Patrice Evra. The initiative is aimed at enhancing Dubai's reputation as a global sports destination and strengthening the sports ecosystem.

114. Which team won the 14th Hockey India Senior Men's National Championship 2024?

- A - Uttar Pradesh Hockey
- B - Hockey Haryana
- C - Odisha Hockey Association
- D - Manipur Hockey

Correct Answer: C - Odisha Hockey Association

Notes:

Odisha won the first gold medal by defeating Haryana 5-1 in the final of the 14th Hockey India Senior National Championship. In this match held at SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai, Odisha's Shilanand Lakra scored a hat-trick, while Rajat Akash Tirkey and Pratap Lakra also scored goals. Haryana's only goal was scored by Joginder Singh.

115. Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which country for joint development of advanced Pantsir air defence system?

- A - Russia
- B - United States
- C - Israel
- D - France

Correct Answer: A - Russia

Notes:

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Russia's Rosoboronexport to collaborate on the advanced Pantsir air defence missile-gun system. The system is designed to protect military and industrial assets from aerial threats.

December - 2024

1. Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme (CPP) is primarily related to which sector?

- [A] Animal husbandry
- [B] Aquaculture
- [C] Horticulture
- [D] Forestry

Correct Answer: C [Horticulture]

Notes:

India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$98 million loan to boost access to disease-free planting materials for horticulture farmers under the Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme. The Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme (CPP) is related to horticulture and aims to provide farmers with access to high-quality, virus-free planting material. It includes nine advanced Clean Plant Centers with diagnostic and tissue culture labs and a robust certification system for accountability and traceability. It ensures affordable access, engages women farmers, and develops region-specific plant varieties. It is implemented by the

Ministry of Agriculture through National Horticulture Board (NHB) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, it aims to strengthen India's global fruit market position.

2. Which state government received the prestigious SKOCH Award for its initiative 'Shaasan Aplya Daari' (Government at your doorstep)?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: B [Maharashtra]

Notes:

Maharashtra's 'Shashan Aaplya Dari' initiative won the SKOCH Award for its innovation and impact in governance. The program, meaning "government at your doorsteps," delivers government schemes directly to people. It was launched in Satara in May 2023. More than 280 projects nationwide competed, showcasing its effectiveness. The initiative aligns with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and will evolve into 'Shashan Aaplya Dari 2.0' under Eknath Shinde's guidance for further growth. The SKOCH Award is an award that recognizes people, projects, and institutions that work to improve India. It was established in 2003 and is considered one of the highest civilian honors in the country.

3. RESET Programme is an initiative of which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Tourism
- [B] Ministry of Agriculture
- [C] Ministry of Defence
- [D] Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Correct Answer: D [Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports]

Notes:

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports launched the Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training (RESET) Programme. The aim is to support retired athletes' career development through education, internships, and skill enhancement. Eligibility includes retired athletes aged 20-50, with achievements in recognized events. The program offers 16 specialized courses like Strength & Conditioning, Sports Nutrition, Yoga, and Sports Entrepreneurship. It combines academic learning with internships to provide practical exposure. The objective is to fill the human resource gap in the sports sector and offer career paths for retired athletes.

4. What is the primary objective of Global One-Stop Centres (OSCs) established by Ministry of External Affairs?

- [A] Promote cultural exchanges among Indian communities abroad
- [B] Provide comprehensive assistance to women in vulnerable situations
- [C] Support Indian students studying overseas

[D] Facilitate trade and economic cooperation

Correct Answer: B [Provide comprehensive assistance to women in vulnerable situations]

Notes:

The Ministry of External Affairs received approval to establish nine One-Stop Centres (OSCs) for supporting women in vulnerable situations. Seven OSCs with shelter homes will be set up in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, UAE, Jeddah, and Riyadh, while Toronto and Singapore will have OSCs without shelters. A dedicated budget line has been introduced to facilitate these initiatives, with support from the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF). ICWF provides emergency aid like boarding, travel, medical care, legal assistance, and repatriation. Legal panels assist abandoned women and resolve minor legal issues for overseas Indian nationals.

5. What is the primary objective of the 'NPS Vatsalya scheme'?

[A] To help parents and guardians plan for their children's future financial needs

[B] To offer education loans to students for higher education

[C] To provide health insurance to tribal families

[D] None of the above

Correct Answer: A [To help parents and guardians plan for their children's future financial needs]

Notes:

The National Pension Scheme (NPS) Vatsalya, launched in September 2024, allows parents or guardians to invest on behalf of children. It is designed for Indian minors (under 18) and regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). The scheme offers an interest rate between 9.5% and 10%, making it a valuable financial tool for children's future. It promotes early saving habits and financial planning for minors. The account is in the child's name, managed by a guardian, with the child as the sole beneficiary.

6. The Trans-Himalayan Multi-Dimensional Connectivity Network (THMDCN) is an economic corridor between which two countries?

[A] Nepal and India

[B] Nepal and China

[C] China and Bhutan

[D] India and China

Correct Answer: B [Nepal and China]

Notes:

Nepal and China signed an MoU to develop the Trans-Himalayan Multi-Dimensional Connectivity Network (THMDCN). THMDCN is an economic corridor under China's Belt and Road Initiative. It includes projects like the China-Nepal railway, restoration of border ports, and highway construction. The initiative aims to enhance connectivity and economic cooperation between the two countries.

7. What is the name of scheme that recently exceeded its target of training 6 crore rural individuals in digital literacy?

- [A] Pradhan Mantri BharatNet Scheme
- [B] Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan
- [C] Aadhar Digital Programme
- [D] Digital India Internship Scheme

Correct Answer: B [Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan]

Notes: Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) was launched to promote digital literacy in rural India. The scheme aimed to train one individual per household in 6 crore rural households. It successfully exceeded its target, training 6.39 crore individuals by March 31, 2024. The initiative is part of India's broader strategy to strengthen IT skills and digital infrastructure, supporting the government's vision to empower rural communities and foster economic growth through technology.

8. Which day is observed as Mahaparinirvan Diwas every year?

- [A] December 4
- [B] December 5
- [C] December 6
- [D] December 7

Correct Answer: C [December 6]

Notes:

Mahaparinirvan Diwas is observed on December 6 to honor Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar on his death anniversary. This year marks the 68th death anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar. The day is observed at Chaitya Bhoomi in Mumbai, where followers gather to pay tribute. Dr. Ambedkar is known for his role in promoting social justice, equality, and drafting the Indian Constitution. "Mahaparinirvan" refers to the Buddhist concept of ultimate liberation from suffering and death. Dr. Ambedkar's death anniversary is significant as he converted to Buddhism in 1956 with many followers.

9. What is the name of the new DTH channel launched by Ministry of Education for Indian Sign Language (ISL)?

- [A] Bharat E-Learning Channel
- [B] Inclusive Learning Channel
- [C] PMeVIDYA DTH Channel
- [D] PRAKHAR Channel

Correct Answer: C [PMeVIDYA DTH Channel]

Notes:

Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan launched PMeVIDYA Channel 31, a 24x7 platform dedicated to Indian Sign Language (ISL). The channel promotes ISL as both a language and school subject, ensuring inclusivity for children with hearing impairments. NEP

2020 prioritizes education for Children with Special Needs (CwSN) and standardizes ISL nationally while respecting local sign languages. ISL-based learning content covers school curricula, career guidance, skill training, and mental health, accessible on TV and YouTube. The initiative fosters inclusivity, aligns with constitutional rights, and aims to create global benchmarks and employment opportunities for the hearing-impaired community.

10. Which institution has developed the “Rangeen Machhli” app under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)?

- [A] Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE)
- [B] ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA)
- [C] ICAR-Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA)
- [D] ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)

Correct Answer: B [ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA)]

Notes:

ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) developed the Rangeen Machhli app with support from Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) to boost the ornamental fish industry. The app provides multilingual, reliable guidance on ornamental fish care, breeding, and maintenance in eight Indian languages. It supports hobbyists, farmers, and professionals, promoting informed fish-keeping practices and fostering community engagement. Key features include detailed fish care information, a “Find Aquarium Shops” tool for locating businesses, and educational modules on aquarium basics and ornamental aquaculture. The app promotes local businesses, empowers farmers, ensures reliable products, and fosters sustainability in the ornamental fish trade.

11. Niti Valley, which was seen in the news, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Uttarakhand
- [B] Himachal Pradesh
- [C] Sikkim
- [D] Jammu and Kashmir

Correct Answer: A [Uttarakhand]

Notes:

A new glacier was discovered in Uttarakhand’s Niti Valley, near the India-Tibet border. The glacier, about 10 km long and 48 sq km in size, is located next to the Randolph and Rekana glaciers. The discovery was made by scientists from the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology using satellite data. The glacier is ‘surging,’ meaning it is rapidly expanding in size. The phenomenon could be caused by hydrological imbalance, weakening the ice layers.

12. Which astronomical observatory has been identified as the optimal site for satellite-based quantum communications?

- [A] Kodaikanal Solar Observatory, Tamil Nadu
- [B] Devasthal Observatory, Uttarakhand

[C] Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO), Ladakh

[D] Udaipur Solar Observatory (USO), Rajasthan

Correct Answer: C [Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO), Ladakh]

Notes:

The Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) in Hanle, Ladakh, has been identified as the optimal site for satellite-based quantum communications due to its unique geographical features, such as low atmospheric water vapor levels and extreme cold temperatures. This research by the Raman Research Institute aims to enhance global quantum communication capabilities. The study also highlights the importance of atmospheric conditions in determining suitable locations for quantum key distribution and uplink transmission through the atmosphere.

13. What is the theme of India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) 2024?

[A] Inclusive Internet for Digital India

[B] Calibrating Bharat's Digital Agenda

[C] Innovating Internet Governance for India

[D] Leveraging Techade for Empowering Bharat

Correct Answer: C [Innovating Internet Governance for India]

Notes:

The India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) 2024 was held on December 9-10 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, supported by MeitY and NIXI. The event, under the theme "Innovating Internet Governance for India," focused on bridging the digital divide, trust, safety, and advanced technologies. IIGF, established in 2021 as the Indian chapter of the UN IGF, fosters multi-stakeholder dialogue on Internet policies. It promotes secure, inclusive, and ethically governed Internet practices while addressing challenges like cybersecurity, digital inclusion, and data privacy. The forum emphasizes collaborative policymaking for a secure and accessible digital future.

14. Which day is observed as International Anti-Corruption Day every year?

[A] December 7

[B] December 8

[C] December 9

[D] December 10

Correct Answer: C [December 9]

Notes:

December 9th marks International Anti-Corruption Day to raise awareness about corruption and promote collective action against it. Corruption in India affects both public and private sectors, manifesting as bribery, embezzlement, nepotism, and misuse of power. It undermines economic growth, erodes public trust, weakens the rule of law, and impacts citizens' welfare. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index ranks India 80th among 180 countries, highlighting the issue's seriousness.

15. What is the name of the world's oldest known wild bird that recently laid her 60th egg?

- [A] Eastern screech owl
- [B] Cardinalidae
- [C] Eastern bluebird Black-capped chickadee Hyacinth macaw
- [D] Laysan albatross

Correct Answer: D [Laysan albatross]

Notes:

Wisdom, a 74-year-old Laysan albatross, is the world's oldest known wild bird and has laid her 60th egg. Laysan albatrosses (*Phoebastria immutabilis*) are large seabirds inhabiting the North Pacific. 99.7% of the population is found in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, mainly on Laysan Island and Midway Atoll. They nest on sandy or grassy islands, including Oahu, Kauai, and some sites in Japan and Mexico. Known for their exceptional soaring ability, they travel hundreds of miles with minimal wing movement. They are monogamous, mate for life, and are listed as "Near Threatened" by the IUCN.

16. Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) is located in which state?

- [A] Andhra Pradesh
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] Kerala

Correct Answer: C [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

The Coimbatore District Collector recently granted community forest rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, to three tribal settlements in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR). It is a protected area at 1400 m altitude in the Anamalai Hills, Tamil Nadu, located south of the Palakkad gap. It is surrounded by Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Eravikulam National Park, and several Kerala forests. Declared a tiger reserve in 2007, it features wet evergreen forests, dry deciduous forests, montane grasslands, and marshy grasslands, supporting diverse habitats.

17. Which organization has launched an AI model for weather prediction called GenCast?

- [A] Microsoft
- [B] World Bank
- [C] Google
- [D] World Meteorological Organization

Correct Answer: C [Google]

Notes:

Google DeepMind unveiled GenCast, an AI model for weather prediction outperforming the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), the world's top forecast

system. GenCast provides faster, more accurate forecasts up to 15 days ahead, advancing beyond its deterministic predecessor by generating 50+ weather scenarios. It uses diffusion AI adapted to Earth's spherical geometry to model complex weather probabilities. GenCast improves predictions of extreme weather risks, aiding officials in saving lives, reducing damage, and cutting costs. It excels in forecasting tropical cyclone tracks and will soon release real-time and historical forecasts for public integration and research.

18. Recently, a flu-like illness named Disease X has emerged in which African country?

[A] Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

[B] Comoros

[C] Seychelles

[D] Botswana

Correct Answer: A [Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)]

Notes:

Recently, a flu-like illness named Disease X has emerged in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, causing alarm due to its high infection and mortality rates. The World Health Organization (WHO) is actively investigating the outbreak, which has affected over 400 individuals, with 143 reported deaths, primarily among children. Complications arise from severe malnutrition in patients, hindering diagnosis. The WHO is deploying teams to collect samples and study transmission patterns in remote areas like Kwango province.

19. The Laokhowa and Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries are Protected Areas (PAs) of which state?

[A] Assam

[B] Manipur

[C] Mizoram

[D] Sikkim

Correct Answer: A [Assam]

Notes:

The Laokhowa and Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries are two centrally located Protected Areas (PAs) of Assam. The Laokhowa and Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries are crucial for the conservation of the greater one-horned rhinoceros, which has faced severe poaching threats. These sanctuaries serve as vital habitats and buffer zones for the nearby Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. Recent conservation efforts, including habitat improvement and community support, aim to enhance the natural movement and population sustainability of rhinos within these protected areas. Collaborative training programs for wildlife staff also play a significant role in ensuring effective monitoring and protection of these endangered species.

20. Which state is the host of 10th World Ayurveda Congress and Arogya Expo 2024?

[A] Himachal Pradesh

[B] Tamil Nadu

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Uttarakhand

Correct Answer: D [Uttarakhand]

Notes:

Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated the 10th World Ayurveda Congress and Arogya Expo 2024 in Dehradun on December 12, 2024. The first Ayurveda Conference was held in Kochi, Kerala, in 2002, and it is organized every two years. The 9th edition was held in Goa from December 8-11, 2022. The 2024 event, held from December 12-15, is organized by the Union Ministry of Ayush and the World Ayurveda Foundation. The theme is "Digital Health – An Ayurveda Perspective," focusing on integrating technology like telemedicine and health apps. The Congress promotes Ayurveda globally, featuring research presentations.

21. Chakki River, which was seen in the news, is tributary of which river?

[A] Godavari

[B] Narmada

[C] Beas

[D] Yamuna

Correct Answer: C [Beas]

Notes:

A joint committee informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) about stone-crushing units altering the Chakki River's course. The Chakki River is a tributary of the Beas River, flowing through Himachal Pradesh and Punjab, and merging with the Beas near Pathankot. It is fed by snow and rain from the Dhauladhar mountains. Unregulated sand mining is damaging the riverbed and banks. The Beas River is crucial for Punjab, one of the Five Rivers of the region, and was known as Arjiki or Hyphasis in ancient times.

22. Which country has launched the world's first Taxonomy of Green Steel?

[A] Russia

[B] India

[C] China

[D] Israel

Correct Answer: B [India]

Notes:

India has launched the world's first Taxonomy of Green Steel to decarbonize the steel industry. It was introduced by the Union Ministry of Steel as part of efforts to transition to a low-carbon economy. The taxonomy defines "Green Steel" based on CO₂ emissions per tonne of finished steel (tfs). Steel is classified as green if its emission intensity is below 2.2 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per tonne of finished steel. The greenness of steel is expressed as a percentage, showing how much emissions are reduced below the 2.2 t-CO₂e/tfs threshold. This initiative supports the National Mission on Green Steel.

23. Which country revoked the India's Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) clause under its Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement?

- [A] Russia
- [B] France
- [C] Switzerland
- [D] Ireland

Correct Answer: C [Switzerland]

Notes:

Switzerland will suspend the Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) clause in its Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with India from January 1, 2025. This may lead to higher tax burdens for Indian companies in Switzerland and Swiss investors in India, affecting bilateral investments. MFN means trade concessions granted to one partner must be extended to all partners, promoting fairness. It aims to replace power-based policies with a rules-based system. Exemptions include bilateral agreements, special access for developing countries, and trade blocs like the EU. MFN can be removed without formal procedure, as seen when India revoked it for Pakistan in 2019.

24. Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) is associated with which state?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Telangana

Correct Answer: D [Telangana]

Notes:

The National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) is set to submit its final report on the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) soon, excluding geo-technical tests. KLIS is a multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River in Kaleshwaram, Telangana. It provides water for irrigation and drinking purposes to 45 lakh acres across 20 districts in Telangana, including Hyderabad and Secunderabad. It is the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project, spanning 500 km through 13 districts with a canal network of over 1,800 km. The project produces 240 TMC of water, mainly for irrigation, municipal supply, and industrial uses.

25. Kerch Strait, which was seen in the news, connects which two water bodies?

- [A] Black Sea and Sea of Azov
- [B] Mediterranean Sea and Adriatic Sea
- [C] Red Sea and Arabian Sea
- [D] Black sea and Red Sea

Correct Answer: A [Black Sea and Sea of Azov]

Notes:

A Russian oil tanker recently split during a storm, spilling oil into the Kerch Strait. The Kerch Strait connects the Black Sea with the Sea of Azov and separates Crimea from Russia's Taman Peninsula. It's 3 km long, 15 km wide, and 18 meters deep, with its narrowest point being just 3-5 km. Kerch city is located on the Crimean side, and the strait is a vital global shipping route. After Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, it has been a point of conflict. The Kerch Strait Bridge, completed in 2018, links Russia to Crimea and is Europe's longest bridge.

26. National Energy Conservation Award is an initiative of which institution?

- [A] Securities and Exchange Board of India
- [B] Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Reserve Bank of India

Correct Answer: B [Bureau of Energy Efficiency]

Notes:

The Vice President of India recently felicitated winners of the National Energy Conservation Award (NECA). NECA is organized by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) under the Ministry of Power. Instituted in 1991, it coincides with National Energy Conservation Day on December 14. These awards recognize industries, institutions, and establishments for reducing energy consumption while maintaining or improving efficiency. Applications are reviewed by a Technical Committee chaired by the Member (Thermal), CEA, and include experts from ministries and agencies. The Award Committee, led by the Secretary (Power), gives final approval, and winners are honored annually.

27. What are the 'Santa Ana' winds, recently seen in the news?

- [A] Cold, wet winds from the Pacific Ocean
- [B] Winds from the Arctic region
- [C] Dry, warm, and powerful winds from the Great Basin
- [D] Winds that bring rainfall to California

Correct Answer: C [Dry, warm, and powerful winds from the Great Basin]

Notes:

Experts link Santa Ana winds and climate change to wildfires in Malibu, California. Named after Santa Ana Canyon, these winds are dry and warm, blowing from the deserts of the Great Basin. They occur when high pressure forms over the Great Basin and low pressure develops along California's coast. The pressure difference drives strong winds westward over the mountains toward the Pacific Ocean. As winds descend, they heat up and lose humidity—sometimes dropping below 10%, drying vegetation and increasing fire risk. Santa Ana winds usually occur between October and January, driven by winter weather patterns.

28. Which day is observed as International Migrants Day?

- [A] December 17

[B] December 18

[C] December 19

[D] December 20

Correct Answer: B [December 18]

Notes:

International Migrants Day is observed on December 18 each year to promote fair migration policies and advocate for migrants' rights. The 2024 theme is "Honouring the contributions of migrants and respecting their rights," highlighting both the exploitation of migrants and their positive societal contributions. The day also emphasizes the importance of inclusive migration policies that uphold human dignity. Established by the UN in 2000, it marks the adoption of the International Convention on the Protection of Migrant Workers' Rights, aiming to protect migrants regardless of status or location.

29. Jodhaiya Bai, who passed away recently, belonged to which Indian tribal community?

[A] Gond Tribe

[B] Baiga Tribe

[C] Santhal Tribe

[D] Bhil Tribe

Correct Answer: B [Baiga Tribe]

Notes:

Renowned Baiga tribal artist and Padma Shri awardee Jodhaiya Bai passed away on December 15, 2024, at 86 in Lodha village, Umaria district, Madhya Pradesh. The Baiga Tribe is a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) primarily residing in central and eastern Indian states. Jodhaiya Bai gained international recognition for her artwork, showcasing Baiga tribal culture on canvas. She was honored with the Padma Shri in 2023 for her significant contributions to the arts. Her art has been exhibited globally, highlighting the rich traditions and heritage of the Baiga community.

30. Wroughton's free-tailed bat is primarily found in which region of India?

[A] Eastern Ghats

[B] Ladakh

[C] Northeastern

[D] Western Ghats

Correct Answer: D [Western Ghats]

Notes:

Wroughton's free-tailed bat, a rare molossid bat, was recently spotted at Delhi's Yamuna Biodiversity Park. It has large size, big ears, bicoloured velvet fur, and is a strong flier. It roosts in caves or dark, damp places in moderate colonies. It is mainly found in the Western Ghats, with small colonies in Meghalaya and a single sighting in Cambodia. It is listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act. It plays a crucial role in insect regulation and pollination.

31. Which state is the host of CII Connect 2024 conference?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

The 22nd edition of CII Connect was held on December 17-18, 2024, in Chennai, focusing on “Artificial Intelligence in Action – Real-World Applications in Business.” Discussions highlighted AI’s role in rural and urban development, manufacturing, supply chain resilience, smart governance, and community empowerment. Advancements in quantum computing and AR/VR were explored, along with AI-driven products for business operations. The event emphasized industry-academia collaboration to develop an AI-ready workforce for future challenges.

32. Sahyog HOP TAC-2024 exercise is held between India and which country?

- [A] Russia
- [B] Vietnam
- [C] Australia
- [D] France

Correct Answer: B [Vietnam]

Notes:

Vietnam Coast Guard Ship CSB 8005 visited Kochi for the “Sahyog — Hop Tac” maritime exercises. The Sahyog HOP TAC exercise is held between India and Vietnam. The exercises aim to enhance maritime cooperation and improve operational interoperability between the two nations. They focus on strengthening bilateral relations and addressing regional maritime challenges like security threats and environmental issues. The initiative fosters mutual trust and collaboration between India and Vietnam.

33. Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Assam
- [D] Odisha

Correct Answer: B [Karnataka]

Notes:

Environmentalists oppose mining near Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka. The sanctuary, established in 2019, aims to protect chinkaras (Indian gazelles). It is the second chinkara sanctuary in Karnataka after Yadahalli Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary. Located in Sira Taluk of Tumakuru district, the sanctuary spans 148 km² (57 sq mi). Named after the

village Bukkapatna, it is a vital habitat for chinkaras. Mining proposals raise concerns about potential threats to the sanctuary's ecosystem and wildlife.

34. What is the rank of India in the Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2024?

- [A] 37th
- [B] 38th
- [C] 39th
- [D] 42nd

Correct Answer: C [39th]

Notes:

India ranks 39th in the 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) by the World Economic Forum, improving from its 54th rank in 2021, later revised to 38th due to methodology changes. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial aid under schemes like Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD, and Assistance to Central Agencies for developing tourism infrastructure. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched the Advantage Healthcare India portal (www.healinindia.gov.in) to assist international patients seeking medical treatment in India. Union Minister for Tourism and Culture, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, shared this in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

35. Which institution released a report on “S.A.F.E. Accommodation – Worker Housing for manufacturing growth”?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] Reserve Bank of India
- [C] National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- [D] National Human Rights Commission

Correct Answer: A [NITI Aayog]

Notes:

NITI Aayog released a report “S.A.F.E. Accommodation – Worker Housing for manufacturing growth”. The report highlights the need for secure, affordable, flexible, and efficient housing for industrial workers to boost India's manufacturing sector. The Union Budget 2024-25 proposes rental housing with dormitory-style accommodations for workers under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) and industry commitments. India aims to raise the manufacturing sector's GDP share from 17% to 25% by 2047, aligning with Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat goals. The S.A.F.E. initiative seeks to align regulations and finances for sustainable housing, boosting workforce stability, productivity, and global investments.

36. Which two countries jointly launched the “Phewa Dialogue” series?

- [A] Nepal and India
- [B] China and India
- [C] Bhutan and China

[D] Nepal and China

Correct Answer: D [Nepal and China]

Notes: Nepal and China recently launched the “Phewa Dialogue” series, named after the renowned Phewa Lake in Nepal’s Pokhara Valley. Phewa Lake, one of Nepal’s largest, receives inflows from Harpan Khola and Seti Khola springs. The dialogue focuses on addressing South Asia’s industrial shift and related needs. It is Nepal’s first official think tank forum dedicated to fostering South Asia Regional Economic Integration.

37. Bordoibam-Bilmukh Bird Sanctuary is located in which state?

[A] Assam

[B] Nagaland

[C] Manipur

[D] Mizoram

Correct Answer: A [Assam]

Notes:

Bordoibam-Bilmukh Bird Sanctuary in Assam has seen a 72% decline in avian species over 27 years. The decline is linked to human activities like fishing, poaching, egg collection, and land-use changes. Bordoibam-Bilmukh Bird Sanctuary is a freshwater lake spanning 11.25 sq. km in Assam, located between Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts. The sanctuary experiences a moist tropical climate with an average annual rainfall of 2,000 mm. Its vegetation is dominated by flooded valley grasslands and wetland ecosystems.

38. National Farmers’ Day is observed on which day?

[A] 22 December

[B] 23 December

[C] 24 December

[D] 25 December

Correct Answer: B [23 December]

Notes:

Farmers’ Day, or Kisan Diwas, is observed annually on 23 December. The day marks the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, India’s fifth Prime Minister, known as the “Champion of India’s Farmers.” It honors farmers’ contributions to the Indian economy and raises awareness about their challenges. Farmers’ Day was first celebrated in 2001 as an initiative by the Government of India. Chaudhary Charan Singh introduced impactful agricultural policies to empower farmers and address rural challenges. He advocated sustainable practices and aimed to create a self-reliant agrarian economy.

39. Which country won the Women’s T20 Under 19 Asia Cup 2024?

[A] India

[B] Bangladesh

[C] South Africa

[D] Australia

Correct Answer: A [India]

Notes: India clinched the inaugural Women's U-19 Asia Cup by defeating Bangladesh by 41 runs in the final on December 22, 2024, at Bayuemas Oval, Kuala Lumpur. India set a total of 117 runs, with G Trisha scoring a significant 52 runs. The Indian bowlers, led by Ayushi Shukla, Sonam Yadav, and Parunika Sisodia, effectively dismantled the Bangladesh batting lineup, restricting them to just 76 runs. This victory marks a significant achievement for the Indian women's cricket team at the U19 level.

40. The Dr Ambedkar Samman Scholarship scheme has been introduced for Dalit students in which state/UT?

[A] Jharkhand

[B] Delhi

[C] Bihar

[D] Ladakh

Correct Answer: B [Delhi]

Notes:

AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal announced the Dr. Ambedkar Samman Scholarship for Dalit students. The scholarship offers full financial support for Dalit students to pursue higher education abroad. It covers tuition fees, travel costs, and living expenses for studying at top universities worldwide. The initiative ensures deserving Dalit students can access world-class education without financial barriers. This step by the Delhi government aims to empower the Dalit community through higher education opportunities.

41. Lesotho country lies in which of the following continents?

[A] Asia

[B] Africa

[C] North America

[D] Australia

Correct Answer: B [Africa]

Notes:

India sent 1,000 metric tonnes of rice to Lesotho to address food security and nutrition challenges. Lesotho is a landlocked country entirely within South Africa, with its capital and largest city being Maseru. Known as "The Mountain Kingdom," it is located in the Maloti Mountains and includes Thabana Ntlenyana, Southern Africa's highest peak. The Orange River, one of Africa's longest rivers, originates in the Lesotho Highlands.

42. Operation Green Scheme is implemented by which ministry?

[A] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

- [B] Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- [C] Ministry of Rural Development
- [D] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare]

Notes:

Operation Green Scheme was launched in 2018 to enhance the production, supply, and marketing of horticulture produce in India. It focuses on the value chain of Tomato, Onion, and Potato (TOP) for both short-term and long-term interventions. The scheme also aims to support other perishable agricultural commodities. It is implemented under two parts: Atmanirbhar Bharat Package and Operation Flood. The scheme is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and funded by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED).

43. Which institution has formed a “Free AI committee” to develop AI framework in financial sector?

- [A] Niti Aayog
- [B] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [C] Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: B [Reserve Bank of India (RBI)]

Notes:

The RBI formed a committee named FREE-AI to establish a framework for responsible and ethical AI use in the financial sector. The committee is led by Pushpak Bhattacharyya, a professor at IIT Bombay. The committee will propose frameworks for AI governance, risk mitigation, and ethical adoption for banks, NBFCs, FinTechs, and PSOs. It will also address broader AI-related matters in the Indian financial sector. The committee will submit its report within six months of its first meeting.

44. Which institution released the “Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2023-24” report?

- [A] International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)
- [B] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [C] Indian Economic Trade Organization (IETO)
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: B [Reserve Bank of India (RBI)]

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the “Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2023-24” report. The report highlights the banking sector’s performance. Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) showed improved profitability for the sixth consecutive year, with a 13-year low in Gross NPAs at 2.5%. The Capital-to-Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) for SCBs stood at 16.8%, exceeding regulatory requirements. Urban Co-operative Banks saw expansion,

with improved asset quality. Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) reported double-digit credit growth and reduced GNPA to 3.4%. Technological advancements like Unified Lending Interface (ULI) and Open Credit Enablement Network (OCEN) aim to improve credit access. The report highlights rising banking frauds, with cases surging to ₹21,367 crore in 2024.

45. Which country has approved the construction of the world's largest hydropower dam on the Brahmaputra River?

- [A] China
- [B] India
- [C] Bhutan
- [D] Nepal

Correct Answer: A [China]

Notes:

China approved building the world's largest hydropower dam near the Indian border, raising concerns in India and Bangladesh. The dam will be constructed at a Himalayan gorge where the Yarlung Zangbo River (Brahmaputra) turns sharply before flowing into Arunachal Pradesh and Bangladesh. The project, costing over 1 trillion yuan (\$137 billion), will generate over 300 billion kWh annually, surpassing the Three Gorges Dam's 88.2 billion kWh capacity. It forms part of China's 14th Five-Year Plan and long-term goals for 2035. Located on a tectonic plate boundary, the site poses significant earthquake risks.

46. The Indian Army has recently installed a statue of Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Shivaji at which lake?

- [A] Dal Lake
- [B] Pangong Lake
- [C] Tso Moriri Lake
- [D] Wular Lake

Correct Answer: B [Pangong Lake]

Notes:

The Indian Army installed a statue of Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj near Pangong Tso lake in eastern Ladakh. The statue stands at an altitude of 14,300 feet, near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) bordering China. It was unveiled on December 26, 2024, celebrating Shivaji's unwavering spirit and inspirational legacy. The statue symbolizes the enduring values and courage of the Indian ruler.

47. What is the primary objective of PM-ABHIM scheme?

- [A] To strengthen healthcare infrastructure
- [B] To strengthen financial systems
- [C] To improve education systems across India
- [D] To build new railway networks

Correct Answer: A [To strengthen healthcare infrastructure]

Notes:

The Delhi High Court directed an MoU between the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Delhi Government for implementing PM-ABHIM. PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with Central Sector Components, having a budget of ₹64,180 crore (2021-22 to 2025-26). It is the largest pan-India scheme to strengthen healthcare infrastructure at primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. The scheme addresses critical gaps in health infrastructure, surveillance, and health research in urban and rural areas.

48. Which country has reported the Norovirus outbreak in December 2024?

- [A] France
- [B] United States
- [C] China
- [D] Russia

Correct Answer: B [United States]

Notes:

Norovirus outbreaks in the United States (U.S.) have risen sharply, with 91 cases in early December, up from 69 in late November. Norovirus is a highly contagious virus causing gastroenteritis, also known as the “stomach flu” or “winter vomiting bug.” It affects people of all ages and spreads quickly through contaminated food, water, surfaces, or close contact. Noroviruses cause 90% of viral gastroenteritis outbreaks and nearly 50% of cases worldwide. People can get infected multiple times due to the variety of norovirus strains. Preventive measures focus on hygiene and proper food handling to limit its spread.

49. Which country has recently hosted Chitwan Elephant Festival to promote tourism?

- [A] Bhutan
- [B] Sri Lanka
- [C] Nepal
- [D] Myanmar

Correct Answer: C [Nepal]

Notes:

The 18th Chitwan Elephant Festival was held at Chitwan National Park in Kathmandu, Nepal, from December 26-30, 2024. The festival aims to promote tourism and attracts many tourists with events like elephant parades, a beauty contest, football, and a picnic. More than 80 elephants, from private and government-run facilities, participated this year. The elephant football competition, featuring penalty shootouts, was a highlight, with elephants like Champakali, Basnatikali, and Ramkali thrilling audiences. Elephant polo was excluded this year in response to animal rights concerns.

50. Who won the women’s World Rapid Chess title in December 2024?

- [A] Tania Sachdev
- [B] Koneru Humpy
- [C] Harika Dronavalli
- [D] Divya Deshmukh

Correct Answer: B [Koneru Humpy]

Notes:

Koneru Humpy won her second women's World Rapid Chess title in New York. She scored 8.5 points in 11 rounds, defeating Indonesia's Irene Sukander in the final. At 37, Humpy is India's top-ranked female chess player and the second woman to win this title twice. Her first championship win was in 2019 in Georgia, showcasing her consistency and skill. This victory highlights her exceptional talent, strategic expertise, and adaptability in the competitive chess arena.

51. Who was the renowned economic historian and scholar known for works such as "Private Investment in India 1900-1939" and "The Political Economy of Underdevelopment", who died at the age of 83?

- A - Amartya Sen
- B - Amiya Kumar Bagchi
- C - Prabhat Patnaik
- D - Ashok Mitra

Correct Answer: B - Amiya Kumar Bagchi

Notes:

Professor Amiya Kumar Bagchi, who died on 28 November 2024, was one of the leading economists of contemporary times. He worked in mathematical economics and game theory, but later focused on the colonial history of the Indian economy. His major works are "Private Investment in India 1900-1939" and "Deindustrialization in the Indian Economy in the Colonial Period".

52. Who was identified as the world's oldest person by Guinness World Records in April 2024 and died at the age of 112?

- A - Walter Bruning
- B - Jiroemon Kimura
- C - John Tinniswood
- D - Robert Marchand

Correct Answer: C - John Tinniswood

Notes:

The world's oldest man, John Tinniswood, died on November 25, 2024 in Southport, England, at the age of 112. He held the record of the oldest living person after the death of Venezuela's Juan Vicente Perez in April 2024. Tinniswood was born on August 26, 1912, and attributed his long life to 'God's grace' and a moderate lifestyle.

53. Which film won the ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024?

- A - Shades of Tomorrow
- B - The Silent Path
- C - The Last Dance
- D - Crossing

Correct Answer: D - Crossing

Notes:

The Swedish film Crossing won the ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa. The award was given to the film for its promotion of peace, non-violence and human rights. Crossing is the story of an elderly woman who travels from Georgia to Istanbul to find her niece and reflects on gender issues, equality and relationships that span generations.

54. Who was honoured with the Indian Film Personality Award at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024?

- A - Vikrant Massey
- B - Ayushmann Khurrana
- C - Rajkummar Rao
- D - Ranveer Singh

Correct Answer: A - Vikrant Massey

Notes:

Actor Vikrant Massey was honoured with the Best Indian Film Personality of the Year Award at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI). The honour was presented to him by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Sanjay Jaju, which recognises Massey's exceptional contribution to Indian cinema.

55. Which country has been re-elected to the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission for the term 2025-2026?

- A - India
- B - Brazil
- C - Argentina
- D - Algeria

Correct Answer: A - India

Notes:

India has been re-elected to the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission for the term 2025-2026. India, which is a major contributor and founding member of the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission, has expressed its commitment to continue its participation. The Peacebuilding Commission is an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts in conflict-affected countries and plays an important role in the global agenda for peace.

56. A film titled "Toxic" has won the Golden Peacock Award for Best Feature Film at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024. Which is the origin country of this film?

- A - Latvia
- B - Lithuania
- C - Sweden
- D - Denmark

Correct Answer: B - Lithuania

Notes:

Lithuanian film Toxic won the Golden Peacock Award at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI). The film is a story of 13-yearold girls who are pushed to physical and emotional limits at a modelling school. The closing ceremony took place on November 28 in Goa, where over 200 films from 75 countries were screened.

57. Which title did India win in the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2024 after beating Pakistan 5-3 in the final in December 2024?

- A - Third
- B - Fourth
- C - Fifth
- D - Sixth

Correct Answer: C - Fifth

Notes:

India won a record fifth title in the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2024 after beating Pakistan 5-3. In the final played in Muscat, Oman, the Indian team made a brilliant comeback after trailing 1-3 and equalised 3-3. Arijeet Singh Hundal scored three goals, including the decisive one, and ensured India's victory.

58. Who is going to take oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra in the new Mahayuti government in December 2024?

- A - Ajit Pawar
- B - Devendra Fadnavis
- C - Eknath Shinde
- D - Uday Samant Former

Correct Answer: C - Eknath Shinde

Notes:

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has finally decided that he will take over the post of Deputy Chief Minister in the new government. Sources in the Shiv Sena Shinde faction have given this information. After this announcement, the BJP has elected Devendra Fadnavis as the leader of the legislative party, and he will be the next Chief Minister of the state.

60. After being defeated in a no-confidence motion in December 2024, who became the shortest-serving Prime Minister in the history of the French Fifth Republic?

- A - Emmanuel Macron
- B - Michel Barnier
- C - Marine Le Pen
- D - Jean-Luc Melenchon

Correct Answer: B - Michel Barnier

Notes:

French Prime Minister Michel Barnier's government fell on Wednesday after a no-confidence motion was passed in Parliament. The motion received 331 votes in favour, while it needed 288 votes to pass. Now, Barnier and his entire cabinet will have to submit their resignation to President Macron.

61. Who won the ISSA Good Practice Award for Asia-Pacific 2024

- A - India
- B - Australia
- C - China
- D - Japan

Correct Answer: A – India

Notes:

India has been awarded the 2024 International Social Security Association (ISSA) Good Practice Award. The award was given to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) at the Regional Social Security Forum held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for five key aspects.

63. Which country is the theme country in the 30th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) 2024?

- A - Germany
- B - Japan
- C - France
- D – Italy

Correct Answer: C - France

Notes:

The 30th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) began on December 4, 2024, with France chosen as the theme country. The festival will specially showcase the rich cultural and cinematic heritage of France. A total of around 180 films from 29 countries will be screened at the festival, including 21 French films.

64. When is Armed Forces Flag Day celebrated?

- A - 1 December
- B - 4 December
- C - 7 December

D - 7 November

Correct Answer: C - 7 December

Notes:

Armed Forces Flag Day is celebrated every year on 7 December, which was established on 28 August 1949 by a committee headed by the Defence Minister. Its main objective is to make citizens aware of the welfare of the armed forces personnel and their families.

65. Which festival inaugurated by the Prime Minister on December 6 showcased the arts, crafts and traditions of Northeast India?

A - National Art Festival

B - Bharat Crafts Festival

C - Northeast Heritage Festival

D - Ashtalakshmi Festival

Correct Answer: D - Ashtalakshmi Festival

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the three-day 'Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav' at Pragati Maidan in Delhi on Friday, which will showcase the cultural, crafts and economic heritage of the Northeast.

66. Which indigenous UAV, delivered by Adani Defence, is equipped with NATO's STANAG 4671 certification and offers 36 hours of endurance?

A - Rustom-III

B - Heron TP

C - Maha Ghatak II

D - Drishti-10 Starliner

Correct Answer: D - Drishti-10 Starliner

Notes:

Adani Group company Adani Defence and Aerospace has handed over the second Drishti-10 Starliner surveillance drone to the Indian Navy. With the help of this drone, the Indian Navy will increase its maritime surveillance capabilities and help reduce the risk of pirates.

67. Recently, the new Revenue Secretary of the Union Finance Ministry has been appointed –

A - Arunima Chawla

B - Kalpana Meena

C - Vikas Sharma

D - Kanishka Kataria

Correct Answer: A - Arunima Chawla

Notes:

Arunima Chawla, a 1992 batch senior IAS officer of Bihar cadre, has been appointed as the new Revenue Secretary in the Finance Ministry. She will replace Ajay Seth, who took

additional charge of Revenue Secretary. Till now, Arunima Chawla was working as the Secretary of the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

68. Recently, America has declared which bird as its national bird –

- A - Black Eagle
- B - Bald Eagle
- C - Black Swan
- D – Shop

Correct Answer: B - Bald Eagle

Notes:

America has recently declared the Bald Eagle as its national bird. Although this bird was on the US Great Seal since 1782, it has now been formally recognized as the national bird. This decision was sponsored by the legislators of Minnesota and approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

69. Who has been appointed as the new CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Jammu and Kashmir Bank (J&K)-

- A - Amitav Chatterjee
- B - Abhishek Karni
- C - M. Hidayatullah
- D - D.K. Mall

Correct Answer: A - Amitav Chatterjee

Notes:

Amitav Chatterjee has been appointed as the new CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Jammu and Kashmir Bank (J&K Bank). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved his appointment. Chatterjee, who was currently working as a deputy manager in SBI, has 33 years of banking experience. He will replace Baldev Prakash, who was the old CEO of the bank.

70. Recently, China has approved the construction of a dam on which river near the Indian border –

- A - Sutlej River
- B - Beas River
- C - Brahmaputra River
- D - Ina River

Correct Answer: C - Brahmaputra River

Notes:

China has recently approved the construction of a new dam on the Brahmaputra River (Yarlung Tsanpo) near the Indian border. The project will be built at an estimated cost of \$137 billion and is being built to boost hydroelectric power generation. The construction of

this dam is causing strategic and environmental concerns to India and Bangladesh, as it will give China the possibility of control over the river's water flow.

71. 'Lion Tailed Macaque' is found in which region of India –

- A - Western Ghats
- B - Eastern Ghats
- C - Himalayan region
- D - Gangetic swamp region

Correct Answer: A - Western Ghats

Notes:

Lion-tailed Macaque, also known as Singh-tailed Macaque, is found in the Western Ghats region of India. This species mainly inhabits rain forests located in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, especially in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. This species is considered endangered by the IUCN and is listed in Appendix-1 of CITES.

72. Recently former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh died. When did he take charge in the Finance Ministry before becoming Prime Minister?

- A - 1970
- B - 1980
- C - 1990
- D – 2000

Correct Answer: C - 1990

Notes:

Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh passed away recently. He served as the 13th Prime Minister from 2004 to 2014. In the 1990s, when he was in the post of Finance Minister, he took important steps towards the economic liberalization of India

73. Which company has recently launched its most affordable AI supercomputer?

- A - Nvidia
- B - Tesla
- C - Flipkart
- D – Amazon

Correct Answer: A - Nvidia

Notes:

Nvidia has recently launched its most affordable AI supercomputer, called the Jetson Orin Nano Super Generative AI. This supercomputer is available at a price of \$249, making it affordable and effective. Its key feature is the NVIDIA Ampere architecture GPU, which contains Rencer cores, which accelerate deep learning tasks.

74. Recently, in the GST Council meeting, new tax rates have been implemented on popcorn, they have been divided into how many categories?

A - 3

B - 4

C - 5

D - 6

Correct Answer: A - 3

Notes: Recently, in the GST Council meeting, new tax rates have been implemented on popcorn, and these have been divided into three categories: 5% GST: on branded popcorn mixed with salt and spices. 12% GST: on pre-packaged and branded popcorn. 18% GST: on caramel popcorn.

75. Which of the following Indian airports recently launched a waste processing unit under a green initiative?

A - Indore

B - Bhopal

C - Jaipur

D - Delhi

Correct Answer: A - Indore

Notes:

Recently, Indore airport has launched a new waste processing unit under a green initiative. This step has been taken to promote waste management especially in eco-friendly ways. The launch of this unit will make it possible to effectively recycle and process the waste generated at the airport, which will not only improve cleanliness but will also take an important step towards environmental sustainability.

76. The recently passed Merchant Shipping Bill-2024 will replace the earlier passed Shipping Bill of the following years –

A - 1958

B - 1959

C - 1960

D - 1961

Correct Answer: A - 1958

Notes:

The recently passed Merchant Shipping Bill-2024 has replaced the earlier passed Shipping Bill in the year 1958. The new bill has been brought with the aim of modernizing the Indian shipping sector and making it in line with global standards. It includes various innovative provisions such as improving the registration of shipping companies, simplifying regulatory frameworks, and establishing compatibility with international shipping standards.

77. Which scheme has been initiated by the Central Government recently to empower the Panchayats?

- A - Vikasit Panchayat Karmayogi Initiative
- B - Vikasit Bharat - Developed Panchayat
- C - Samriddh Gaon - Samriddh Bharat
- D - None of these

Correct Answer: A - Vikasit Panchayat Karmayogi Initiative

Notes:

Recently, the Central Government has launched a new initiative called 'Vikasit Panchayat Karmayogi' to empower the Panchayats.

78. "Ambedkar Samman Yojana" has been launched under the leadership of which politician?

- A - Amit Shah
- B - Arvind Kejriwal
- C - Nitish Kumar
- D - Bhajanlal Sharma

Correct Answer: B - Arvind Kejriwal

Notes:

A new scheme called "Ambedkar Samman Yojana" has been launched under the leadership of Aam Aadmi Party leader Arvind Kejriwal. The main objective of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to young students from the Dalit community to pursue higher education abroad. The scheme will cover the tuition fees, travel expenses and other educational expenses of the students.

79. Recently, RBI has constituted a panel for the use of ethical AI framework in the financial sector, who has been made the chairman of this panel?

- A - Prof. Pushpak Bhattacharya
- B - Prof. Romila Thapar
- C - Prof. Ashwani Gupta
- D - Prof. Anju Gehlot

Correct Answer: A - Prof. Pushpak Bhattacharya

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently constituted a special panel for the use of ethical Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the financial sector. This panel will be chaired by Professor Pushpak Bhattacharya of IIT Bombay. The main objective of the panel is to determine guidelines for responsible and ethical use of AI in financial services.

80. When was the "Ayushman Bharat Health Scheme" launched?

- A - 15 September - 2021
- B - 15 September - 2022
- C - 15 September - 2023
- D - 15 September – 2019

Correct Answer: A - 15 September - 2021

Notes:

"Ayushman Bharat Health Scheme" was launched on September 15, 2021. This scheme is sponsored by the Government of India, with the main objective of providing holistic healthcare services to the citizens in rural and urban areas of the country. Under this scheme, a variety of healthcare facilities and services will be made accessible to the citizens, including prevention, primary care, and emergency healthcare services.

81. Maia Sandu sworn in as the President of which country for the second time?

- A - Norway
- B - Moldova
- C - Japan
- D – Ukraine

Correct Answer: B - Moldova

Notes:

Maia Sandu has recently been sworn in as the President of Moldova for the second time. Her second term began on 24 December 2024. Maia Sandu was first elected to this post in the year 2020 and she is the first female President of Moldova, which became independent in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

82. Which birth anniversary of Sardar Udham Singh was celebrated recently?

- A - 127th
- B - 126th
- C - 125th
- D - 124th

Correct Answer: C - 125th

Notes:

Recently, the 125th birth anniversary of Sardar Udham Singh was celebrated in India. Sardar Udham Singh, who was born on 26 December 1899 in Sangrur district of Punjab, was a prominent revolutionary of the Indian freedom struggle. He is particularly known for the assassination of British officer Michael O'Dwyer in retaliation for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. This incident earned him a place in Indian history as a brave martyr.

83. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently visited Kuwait. Which visit is this of Prime Minister Modi ?

- A - First
- B - Second
- C - Third
- D – Fourth

Correct Answer: A - First

Notes:

Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi made an official visit to Kuwait on 21-22 December 2024 at the invitation of Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Nahel Al Ahmed Al Sabah. This was his first visit to Kuwait, in which he attended the opening of the 26th Arabian Gulf Cup. During this, Kuwait conferred the "Order of Mubarak Al Kabir" award on him. Prime Minister Modi and the Sheikh agreed to transform India-Kuwait bilateral relations into a strategic partnership.

84. When is National Farmers' Day celebrated?

- A - 21 December
- B - 23 December
- C - 29 December
- D - 1 January

Correct Answer: B - 23 December

Notes:

Farmers are the foundation of India's prosperity and their contribution is vital in nation building. Their hard work empowers the country's economy, keeps the rural sector stable and ensures the strength of every household. National Farmers' Day is celebrated on 23 December, which is a celebration of the contribution of the Indian farmer and also the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, the fifth Prime Minister of India.

85. Recently, Indian women's cricket team player Riya Ghosh has scored a record-breaking half-century, in how many balls did she complete it?

- A - 18 balls
- B - 20 balls
- C - 16 balls
- D - 21 balls

Correct Answer: A - 18 balls

Notes:

Indian wicketkeeper-batsman Richa Ghosh created history by scoring the fastest half-century in women's T20 international matches. She completed this record in just 18 balls in the third T20 match against West Indies, and equaled the record of New Zealand's Sophie Devine and Australia's Phoebe Litchfield.

86. Who is the President of International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)?

- A - Luciana Rossi
- B - Amy Jackson
- C - Adam Hobbs
- D - Nikhit Zareen

Correct Answer: A - Luciana Rossi

Notes:

India has got the opportunity to host the ISSF Junior World Cup Rifle and Shotgun in 2025, which reflects its growing reputation in shooting sports. The event will be the ninth top-level

shooting championship in India in the last decade and will add another feather to NRAI's record. It was confirmed by the ISSF on 20 December 2024.

87. Recently a virus has spread in Uganda, due to which many people there have been infected. This virus is?

- A - Joy - Joy
- B - Dinga - Dinga
- C - Niyat - Niyat
- D - African - 90

Correct Answer: B - Dinga - Dinga

Notes:

There is news of Dinga-Dinga virus spreading in the African country Uganda, in which more than 300 people have been infected, mostly women and girls. Its maximum effect has been seen in Bundibugyo district. The symptoms of the virus include strong tremors, which look like dancing, and paralysis can also occur if the infection increases. This virus was first identified in 2023, and the Ugandan government is investigating it.

88. Recently, the GST Council meeting was held in Jaisalmer, who chaired it?

- A - Prime Minister
- B - Home Minister
- C - Union Finance Minister
- D - Finance Secretary

Correct Answer: C - Union Finance Minister

Notes:

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 55th meeting of the GST Council in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, to discuss important issues related to the Goods and Services Tax (GST). The meeting was attended by Chief Ministers, Deputy Chief Ministers and Finance Ministers of several states and Union Territories.

89. "ISRO has recently started assembling a Human Rated Launch Vehicle from Satish Dhawan Space Centre. Which launch vehicle is that?"

- A - HLVM-3
- B - HLVM-4
- C - PSLV-C4
- D - GSLV-C6

Correct Answer: A - HLVM-3

Notes:

ISRO began the assembly of Human Rated Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (HLVM3) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on 18 December 2024. This assembly is crucial for India's first manned space mission, Gaganyaan. The HLVM3 is a three-stage vehicle, with a height of 53

metres and a weight of 640 tonnes, and has the capability to carry up to 10 tonnes of payload.

90. National Consumer Day is celebrated on?

- A - 21 December
- B - 22 December
- C - 23 December
- D - 24 December

Correct Answer: D - 24 December

Notes:

National Consumer Day is celebrated on 24 December in India, which marks the day of acceptance of the Consumer Protection Act 1986. This Act was implemented to protect the rights of consumers and safeguard their interests. The purpose of this day is to make consumers aware of their rights and duties. Apart from this, World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated on 15 March, which is dedicated to raising awareness of consumer rights and their needs.

91. Who was the top scorer in Haryana Steelers' victory over Patna Pirates in the Pro Kabaddi League Season 11 final?

- A - Vinay
- B - Devank
- C - Shivam Patare
- D - Mohammadreza Shadloo

Correct Answer: C - Shivam Patare

Notes:

Haryana Steelers achieved the distinction of becoming champions for the first time in Pro Kabaddi League Season 11. They won the title by defeating Patna Pirates 32-23 in the final, shattering Patna's dream of becoming champions for the fourth time. Haryana's defenders completely stopped Patna's star raiders Devank (5 points) and Ayan (3 points), while Shivam Patare scored the highest 9 points.

92. Which Indian cricketer has been nominated for the ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year award for his exceptional performance in 2024?

- A - Jasprit Bumrah
- B - Suryakumar Yadav
- C - Hardik Pandya
- D - Arshdeep Singh

Correct Answer: D - Arshdeep Singh

Notes:

Arshdeep Singh has been nominated for the ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year award for 2024. He took 17 wickets in the T20 World Cup, including the wickets of Aiden Markram and

Quinton de Kock in the final. Arshdeep achieved the second-highest wicket tally (2024) by Indian fast bowlers.

93. Whom did Lakshya Sen beat to win the bronze medal at the King Cup International Badminton Open 2024?

- A - Hu Zhen'en
- B - Loh Kean Yew
- C - Alex Lanier
- D - Angus Ng Ka Long

Correct Answer: C - Alex Lanier

Notes:

Indian badminton player Lakshya Sen on Sunday defeated Alex Lanier 21-17, 21-11 in straight games to finish third at the King Cup International Badminton Open. With this win, he won a prize of around Rs 36 lakh. Lakshya had lost 19-21, 19-21 to China's Hu Zhen'an in a close match in the semi-finals.

94. Whom did Koneru Humpy defeat to win her second Women's World Rapid Chess Championship title?

- A - Tan Zhongyi
- B - Ju Wenjun
- C - Harika Dronavalli
- D - Irene Kharisma Sukandar

Correct Answer: D - Irene Kharisma Sukandar

Notes:

Grandmaster Koneru Humpy capped a stellar year for Indian chess by winning the FIDE Women's World Rapid Chess Championship in New York. It was her second rapid title, having previously won in Georgia in 2019. Humpy finished on top with 8.5 points, becoming the second player after China's Ju Wenjun to win the title more than once.

95. Which actor has featured in the new brand campaign of Canara HSBC Life Insurance?

- A - Akshay Kumar
- B - Ranveer Singh
- C - Shah Rukh Khan
- D - Varun Sharma

Correct Answer: D - Varun Sharma

Notes:

Canara HSBC Life Insurance has launched a new brand campaign with actor Varun Sharma as the brand ambassador. The campaign focuses on customized financial solutions for modern individuals and families, aimed at promoting holistic financial planning to deal with life's aspirations and uncertainties.

96. Who has been announced as the 'Special Partner' for the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2025?

- A - State Bank of India (SBI)
- B - Punjab National Bank (PNB)
- C - Union Bank of India (UBI)
- D - HDFC Bank

Correct Answer: B - Punjab National Bank (PNB)

Notes:

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has announced its association as the 'Special Partner' for the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2025. The festival will be held in Mumbai on February 20, 2025 and will honour the rich legacy of Indian cinema. In keeping with PNB's commitment to society and cultural development, this partnership will promote excellence and innovation in cinema.

97. Which Assamese filmmaker passed away at the age of 51 after battling cancer?

- A - Rituparna Ghosh
- B - Jahnu Barua
- C - Bhaskar Jyoti Das
- D - Dr. Bhupen Hazarika

Correct Answer: C - Bhaskar Jyoti Das

Notes:

Renowned Assamese filmmaker and screenwriter Bhaskar Jyoti Das died of cancer on December 26. He was 51 years old. Das worked as the co-director and producer of 'Antardhan', and directed documentaries like 'Where is My Home', 'I Don't Want to Be Born Again for Poem', and 'An Unknown Summer'.

98. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Certification Laboratories (NABL).

- A - Prof. Subbanna Ayyappan
- B - Dr. Sandeep Shah
- C - Dr. Vijay Kumar
- D - Dr. Arvind Kumar

Correct Answer: B - Dr. Sandeep Shah

Notes:

The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Certification Laboratories (NABL) has appointed Dr. Sandeep Shah as its new Chairman. Dr. Shah has over 35 years of experience and is a Gold Medalist in MD Pathology and Bacteriology from B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad. He founded Neuberg Supratech Reference Laboratories and served as Joint Managing Director of Neuberg Diagnostics.

99. Where has India launched its first diabetes biobank?

- A - Kolkata
- B - Chennai
- C - Dibrugarh
- D - Patna

Correct Answer: B - Chennai

Notes:

India's first diabetes biobank has been set up in Chennai, developed in collaboration with ICMR and MDRF. This biobank will collect biological samples and promote scientific research to study diabetes, its causes and related disorders. It aims to research the unique pattern of diabetes in India and identify new biomarkers that will help in early diagnosis and personalised treatment.

100. Which hypersonic missile system has been built by America recently?

- A - Dark Local
- B - TRUMP-THRILL
- C - Dark Eagle
- D - Missile NOVAC

Correct Answer: C - Dark Eagle

Notes:

The US military has successfully tested its Long Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHA) called 'Dark Eagle'. In this test conducted at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, the missile traveled at a speed of 3800 miles per hour, which is five times the speed of sound. This test is an important milestone in the field of hypersonic technology and is expected to be made operational by 2025.

101. Britain has joined the Indo-Pacific block, which European country is doing so?

- A - First
- B - Second
- C - Third
- D - Fourth

Correct Answer: A - First

Notes:

The UK became the first European country to join the CPTPP (Comprehensive and Progressive Pacific Partnership) on December 15, 2024. The move is part of the UK's post-Brexit strategy, which aims to boost the country's economy and gain new trade opportunities in the Indo-Pacific region.

102. India is striving to become a global leader in steel production. The global steel is?

- A - Grey Steel
- B - Blue Steel
- C - Brown Steel

D - Green Steel

Correct Answer: D - Green Steel

Notes:

India unveiled its first “Green Steel Classification System” towards decarbonisation of steel sector and transition to a low carbon economy. Union Minister Shri H.D. Kumaraswamy released it in New Delhi. This framework will make India a global leader in green steel production and play a key role in achieving environmental development goals.

103. The 'Paris Agreement' was signed to limit the rise in global temperatures?

A - 12 December-2015

B - 16 December-2016

C - 17 December-2017

D - 6 December-2006

Correct Answer: A - 12 December-2015

Notes:

On December 12, 2015, the Paris Agreement was reviewed on the occasion of its completion of 9 years. The goal of the Paris Agreement was to mitigate climate change and limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, but global emissions have increased by 8% and the temperature is expected to exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius in 2024.

104. Who is heading the 'One Nation-One Election' committee?

A - Ram Nath Kovind

B - Ramdas Athawale

C - Vasundhara Raje

D - Sunil Baisla

Correct Answer: A - Ram Nath Kovind

Notes:

The panel headed by former Indian President Ram Nath Kovind has recommended "One Nation - One Election", in which elections to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies will be held simultaneously. However, the issue of a candidate contesting from multiple constituencies for the same post is still under consideration.

105. Who recommended the establishment of Railway Board in 1905 through a committee?

A - Sir Thomas Roe

B - Sir Thomas Robertson

C - William Banker

D - Robert Maxwell

Correct Answer: B - Sir Thomas Robertson

Notes:

The Railway (Amendment) Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha, which aims to repeal the Indian Railway Board Act 1905 and integrate its provisions into the Railway Act 1989. Under this bill, the central government will get the right to determine the structure, number of members, service conditions and qualifications of the Railway Board.

January - 2025

1. The Financial Stability Report (FSR) is released by which institution?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [B] Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: A [Reserve Bank of India (RBI)]

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its biannual Financial Stability Report (FSR), focusing on the health and resilience of the Indian financial system. The RBI's Financial Stability Report (FSR) highlights improvements in the banking sector's asset quality and resilience. Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) achieved a 12-year low Gross Non-Performing Asset (GNPA) ratio of 2.6% by September 2024. The Provisioning Coverage Ratio (PCR) rose to 77%, mainly due to proactive provisioning by Public Sector Banks (PSBs). The slippage ratio increased slightly to 0.7%, showing controlled NPA growth. Household debt in India reached 42.9% of GDP by June 2024, rising gradually. India's Real GDP growth is projected at 6.6% for 2024-25, supported by rural consumption, government investments, and services exports.

2. Which company has developed the New Glenn rocket?

- [A] SpaceX
- [B] Sierra Space
- [C] Boeing
- [D] Blue Origin

Correct Answer: D [Blue Origin]

Notes:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) granted Blue Origin a commercial space launch license for the New Glenn rocket. The New Glenn rocket was developed by Blue Origin, an American space technology company. New Glenn is a heavy-lift, two-stage rocket named after John Glenn, the first American to orbit Earth. It stands 320 feet tall and has a 7-meter-wide payload fairing. The first stage is reusable, powered by seven BE-4 engines, producing over 3.8 million pounds of thrust. The second stage uses two BE-3U engines, powered by liquid hydrogen and oxygen, generating over 320,000 pounds of vacuum thrust.

3. KM3NeT (Cubic Kilometre Neutrino Telescope), which was seen in news, is located under which sea?

- [A] Red Sea
- [B] Arabian Sea
- [C] Black Sea
- [D] Mediterranean Sea

Correct Answer: D [Mediterranean Sea]

Notes: Scientists are using two telescopes as part of the Cubic Kilometre Neutrino Telescope (KM3NeT) to detect high-energy neutrinos beneath the Mediterranean Sea. The Cubic Kilometre Neutrino Telescope (KM3NeT) is located at the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea. Neutrinos are tiny, electrically neutral particles, discovered in 1959, and the second most abundant particles after photons. They rarely interact with matter, earning the nickname "ghost particles." Detecting neutrinos is challenging due to their minimal interactions. KM3NeT, an underwater telescope, detects neutrino interactions via Cherenkov radiation in the sea, which provides ideal conditions for detection.

4. Which country has launched its first domestically developed deep-sea exploration ship, Tansuo-3 (Exploration-3)?

- [A] China
- [B] Japan
- [C] Vietnam
- [D] India

Correct Answer: A [China]

Notes:

China launched its first domestically developed deep-sea exploration ship, Tansuo-3 (Exploration-3). The ship officially entered service in Sanya City, Hainan province. Tansuo-3 has a range of 17,261 miles and includes icebreaking capabilities. It will strengthen China's deep-sea exploration, alongside other icebreakers like Xuelong, Xuelong 2, and Jidi.

5. Which country has abolished the death penalty in January 2025?

- [A] Zimbabwe
- [B] Iraq
- [C] Kuwait
- [D] Ethiopia

Correct Answer: A [Zimbabwe]

Notes:

Zimbabwe abolished the death penalty, sparing around 60 prisoners on death row. The country last executed someone in 2005 due to a lack of willing executioners. President Emmerson Mnangagwa, once sentenced to death during the independence war, approved the law after Parliament's bill. Mnangagwa has consistently opposed capital punishment

and commuted death sentences to life in prison through amnesties. Amnesty International praised Zimbabwe's move as a positive step for abolition in the region. Globally, 113 countries, including 24 in Africa, have abolished the death penalty. In 2023, Amnesty recorded 1,153 executions, with most in Iran and Saudi Arabia.

6. Which country has recently witnessed the outbreak of Human metapneumovirus (HMPV)?

- [A] Russia
- [B] Iran
- [C] China
- [D] India

Correct Answer: C [China]

Notes:

China is experiencing an outbreak of respiratory infectious diseases, including rhinovirus and human metapneumovirus (HMPV). HMPV cases, especially among children under 14 in northern provinces, are rising. HMPV symptoms include cough, congestion, fever, fatigue, and breathing difficulties; it can lead to bronchitis and pneumonia in vulnerable groups. There is no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for HMPV; preventive measures like handwashing and avoiding contact are advised.

7. Which state government launched the Sikhya Daat Project to educate prisoners?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Haryana
- [C] Punjab
- [D] Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Punjab]

Notes:

Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University and Punjab's Prison Department launched the "Sikhya Daat" program to provide higher education to jail inmates. The program aims to enhance inmates' mental development and enable future economic self-reliance. Punjab Jails Minister Laljit Singh Bhullar distributed appointment letters to 15 newly recruited teachers, marking the first regular hiring in 30 years. These teachers will educate prisoners and their children, aiding their reintegration into society.

8. Centralised Pension Payments System (CPPS) is implemented by which organization?

- [A] Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)
- [B] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [C] Ministry of Finance
- [D] Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances

Correct Answer: A [Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)]

Notes:

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has fully implemented the Centralized Pension Payments System (CPPS). CPPS allows 7.85 million pensioners to access their pensions from any bank or branch nationwide. It eliminates physical verifications and ensures seamless pension disbursement. The new system replaces the decentralised model, which relied on limited agreements with specific banks. Pensioners no longer need to transfer pension payment orders (PPO) when moving or changing banks. Pension amounts are immediately credited upon release, enhancing convenience and ease of living.

9. Osteoporosis disease, which was seen in news, primarily affects which part of body?

- [A] Heart
- [B] Lungs
- [C] Kidneys
- [D] Bones

Correct Answer: D [Bones]

Notes:

A webinar on osteoporosis was organized by Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore recently. Experts highlight calcium intake, regular exercise, and healthy habits to prevent bone loss. Osteoporosis is a disease that weakens bones, making them thinner and more prone to fractures. It commonly affects bones like hips, wrists, and the spine. The condition occurs when bone loss outpaces new bone creation, often due to low hormone levels. The disease is often called "silent" because it shows no symptoms until a fracture occurs.

10. What is the rank of India in terms of the largest metro network in the world?

- [A] First
- [B] Second
- [C] Third
- [D] Fourth

Correct Answer: C [Third]

Notes:

India has the third-largest operational metro rail network globally, after China and the USA. India's metro network serves over 1 crore passengers daily, surpassing Japan in metro projects by 2022. Metro development in India began in 1969 with the Metropolitan Transport Project. PM Modi launched metro projects worth over ₹12,200 crore in Delhi on January 5.

11. What is the IUCN status of Golden Jackal that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Endangered
- [B] Vulnerable
- [C] Critically Endangered
- [D] Least Concern

Correct Answer: D [Least Concern]

Notes: Golden jackals, also called common jackals, are medium-sized wolf-like canids. They are adapting to environmental changes and are less inclined to avoid humans. In human-inhabited areas, they are strictly nocturnal but may be partly diurnal in other regions. They inhabit valleys, rivers, lakes, canals, and seashores, but are rare in low mountains. They are found in parts of Africa, Europe, South Asia, and India. Their conservation status is "Least Concern" under IUCN.

12. Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Kerala

Correct Answer: C [Maharashtra]

Notes:

A male tiger from Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary in Yavatmal, Maharashtra, traveled 500 km to Solapur, an unusual journey. Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Yavatmal district, Maharashtra. It is called as the "Green Oasis" of southern Maharashtra. It is irrigated by rivers like Purna, Krishna, Bhima, and Tapti, providing abundant water. The sanctuary lies in a basalt region formed by ancient lava activity.

13. What is Twigstats that was recently seen in news?

- [A] A statistical model for climate analysis
- [B] A tool for mapping ancient trade routes
- [C] A new mineral found in the Atlantic Ocean
- [D] A time-stratified ancestry analysis tool

Correct Answer: D [A time-stratified ancestry analysis tool]

Notes:

Researchers introduced Twigstats, a tool for time-stratified ancestry analysis, in a Nature study. Twigstats significantly enhances statistical power and reduces errors in ancestry studies. It provides high-resolution, precise individual-level ancestry analysis. The tool is coded in C++ and uses the statistical language R. Twigstats enables fine-grained analysis of specific historical periods.

14. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated annually on which day?

- [A] January 8
- [B] January 9
- [C] January 10
- [D] January 11

Correct Answer: B [January 9]

Notes:

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated annually on January 9th to honor the contributions of the Overseas Indian community. It marks Mahatma Gandhi's return to India from South Africa on January 9, 1915, starting a pivotal movement in India's freedom struggle. The diaspora has played a key role in India's development in sectors like business, technology, and policy-making. It started in 2003 and is now celebrated every two years since 2015. The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention held from January 8-10, 2025, in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, with the theme "The Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat."

15. What is the theme of World Hindi Day 2025?

- [A] Hindi: Vishwa Aur Bharatiy Sanskriti
- [B] Making Hindi a part of public opinion
- [C] A Global Voice of Unity and Cultural Pride
- [D] Hindi – Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence

Correct Answer: C [A Global Voice of Unity and Cultural Pride]

Notes:

World Hindi Day is celebrated on 10 January every year to highlight the importance of Hindi globally. It was first commemorated in 2006, marking the first World Hindi Conference held in 1975 in Nagpur, India. The aim is to promote Hindi as a global language and encourage its use worldwide. The theme for World Hindi Day 2025 is "A Global Voice of Unity and Cultural Pride," emphasizing linguistic and cultural exchange. National Hindi Day, observed on September 14, marks the recognition of Hindi as India's official language in 1949. World Hindi Day focuses on international promotion, while National Hindi Day celebrates its national significance.

16. Which city has become home to India's first Green Hydrogen Hub under the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

- [A] Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- [B] Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Vadodara, Gujarat
- [D] Jaipur, Rajasthan

Correct Answer: A [Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of India's first Green Hydrogen Hub in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM). NGHM was announced in January 2023 by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Its objective is to make India a global hub for green hydrogen production, usage, and export. The target is to produce 5 MMT of green hydrogen annually by 2030.

17. Which city is the host of Pratistha Dwadashi Festival from January 11 to 13?

- [A] Ayodhya
- [B] Varanasi

- [C] Mathura
- [D] Saharanpur

Correct Answer: A [Ayodhya]

Notes:

Ayodhya will host the Pratishtha Dwadashi festival from January 11 to 13, marking the first anniversary of Ram Lalla's installation in the grand temple. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will perform Ram Lalla's 'abhishek' on January 11 and inaugurate a cultural programme at Angad Tila. A three-day Shri Ram Raag-Seva programme will feature music, dance, and instrumental performances near the temple's sanctum. Renowned artistes like Usha Mangeshkar, Rakesh Chaurasia, and Shobhana Narayan will perform throughout the festival.

18. What is the name of portal launched by government to make genome data accessible to researchers in India and abroad?

- [A] Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC) Portal
- [B] Indian Genomic Repository (IGC) Portal
- [C] Genome Access Portal
- [D] Life Science Data Bank

Correct Answer: A [Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC) Portal]

Notes:

India launched the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC) Portals, making 10,000 whole genome samples accessible globally. The data set enables advancements in genomics, personalized healthcare, and medicine. IBDC supports seamless access to genetic data, aiding researchers in studying genetic variations and developing precise genomic tools. The Framework for Exchange of Data Protocols (FeED) ensures ethical and secure genomic data sharing under Biotech-PRIDE Guidelines. The GenomeIndia project, led by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), creates a comprehensive genetic diversity database for cutting-edge research. India plans to sequence 10 million genomes, enhancing innovation in healthcare, agriculture, and biotechnology.

19. Mount Ibu, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Philippines
- [B] Vietnam
- [C] Malaysia
- [D] Indonesia

Correct Answer: D [Indonesia]

Notes:

Mount Ibu, an active stratovolcano in Indonesia, erupted, sending ash clouds 3 kilometers high. It is located on Halmahera Island's northwest coast. Mount Ibu is one of Indonesia's 127 active volcanoes. Indonesia, part of the Pacific "Ring of Fire" with 127 active volcanoes, often experiences such events. A stratovolcano, or composite volcano, has a conical shape formed by layers of volcanic material from successive eruptions.

20. Which country has developed the world's first wooden satellite named LignoSat?

- [A] China
- [B] Russia
- [C] Japan
- [D] India

Correct Answer: C [Japan]

Notes:

LignoSat, a joint project of Japan's Kyoto University and Sumitomo Forestry, is the first wooden satellite launched into orbit. It uses wood from honoki, a magnolia tree native to Japan, and is assembled using traditional Japanese crafts without screws or glue. The satellite's name comes from the Latin word "Ligno," meaning wood. LignoSat 1 is a CubeSat measuring 10 cm on each side and weighing 900 grams. LignoSat 2, a 2U CubeSat, is planned for launch in 2026.

21. Which city is the host of Pratistha Dwadashi Festival from January 11 to 13?

- [A] Ayodhya
- [B] Varanasi
- [C] Mathura
- [D] Saharanpur

Correct Answer: A [Ayodhya]

Notes:

Ayodhya will host the Pratishtha Dwadashi festival from January 11 to 13, marking the first anniversary of Ram Lalla's installation in the grand temple. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will perform Ram Lalla's 'abhishek' on January 11 and inaugurate a cultural programme at Angad Tila. A three-day Shri Ram Raag-Seva programme will feature music, dance, and instrumental performances near the temple's sanctum. Renowned artistes like Usha Mangeshkar, Rakesh Chaurasia, and Shobhana Narayan will perform throughout the festival.

22. Mount Ibu, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Philippines
- [B] Vietnam
- [C] Malaysia
- [D] Indonesia

Correct Answer: D [Indonesia]

Notes:

Mount Ibu, an active stratovolcano in Indonesia, erupted, sending ash clouds 3 kilometers high. It is located on Halmahera Island's northwest coast. Mount Ibu is one of Indonesia's 127 active volcanoes. Indonesia, part of the Pacific "Ring of Fire" with 127 active volcanoes, often experiences such events. A stratovolcano, or composite volcano, has a conical shape formed by layers of volcanic material from successive eruptions.

23. The 'Maa Ki Rasoi' initiative is launched by which state government recently?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: B [Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

The 'Maa Ki Rasoi' initiative, inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, offers a full meal for just ₹9 to economically weaker sections in Prayagraj. The initiative is operated by Nandi Sewa Sansthan at Swaroop Rani Nehru Hospital. This initiative reflects the government's commitment to social welfare, especially during the auspicious Mahakumbh festival.

24. The National Youth Day is celebrated on 12th January every year in commemoration of which Indian leader?

- [A] Bhagat Singh
- [B] Chandra Shekhar Azad
- [C] APJ Abdul Kalam
- [D] Swami Vivekananda

Correct Answer: D [Swami Vivekananda]

Notes:

India celebrates National Youth Day on January 12, honoring Swami Vivekananda's legacy of youth empowerment. The National Youth Festival (NYF) 2024, held on January 10-12 at Bharat Mandapam, is reimagined as the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue. It is organized under the National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, with shared costs between the Centre and the host state/UT. The festival includes cultural events, youth conventions, exhibitions, and adventure activities, involving around 7,500 delegates.

25. Which ministry has launched the National River Traffic and Navigation System (NRT & NS)?

- [A] Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- [B] Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways
- [C] Ministry of Jal Shakti
- [D] Ministry of Defence

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways]

Notes:

The National River Traffic and Navigation System (NRT&NS) was launched on January 11, 2025, by the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways. National River Traffic and Navigation System aims to ensure safe and efficient operation of inland vessels. The launch

took place during the 2nd meeting of the Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC). IWDC, established in 2023, serves as an apex platform for policy discussions to promote inland waterways in India.

26. Which ministry has created the cultural village “Kalagram” in Prayagraj?

- [A] Ministry of Agriculture
- [B] Ministry of Tourism
- [C] Ministry of Culture
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Culture]

Notes:

The Union Culture Ministry has created a Kalagram, a 10.24-acre cultural village near Prayagraj station, as part of Mahakumbh 2025. Kalagram, located 2 km from the station, offers free entry and showcases Indian art, heritage, food, and performances. The entrance features a 635-foot-wide façade depicting the 12 Jyotirlingas.

27. Scarlet Fever, that was recently seen in news, is caused by which pathogen?

- [A] Bacteria
- [B] Virus
- [C] Protozoa
- [D] Fungus

Correct Answer: A [Bacteria]

Notes:

Hyderabad is seeing an increase in scarlet fever cases among children aged 5 to 15, along with other viral fevers during winter. Scarlet fever, also known as scarlatina, is a bacterial infection that causes a red rash, sore throat, and fever. It's caused by group A streptococcus bacteria, also known as strep throat bacteria. Symptoms include a bright red, sunburn-like rash, sore throat, high fever, and peeling skin on hands and feet. Antibiotics can fully treat scarlet fever, but patients must complete the entire course. If untreated, scarlet fever can cause serious complications like kidney damage, heart issues, and pneumonia.

28. Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0 is an initiative of which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Education
- [B] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Education]

Notes:

Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan, launched the registration portal for the 3rd edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS). KTS 3.0 will start on 15th February 2025 and run until 24th February 2025 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The event aims to celebrate and

reaffirm the historical connection between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, two ancient centers of learning. KTS is an initiative by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, focusing on celebrating the civilizational link between these two regions.

29. Kumani Bank mud volcano, which was seen in news, is located in which country?

- [A] Vietnam
- [B] Indonesia
- [C] Azerbaijan
- [D] Malaysia

Correct Answer: C [Azerbaijan]

Notes:

The Kumani Bank mud volcano erupted in 2023, creating a temporary “Ghost Island.” Kumani Bank mud volcano is located 25 km off Azerbaijan’s eastern coast in the Caspian Sea. The island, about 400 meters across, formed in 2023 and eroded back into the sea by late 2024. Ghost Islands are temporary land masses created by volcanic activity that disappear over time. The island provides geological insights into tectonic processes and subsurface pressure dynamics. It offers clues about similar features on Mars for planetary exploration. The area is linked to methane and gas emissions and highlights Azerbaijan’s unique geological landscape with over 300 mud volcanoes.

30. Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Program (FTI-TTP) is launched by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of External Affairs
- [C] Ministry of Tourism
- [D] Ministry of Defence

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Home Affairs]

Notes:

Union Home Minister launched the Fast Track Immigration – Trusted Traveller Program (FTI-TTP) at seven major Indian airports: Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kochi, and Ahmedabad. The program, part of the Viksit Bharat@2047 vision, was first introduced in Delhi in June 2024. FTI-TTP aims to provide seamless, secure, and world-class immigration facilities for travellers.

31. The two lunar spacecraft named Blue Ghost and Resilience recently launched on which rocket?

- [A] Pegasus XL
- [B] Falcon 9
- [C] Vostok 1
- [D] Atlas V

Correct Answer: B [Falcon 9]

Notes:

Lunar landers by U.S. and Japanese companies launched together on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, showcasing private sector involvement in space exploration. The mission includes two lunar spacecraft: Blue Ghost by Firefly Aerospace (U.S.) and Resilience by ispace-Europe (Luxembourg, Japan). Blue Ghost carries 10 NASA instruments to study Earth's magnetosphere, lunar dust, and Moon's thermal properties while testing advanced navigation and computing. Resilience includes the Tenacious micro rover with a high-definition camera and regolith-scooping technology, exploring Mare Frigoris on the Moon's far north. The mission promotes technological advances, global collaboration, and cost-effective strategies for future lunar sustainability under NASA's Artemis program.

32. Cyber Security Grand Challenge (CSGC 2.0) has been launched by which organizations?

- [A] Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and Data Security Council of India
- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs and National Informatics Centre
- [C] NITI Aayog and National Informatics Centre
- [D] Data Security Council of India and Indian Computer Emergency Response Team

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and Data Security Council of India]

Notes:

The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Data Security Council of India (DSCI) launched the second edition of the Cyber Security Grand Challenge (CSGC 2.0). The prize pool has been increased to Rs. 6.85 crores from Rs. 3.2 crores. Innovators, startups, and entrepreneurs are invited to address six key cybersecurity challenges, including API Security, Data Security, and AI for Threat Detection. Intellectual property rights for solutions developed will stay with startups. The competition has four stages, with winners receiving Rs. 25 lakh, and the overall winner getting Rs. 1 crore. The initiative supports Digital India and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

33. The Halda Festival is observed in which state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Assam
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Himachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: D [Himachal Pradesh]

Notes:

The Halda Festival is celebrated in January in Lahaul-Spiti, Himachal Pradesh. It honors Shiskar Apa, the Goddess of Wealth, to seek blessings for prosperity and a good harvest. Celebrations are most prominent in the Pattan, Gahar, and Chandra valleys.

34. Recently, the "One Plate, One Bag" campaign was launched in which city of Uttar Pradesh?

[A] Varanasi

[B] Agra

[C] Prayagraj

[D] Ayodhya

Correct Answer: C [Prayagraj]

Notes:

The “One Plate, One Bag” campaign was launched at the Maha Kumbh, Prayagraj, to promote a plastic-free event. Cloth bags and steel plates and glasses are being distributed to replace plastic and disposable items. Around 70,000 cloth bags have been distributed from six centers so far. More than 2 million steel plates and glasses collected nationwide are being supplied to langars and food outlets. Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath urged pilgrims to adopt eco-friendly practices and avoid single-use plastic during the pilgrimage.

35. Which organization has released the World Employment and Social Outlook Report 2025?

[A] International Labour Organisation (ILO)

[B] World Health Organization (WHO)

[C] International Organization for Migration (IOM)

[D] International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Correct Answer: A [International Labour Organisation (ILO)]

Notes:

International Labour Organisation (ILO) has released the World Employment and Social Outlook Report for 2025. The report highlights ongoing global labor market struggles due to geopolitical tensions, climate change costs, and unresolved debt issues. The global jobs gap in 2024 was 402 million, including 186 million unemployed, 137 million temporarily unavailable, and 79 million discouraged workers. The global unemployment rate stood at 5%, with youth unemployment at 12.6%. Low-income countries face challenges creating decent jobs, with informal work returning to pre-pandemic levels. Labour force participation declined in low-income nations but increased among older workers and women in high-income countries, though gender gaps persist.

36. What is the primary objective of the SCOT Mission?

[A] To study the Moon's surface

[B] Conducting interplanetary explorations

[C] Launching human spaceflights

[D] Tracking and monitoring Resident Space Objects

Correct Answer: D [Tracking and monitoring Resident Space Objects]

Notes:

The Prime Minister praised Indian space startup Digantara for the success of its Mission SCOT. SCOT (Space Camera for Object Tracking) is Digantara's first mission for space surveillance and one of the world's first commercial Space Situational Awareness (SSA)

satellites. It was launched aboard SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission and deployed in a sun-synchronous orbit. SCOT is designed to track Resident Space Objects (RSOs) as small as 5 cm in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) with high accuracy and revisit rates. It addresses gaps in existing systems limited by fields of view, weather, and geography.

37. Philadelphi Corridor, which was seen in the news, is located along the border of Gaza and which country?

- [A] Iran
- [B] Egypt
- [C] Iraq
- [D] Kuwait

Correct Answer: B [Egypt]

Notes:

The Philadelphi Corridor is a 14 km stretch between Gaza and Egypt, critical for Hamas' smuggling activities. It includes the Rafah crossing and runs from the Mediterranean Sea to the Kerem Shalom crossing. After Israel's 2005 withdrawal, it became a demilitarized zone managed by the Palestinian Authority and Egypt. Hamas' control of Gaza in 2007 led to increased smuggling via tunnels. In the 2023 ceasefire, Israel's withdrawal from this area became a key issue. The corridor has been vital for Hamas' weapon supplies and operatives' movement.

38. Which ministry has developed the Entity Locker platform?

- [A] Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- [C] Ministry of Finance
- [D] Reserve Bank of India

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology]

Notes:

Entity Locker, developed by National eGovernance Division (NeGD), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), is a secure cloud-based platform for managing and verifying business documents. It caters to organizations, MSMEs, startups, trusts, and societies. The platform integrates with government systems for real-time access and verification. It offers legally valid digital signatures and ensures secure document management. Entity Locker aligns with India's Digital Public Infrastructure and vision for enhanced digital governance.

39. Recently, the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have identified 23 species of blood-sucking flies in which state/UT?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Lakshadweep
- [C] Maharashtra

[D] Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Correct Answer: D [Andaman and Nicobar Islands]

Notes:

Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) identified 23 species of blood-sucking flies, 13 new to India, in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. These flies, called “bhusi flies,” feed on livestock and wild animals and are similar to mosquitoes. Five species transmit the bluetongue disease virus, threatening livestock and agricultural economies. The study found 17 of the 23 species bite humans, but no human disease transmission was reported.

Researchers emphasize the need for surveillance and control measures, especially due to the region’s tourism significance. The study was conducted in 2022-2023, with plans for further surveys and genetic studies.

40. Tropical Cyclone Sean hits which country in January 2025?

[A] Australia

[B] Indonesia

[C] Malaysia

[D] France

Correct Answer: A [Australia]

Notes:

Tropical Cyclone Sean, currently Category 3, is affecting Western Australia, expected to weaken further by January 22, 2025. It peaked as a Category 4 cyclone, forming on January 20, 2025, due to warm sea temperatures and favourable atmospheric conditions. Karratha recorded its heaviest daily rainfall at 274 mm, causing flooding and infrastructure disruptions. Floodwaters impacted roads and homes; emergency services are managing rescues and power outages. The cyclone, now offshore about 400 km, poses no direct threat to the mainland. Authorities urge vigilance, though no additional cyclones are forecasted in the region.

41. Which country is home to the world’s longest expressway tunnel called Tianshen Shengil Tunnel?

[A] Turkey

[B] China

[C] Vietnam

[D] Japan

Correct Answer: B [China]

Notes:

China has completed the Tianshan Shengli Tunnel, the world’s longest expressway tunnel at 22.13 kilometers. It forms part of the Urumqi-Yuli Expressway, connecting northern Xinjiang to Yuli County, reducing travel time through the Tianshan Mountains from three hours to 20 minutes. The project faced challenges such as high-altitude conditions, complex geology,

and environmental concerns near glaciers and water sources. This project supports China's Belt and Road Initiative, fostering regional economic growth and integration.

42. Recently, which country has announced its exit from the World Health Organization (WHO)?

- [A] United States of America (USA)
- [B] Russia
- [C] India
- [D] France

Correct Answer: A [United States of America (USA)]

Notes:

The United States announced its exit from the World Health Organization (WHO), with President Donald Trump citing mishandling of the COVID-19 pandemic and political influence from member states. Trump criticized the WHO for "unfair payments" and claimed it failed to act independently from countries like China. The U.S. contributes around 18% of WHO's funding, with its 2024-2025 budget at \$6.8 billion. Trump accused the WHO of aiding China's efforts to mislead about COVID-19 origins, a claim the WHO denies. The withdrawal will take 12 months, ending U.S. financial contributions to the agency.

43. Mount McKinley, that was recently seen in news, is the highest peak in which region?

- [A] South America
- [B] North America
- [C] Europe
- [D] Australia

Correct Answer: B [North America]

Notes:

The US President signed an executive order renaming Denali to Mount McKinley. It is the highest peak in North America, located in south-central Alaska in the Alaska Range. Denali is a massive granite block uplifted by tectonic activity about 60 million years ago. It rises 18,000 feet from the Denali Fault to its southern summit. The upper half is covered with snowfields feeding glaciers like Kahiltna, Muldrow, Peters, Ruth, and Traleika. Denali is the central feature of Denali National Park and Preserve.

44. National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is under the administrative control of which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [B] Ministry of Mines
- [C] Ministry of Finance
- [D] Ministry of Steel

Correct Answer: D [Ministry of Steel]

Notes:

National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is set to extract 6,500 carats of diamonds, worth \$3.4 million, from a mine near Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh this fiscal year. NMDC, established in 1958, is a state-owned enterprise under the Ministry of Steel. It produces iron ore, copper, limestone, gypsum, diamonds, and more. NMDC is India's largest iron ore producer, with mines in Chhattisgarh and Karnataka. It operates India's only mechanized diamond mine at Panna. NMDC's mining complexes are rated 5 Star by the Indian Bureau of Mines. Its headquarters is in Hyderabad, Telangana.

45. Which two ministries organized the National Tribal Health Conclave 2025?

- [A] Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Finance
- [B] Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- [C] Ministry of Social Justice and Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- [D] Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Youth Affairs

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare]

Notes:

The National Tribal Health Conclave 2025 took place on January 20, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. It was organized by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW). The event is part of the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, aiming to address health and well-being challenges of India's tribal communities. It focuses on improving healthcare access and outcomes for tribal populations facing unique health challenges.

46. The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying recently organized the "Livestock conclave 2025" in which city?

- [A] Shillong
- [B] Gangtok
- [C] New Delhi
- [D] Bhopal

Correct Answer: A [Shillong]

Notes:

The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying hosted a two-day conclave in Shillong from January 23-24 to boost investment in North East India's livestock sector. The conclave aimed to discuss strategies for the sector's development, assess challenges, and explore growth opportunities through technological interventions and policy support. It focused on value chain strengthening, knowledge sharing, and promoting sustainable farming practices.

47. National Girl Child Day is observed on which day every year?

- [A] 23 January
- [B] 24 January
- [C] 25 January

[D] 26 January

Correct Answer: B [24 January]

Notes:

National Girl Child Day is observed on 24 January every year to raise awareness about challenges faced by girls in India. The day highlights issues like gender inequality, discrimination, and violence against girls. It aims to empower girls and promote equal opportunities in education, nutrition, and healthcare. The day coincides with the launch of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao on 22 January 2015. The initiative involves three ministries: Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare, and Education.

48. The Ministry of Culture has inaugurated the 'Bhagwat' exhibition in which city of Uttar Pradesh?

[A] Ayodhya

[B] Varanasi

[C] Prayagraj

[D] Gorakhpur

Correct Answer: C [Prayagraj]

Notes:

Union Minister for Culture and Tourism inaugurated the 'Bhagwat' exhibition at the Prayagraj Museum, showcasing miniature paintings. The exhibition blends art, culture, Lord Ram and Krishna, and Kumbh traditions. The exhibition highlights India's unity, serving as proof against historical divisions. The Minister emphasized the Kumbh as a symbol of India's unity, bringing together people of various faiths and cultures.

49. Which city is the venue of Global Thirukkural Conference?

[A] Chennai

[B] Hyderabad

[C] New Delhi

[D] Bengaluru

Correct Answer: C [New Delhi]

Notes:

Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. L. Murugan announced a Global Thirukkural Conference in New Delhi, with preparations underway. Thirukkural, written by Thiruvalluvar, is a classic Tamil text with 1,330 couplets offering wisdom on ethics, governance, love, and spirituality. It is divided into three sections: Aram (Virtue), Porul (Wealth), and Inbam (Love), covering a wide range of moral and practical guidance. The couplets are concise and poetic, making them memorable and quotable. Thirukkural has had a profound influence on Tamil culture and life.

50. Which community is associated with the Sinhtoo folk dance?

[A] Gaddi

- [B] Hatti
- [C] Kullu
- [D] Bhotia

Correct Answer: B [Hatti]

Notes: The Hatti community's ancient folk dance, Sinhtoo, has been selected for the 76th Republic Day parade in Delhi. Sinhtoo, a mask dance featuring lion masks, symbolizes wildlife conservation and environmental protection. 200 artists from Himachal Pradesh performed Sinhtoo at the event, part of a larger cultural showcase of 45 dance forms.

51. Which state government has launched "Samman Sanjeevani" app?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: A [Haryana]

Notes:

Haryana minister Shruti Choudhry launched the 'Samman Sanjeevani' app on National Girl Child Day 2025. The app tracks benefits under the 'Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana'. Sanitary napkins are distributed to BPL women and girls aged 10-45 years via Anganwadi centers and schools. The app ensures timely delivery, collects beneficiary data, and updates monthly benefits. The Women and Child Development Department celebrates 10 years of 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao'.

52. India hosted the Second BIMSTEC Expert Group Meeting on Cyber Security Cooperation in which city?

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] Chennai
- [C] New Delhi
- [D] Bengaluru

Correct Answer: C [New Delhi]

Notes:

India hosted the Second BIMSTEC Expert Group Meeting on Cyber Security Cooperation on 21 January 2025 in New Delhi. The meeting aimed to finalize a 5-year Action Plan for strengthening cyber security among BIMSTEC Member States. Key focus areas include information sharing, cybercrime, protecting critical infrastructures, incident response, and global cyber norms. India presented its "Cyber Hygiene for School Children" initiative under Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C). The Action Plan's implementation will boost regional cyber security and resilience among BIMSTEC countries.

53. Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

[A] Uttar Pradesh

[B] Rajasthan

[C] Gujarat

[D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Rajasthan]

Notes:

The Forest Department plans to revise the boundaries of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary to address legal issues. Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Aravalli Hills, 20 km from Jaipur, Rajasthan. It spans an area of 720 hectares and is named after the historic Nahargarh Fort, built in the 18th century by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II. The sanctuary includes Nahargarh Biological Park, known for its popular lion safaris.

54. Which institution has published the Fiscal Health Index 2025?

[A] Reserve Bank of India

[B] Securities and Exchange Board of India

[C] NITI Aayog

[D] World Bank

Correct Answer: C [NITI Aayog]

Notes:

NITI Aayog published the Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025. It assesses fiscal health across 18 major Indian states using five sub-indices: Quality of Expenditure, Revenue Mobilisation, Fiscal Prudence, Debt Index, and Debt Sustainability. Odisha ranked first with a score of 67.8, followed by Chhattisgarh (55.2) and Goa (53.6). Strong performers excel in revenue, expenditure, and debt management, while Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Kerala are the worst-performing states. Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Karnataka were categorized as “front-runners,” while Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and Haryana are “performers.”

55. Pangsau Pass, which was seen in news, lies between which two countries?

[A] India and Bhutan

[B] China and Nepal

[C] India and Myanmar

[D] India and Bangladesh

Correct Answer: C [India and Myanmar]

Notes:

The Pangsau Pass International Festival was recently celebrated in Nampong, Arunachal Pradesh. Pangsau Pass, at 3,727 feet, lies on the India-Myanmar border in the Patkai Hills. It is named after Pangsau, a Burmese village 2 km from the pass, and serves as an easy route to Burma from Assam. Historically, it was the route of the 13th-century Ahom invasion and gained fame during WWII as a key obstacle in General Stilwell’s effort to build a route to China. The nearby “Lake of No Return” in Myanmar is visible from the pass. The pass is also known as “Hell Gate” for its challenging terrain.

56. Which Indian Navy ship conducted the hydrographic survey of Mauritius recently?

- [A] INS Viraat
- [B] INS Sarvekshak
- [C] INS Kalvari
- [D] INS Saryu

Correct Answer: B [INS Sarvekshak]

Notes: INS Sarvekshak of the Indian Navy completed the final phase of a hydrographic survey in Mauritius, covering 25,000 square nautical miles. Mauritius is an island nation in the Indian Ocean, located east of Madagascar. It has an area of 2,040 sq. km, with the capital being Port Louis. The country includes the main island and outlying islands like Ambre, Est, and Cerfs. Formed by volcanic activity 8 million years ago, it has Mount Piton as its highest peak (828 m). The chief water source is Lake Vacoas, and the climate is maritime subtropical.

57. What is Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Genetic disorder
- [B] Neurological disorder
- [C] A type of autoimmune arthritis
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: B [Neurological disorder]

Notes:

Around 59 people in Pune have been affected by Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS), a rare neurological disorder. GBS occurs when the immune system attacks the peripheral nervous system, affecting muscle movement, pain, temperature, and touch sensations. It is also called acute inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (AIDP) and usually affects people aged 30-50. The exact cause is unclear but often follows infections, vaccinations, or major surgery. Symptoms include fever, weakness, and potential paralysis, with severity varying widely. There is no cure, but intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) treatment helps suppress the immune system's attack on the nerves.

58. Which day is observed as International Day of Education every year?

- [A] 24 January
- [B] 25 January
- [C] 26 January
- [D] 27 January

Correct Answer: A [24 January]

Notes:

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) observes January 24 as International Day of Education to highlight education's role in peace and development. It was declared on December 3, 2018, through resolution 73/25, co-written by Nigeria and 58 other countries.

The 2024 theme is “AI and Education: Preserving Human Agency in a World of Automation,” focusing on education’s role in adapting to AI and technology. The day emphasizes education’s power in promoting peace, achieving global goals like SDG 4, and fostering global collaboration. UNESCO leads the celebration to advocate for accessible, high-quality education worldwide.

59. Typhoon Missile System was developed by which country?

- [A] Russia
- [B] France
- [C] Japan
- [D] United States

Correct Answer: D [United States]

Notes:

The U.S. military has relocated Typhon missile launchers within the Philippines to improve mobility and survivability amid tensions with China and Russia. Typhon, or the Mid-Range Capability (MRC), is a mobile, surface-to-surface missile system developed by Lockheed Martin, United States. It features a modular design and can fire multiple missile types, including the SM-6 (500 km range) and Tomahawk cruise missiles (2,500 km range). The SM-6 strikes air and surface targets, while the Tomahawk is effective for land-attack and anti-ship missions. A full Typhon system includes four launchers, a command post, and support vehicles on trailers.

60. Lake Victoria, which was seen in news, is bordered by which countries?

- [A] Tanzania, Kenya, and Rwanda
- [B] Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania
- [C] Uganda, Burundi, and Tanzania
- [D] Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda

Correct Answer: B [Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania]

Notes:

Researchers from North America and Kenya conducted a genetic survey of cyanobacteria in the Winam Gulf of Lake Victoria, Kenya. Lake Victoria is the world’s second-largest freshwater lake, located in East Africa and bordered by Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. It is also known as Victoria Nyanza (Kenya), Nalubaale (Uganda), and Ukerewe (Tanzania). The lake is the source of the White Nile, which merges with the Blue Nile in Sudan to form the Nile River. It supports the largest freshwater fishery globally, producing 1 million tons of fish annually and sustaining 4 million livelihoods.

61. Abd al-Kuri Island, which was seen in the news, is located in which ocean?

- [A] Indian Ocean
- [B] Pacific Ocean
- [C] Atlantic Ocean

[D] Arctic Ocean

Correct Answer: A [Indian Ocean]

Notes:

Satellite images show a nearly completed airstrip on Yemen's Abd al-Kuri Island, likely built by the UAE. Abd al-Kuri Island is 65 miles southwest of Socotra, in the Indian Ocean, part of the Socotra Archipelago. Although it belongs to Yemen, the island is geographically closer to Somalia, about 110 km northeast of Cape Gwardafuy. The island is rocky, 35 km long, and 5 km wide, with its highest point at 700 meters, Mount Jebel Saleh. With fewer than 500 residents, its inhabitants mainly rely on fishing, and settlements are connected by dirt roads. The island features the endemic Euphorbia abdalkuri plant.

62. Which organisation released the 'Global Risks Report 2025'?

[A] International Monetary Fund

[B] World Economic Forum

[C] United Nations Development Programme

[D] United Nations Environment Programme

Correct Answer: B [World Economic Forum]

Notes:

The World Economic Forum released the Global Risk Report, first published in 2006, categorizing extreme weather as an "environmental risk." The 2024-2025 report is based on the Global Risks Perception Survey (GRPS) and assesses risks over short-term (1-2 years) and long-term (10 years) periods. Short-term risks include misinformation, extreme weather events, and state-based armed conflict. Long-term risks include extreme weather events, biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse, and critical earth system changes. Four key spheres shaping global risks are technological, geostrategic, climatic, and demographic, expected to intensify. The report highlights addressing short-lived climate pollutants like black carbon, methane, and hydrofluorocarbons.

63. Trajan 155 mm towed artillery gun system is developed by India and which country?

[A] Russia

[B] Australia

[C] France

[D] Japan

Correct Answer: C [France]

Notes:

The Trajan 155 mm towed artillery gun system, developed by India and France, has secured an export order from Armenia. It is a 155 mm, 52-calibre towed gun system, jointly developed by Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and KNDS France, and manufactured in India. The gun has a range exceeding 40 km, depending on the ammunition, and is designed for modern combat. It features advanced targeting, fire-control systems, modular design for easy transport, rapid firing rates, and terrain adaptability.

64. The Nord Stream Pipeline is constructed under which Sea?

- [A] Red Sea
- [B] Baltic Sea
- [C] Arabian Sea
- [D] Black Sea

Correct Answer: B [Baltic Sea]

Notes:

A United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) study revealed that the 2022 Nord Stream pipeline explosions caused the largest human-induced methane release ever recorded. Nord Stream is a key natural gas pipeline under the Baltic Sea, connecting Vyborg, Russia, to Lubmin near Greifswald, Germany. It is a twin pipeline system designed to ensure energy security for Europe, especially Germany. The pipeline provides a direct and reliable gas supply from Russia, bypassing transit countries.

65. Which Indian Naval Ship (INS) is participated in the fourth edition of the Multinational Exercise LA PEROUSE?

- [A] INS Surat
- [B] INS Kolkata
- [C] INS Mumbai
- [D] INS Vikrant

Correct Answer: C [INS Mumbai]

Notes:

INS Mumbai, an indigenously built guided missile destroyer, is participating in the fourth edition of Exercise LA PEROUSE. The exercise involves navies from Australia, France, the UK, the US, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Canada. It focuses on enhancing maritime situational awareness, surveillance, interdiction, air operations, and information sharing. The exercise highlights India's naval synergy, interoperability, and commitment to a rules-based maritime order. It aligns with India's SAGAR vision to ensure security and growth in the Indo-Pacific region.

66. Which country has recently launched the CR450 prototype, the world's fastest high-speed train?

- [A] France
- [B] China
- [C] Russia
- [D] India

Correct Answer: B [China]

Notes:

China unveiled the CR450, the world's fastest high-speed train, with test speeds of 450 km/h and a commercial speed of 400 km/h. It surpasses the CR400 Fuxing trains (350 km/h) and

reflects breakthroughs in speed, energy efficiency, safety, and comfort. Developed through 200,000 km of tests, 3,000 simulations, and 2,000 platform tests. Features include water-cooled traction, high-stability bogies, and a 20% reduction in energy use. Enhances passenger comfort with noise reduction, spacious cabins, and storage for bicycles and wheelchairs. Aligns with China's plan to expand its rail network to 70,000 km by 2035.

67. National Investigation Agency (NIA) functions under which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Defence
- [C] Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Home Affairs]

Notes:

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) announced a 100% conviction rate for 2024, convicting 68 individuals in 25 high-profile cases. The NIA arrested 210 individuals across 80 cases, with 28 involving Left Wing Extremism and 18 related to North East insurgency. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was established in 2008 after the Mumbai terror attacks to combat terrorism. The agency operates under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, with its headquarters in New Delhi, led by the Director-General.

68. Who has been honored with the Gangadhar National Award for Poetry 2023?

- [A] Nilakantha Diksita
- [B] Kudikala Vamsidhar
- [C] Prativa Satpathy
- [D] Tishani Parmar

Correct Answer: C [Prativa Satpathy]

Notes:

Prativa Satpathy, renowned Odia poet, was awarded the Gangadhar National Award for Poetry 2023 by Sambalpur University. Satpathy gained prominence in the 1960s with her acclaimed work 'Sesha Janha'. Her poems have been translated into several languages, gaining international recognition. The Gangadhar National Award, established in 1989, includes a citation, a shawl, and a cash prize of Rs 1,00,000. Previous awardees include Gulzar, K Sachidanandan, and Jayanta Mohapatra.

69. Which is the nodal ministry for National e-Governance Awards Scheme?

- [A] Ministry of Finance
- [B] Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions]

Notes: The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions issued guidelines for the 28th National Awards for e-Governance (NAeG) 2025. The NAeG is one of the most prestigious awards for digital governance in India. The National Awards for e-Governance (NAeG) scheme aims to promote excellence in e-Governance initiatives. The awards include a Trophy, Certificate, and cash incentives—Rs 10 lakh for Gold Awardees and Rs 5 lakh for Silver Awardees. 16 awards will be given this year, with 10 Gold and 6 Silver. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions is the nodal ministry.

70. Which institute has developed an injectable hydrogel for localized cancer treatment?

- [A] IIT Guwahati
- [B] IIT Delhi
- [C] IIT Madras
- [D] IIT Bombay

Correct Answer: A [IIT Guwahati]

Notes:

Researchers from IIT Guwahati and Bose Institute, Kolkata, created an advanced injectable hydrogel for localized cancer treatment. The hydrogel acts as a stable reservoir, releasing anti-cancer drugs in a controlled way. It minimizes harm to healthy cells while targeting cancer effectively. The breakthrough is expected to revolutionize breast cancer therapy. The hydrogel is made from protein-based ultra-short peptides, stable at injection sites, and insoluble in body fluids. The peptides are biocompatible and biodegradable, ensuring safety and effectiveness.

71. Tularemia disease, that was recently seen in news, is caused by which agent?

- [A] Virus
- [B] Fungus
- [C] Bacteria
- [D] Protozoa

Correct Answer: C [Bacteria]

Notes:

Tularemia, also called 'rabbit fever,' has risen by over 50% in the US recently. It is a rare but potentially deadly infectious disease. It primarily affects children aged 5-9, older men, and American Indians or Alaska Natives. Tularemia is caused by the bacterium *Francisella tularensis*, which can infect various animals, especially rabbits and rodents. The disease is transmitted to humans through tick bites, contact with infected animals, or contaminated water. Symptoms can range from skin ulcers to severe respiratory issues.

72. Europa, which was seen in news, is a moon of which planet?

- [A] Venus
- [B] Mars

[C] Jupiter

[D] Saturn

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Jupiter]

Notes:

Europa, one of Jupiter's moons, has a thicker icy crust than previously thought, possibly limiting access to its subsurface oceans. It is the smallest of Jupiter's Galilean moons, discovered by Galileo in 1610, with a diameter of 3,130 km, slightly smaller than Earth's Moon. Europa's surface is smooth ice, and a saltwater ocean lies beneath, containing twice the water of Earth's oceans. The moon might harbor conditions suitable for life with key chemical elements present. NASA's Europa Clipper, launched on October 14, 2024, aims to explore Europa's potential for supporting life.

73.Exports Inspection Council (EIC) works under which ministry?

[A] Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

[B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

[C] Ministry of External Affairs

[D] Ministry of Finance

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Commerce and Industry]

Notes:

The Export Inspection Council (EIC) has launched a study on food testing infrastructure for exports. It was set up under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. It ensures quality control and inspection of Indian exports. EIC is the official certification body for exports, ensuring products meet quality and safety standards for importing countries. It provides mandatory certification for specific food products and voluntary certification for others. EIC operates through Export Inspection Agencies in major cities, with NABL accredited laboratories and 30 sub-offices. It works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

74.Which institute has recently conducted the first trial blast for the Dozer Push Mining Method?

[A] CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology

[B] CSIR-Central Building Research Institute

[C] CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research

[D] CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory

Correct Answer: C [CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research]

Notes:

CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CSIR-CIMFR) successfully conducted

India's first trial blast using the Dozer Push Mining Method, integrating digital technologies for enhanced safety and efficiency. The trial took place at Parsa East and Kanta Basan (PEKB) Coal Mine, Chhattisgarh, operated by Adani Enterprises. The method aims to optimize mining processes while controlling vibrations and flyrock. It uses automated machinery, including unmanned drill machines and large-sized dozers. The method is a cost-effective alternative to traditional mining techniques like truck-shovel and dragline methods.

75. Which state government launched the Shahid Madho Singh Haath Kharcha Scheme?

[A] Karnataka

[B] Rajasthan

[C] Gujarat

[D] Odisha

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: D [Odisha]

Notes:

The Odisha government launches the Shahid Madho Singh Haath Kharcha Scheme to promote education among Scheduled Tribe (ST) students. The scheme aims to reduce dropout rates by providing a one-time incentive of ₹5,000 to ST students enrolling in Class IX and Class XI. It is implemented for the 2024-2025 academic year and targets students with annual family incomes below ₹2,50,000. The incentive is available only for ST students in government and government-aided schools within the state. Eligible students receive ₹5,000 directly in their bank accounts, with applications processed through the Odisha State Scholarship Portal.

76. Who chaired the 7th meeting of the Island Development Agency (IDA) in New Delhi?

(A) Minister of Home Affairs Amit Shah

(B) Prime Minister Narendra Modi

(C) Minister of Power Manohar Lal

(D) Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh

Correct Answer: A [Minister of Home Affairs Amit Shah]

Notes:

Amit Shah chaired the 7th Island Development Agency (IDA) meeting in New Delhi, reviewing development initiatives in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. The focus was on achieving 100% renewable energy generation through solar panels and windmills. The 'PM Surya Ghar' scheme will install solar panels in all households across both island groups. The Union Government established the Island Development Agency (IDA) on June 1, 2017. The agency focuses on the development of islands.

77. Which city is the host of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention 2025?

(A) Chennai

(B) Bhopal

(C) Bhubaneswar

(D) Hyderabad

Correct Answer: C [Bhubaneswar]

Notes:

The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention takes place in Bhubaneswar from January 8 to 10, 2025. The theme is 'Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat', celebrating the diaspora's role in India's development. Prime Minister Modi inaugurates the event on January 9, and President Christine Carla Kangaloo of Trinidad & Tobago addresses virtually. More than 50 countries' diaspora members participate, and Modi flags off the Pravasi Bharatiya Express tourist train.

78. Which country has developed the Abdali Short Range Ballistic Missiles (SRBMs)?

[A] Pakistan

[B] India

[C] Bangladesh

[D] China

Correct Answer: A [Pakistan]

Notes:

Bangladesh is reportedly considering purchasing Abdali Short Range Ballistic Missiles (Hatf 2) from Pakistan amid rising India-Bangladesh tensions. Abdali (Hatf 2) is a short-range, road-mobile ballistic missile developed by Pakistan's Space Research Commission (SUPARCO). The missile is 6.5 m long, 0.56 m in diameter, weighs 1,750 kg, and has a range of 180-200 km. It carries a 250-450 kg high explosive or submunition warhead with a CEP of 150 m. It targets military bases, airfields, and critical infrastructure.

79. Which football player was recently awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States?

[A] Lionel Messi

[B] Cristiano Ronaldo

[C] Kylian Mbappe

[D] Luka Modric

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [Lionel Messi]

Notes:

Lionel Messi was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Joe Biden, the highest civilian honor in the U.S. Messi is the first Argentine and first male soccer player to receive this award. He could not attend the ceremony due to prior commitments, sending a letter expressing gratitude. The award recognizes significant contributions to society, world peace, or public welfare. Messi was honored for being the most decorated soccer player and his philanthropic work through the Leo Messi Foundation and as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.

80. Osteoporosis disease, which was seen in news, primarily affects which part of body?

- [A]Heart
- [B]Lungs
- [C]Kidneys
- [D] Bones

Correct Answer: D [Bones]

Notes: A webinar on osteoporosis was organized by Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore recently. Experts highlight calcium intake, regular exercise, and healthy habits to prevent bone loss. Osteoporosis is a disease that weakens bones, making them thinner and more prone to fractures. It commonly affects bones like hips, wrists, and the spine. The condition occurs when bone loss outpaces new bone creation, often due to low hormone levels. The disease is often called “silent” because it shows no symptoms until a fracture occurs.

81. What is the IUCN status of Golden Jackal that was recently seen in news?

- [A]Endangered
- [B]Vulnerable
- [C] Critically Endangered
- [D] Least Concern

Correct Answer: D [Least Concern]

Notes:

Golden jackals, also called common jackals, are medium-sized wolf-like canids. They are adapting to environmental changes and are less inclined to avoid humans. In human-inhabited areas, they are strictly nocturnal but may be partly diurnal in other regions. They inhabit valleys, rivers, lakes, canals, and seashores, but are rare in low mountains. They are found in parts of Africa, Europe, South Asia, and India. Their conservation status is “Least Concern” under IUCN.

82. Which country has officially joined the BRICS as a full member in January 2025?

- [A]Singapore
- [B]Mauritius
- [C]Indonesia
- [D] Malaysia

Correct Answer: C [Indonesia]

Notes:

Indonesia officially joined BRICS as a full member, announced by Brazil. Indonesia called its membership a strategic step for partnerships with developing nations. As the fourth most populous country, Indonesia aimed to strengthen Global South alliances. BRICS focuses on strengthening cooperation among nations in the Global South. BRICS has recently expanded

its membership. New members include Indonesia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the UAE. This expansion showcases BRICS' increasing influence among developing nations.

83. Kalpeni Island, which was seen in news, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Lakshadweep
- [B] Andaman and Nicobar
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] Puducherry

Correct Answer: A [Lakshadweep]

Notes:

Divers near Kalpeni Island in Lakshadweep discovered possible wreckage of a 17th or 18th-century European warship. Kalpeni Island is part of the Lakshadweep archipelago in the Arabian Sea, covering 2.79 square kilometers. It is 287 kilometers from Kochi, Kerala, and lies southeast of Kavaratti Island. Kalpeni forms a single atoll with islets Tilakkam, Pitti, and Cheriyam. The island is known for coral reefs, clear waters, white beaches, and a 2.8-kilometer-wide lagoon, it is ideal for snorkeling and scuba diving. The island's culture reflects its Maluku community heritage, with a climate similar to Kerala.

84. What is Twigstats that was recently seen in news?

- [A] A statistical model for climate analysis
- [B] A tool for mapping ancient trade routes
- [C] A new mineral found in the Atlantic Ocean
- [D] A time-stratified ancestry analysis tool

Correct Answer: D [A time-stratified ancestry analysis tool]

Notes:

Researchers introduced Twigstats, a tool for time-stratified ancestry analysis, in a Nature study. Twigstats significantly enhances statistical power and reduces errors in ancestry studies. It provides high-resolution, precise individual-level ancestry analysis. The tool is coded in C++ and uses the statistical language R. Twigstats enables fine-grained analysis of specific historical periods.

85. What is the name of India's first ayurvedic medical device recently approved by CDSCO?

- [A] Nadi Tarangini
- [B] AyurvedPlus
- [C] Joshi Health Device
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: A [Nadi Tarangini]

Notes:

Nadi Tarangini, India's first Ayurvedic medical device, received approval from Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO). It costs ₹55,000 and is manufactured by Atreya Innovations in Pune. The device analyzes 22 Ayurvedic parameters and provides a 10-page

report in 10 Indian languages. It has an accuracy of 85% and is used in over 1250 Ayurvedic clinics. Nadi Tarangini received patents in the US, Europe, Indonesia, and India.

86. Which ministry has implemented Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY)?

- [A] Ministry of Jal Shakti
- [B] Ministry of Rural Development
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture
- [D] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Rural Development]

Notes:

The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY) to develop degraded and rainfed areas. Activities include ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil conservation, rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, and pasture development. WDC-PMKSY 1.0 improved groundwater, surface water, crop productivity, and farmers' income. In 2021-22, 1150 projects covering 50 lakh hectares were sanctioned under WDC-PMKSY 2.0 with ₹12,303 Crores. 56 new projects worth ₹700 Crores are sanctioned in 10 top-performing states, covering 2.8 lakh hectares to improve farmers' income, combat land degradation, and enhance climate resilience.

87. Gaan Ngai festival is celebrated in which Indian state?

- [A] Manipur
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Sikkim
- [D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: A [Manipur]

Notes:

The Gaan Ngai festival is celebrated by the Zeliarong community in Manipur after the harvest season. It marks gratitude for a good harvest, prayers for prosperity, and the beginning of the new year. The festival includes music, dance, and spiritual rituals, promoting unity and joy. The Zeliarong community, comprising the Rongmei, Liangmei, and Zeme tribes, is one of Manipur's prominent tribal groups. Gaan Ngai lasts for five days and is typically celebrated in December or January, with the date varying each year.

88. Pavana River, which was seen in the news, flows through which state?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Bihar

Correct Answer: C [Maharashtra]

Notes:

The National Green Tribunal has directed a rejuvenation committee to set a new timeline for the action plan to reduce pollution in the Pavana River. The Pavana River flows in western Maharashtra, crossing Pune and dividing Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad. It originates from the Western Ghats. It flows through Dehu, Chinchwad, Pimpri, and Dapodi before joining the Mula River near Pune. It is about 60 km long and feeds into the Bhima River.

89. Which country has developed Electrokinetic Mining (EKM) for eco-friendly extraction of rare earth elements (REEs)?

- [A] Myanmar
- [B] China
- [C] Japan
- [D] India

Correct Answer: B [China]

Notes:

Researchers at the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, China, developed Electrokinetic Mining (EKM) for eco-friendly extraction of rare earth elements (REEs). EKM uses an electric field to concentrate REEs, simplifying their separation. REEs are 17 metallic elements with critical properties for modern technologies, including magnetic, electronic, and chemical applications. EKM relies on electro kinetics, which involves the movement of particles or fluids under an electric field to extract REEs from ore.

90. Which ministry recently inaugurated the National Turmeric Board (NTB) in New Delhi?

- [A] Ministry of Agriculture
- [B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [C] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [D] Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Commerce and Industry]

Notes:

The Union Minister for Commerce and Industry recently inaugurated the National Turmeric Board in New Delhi. The Board aims to lead turmeric-related matters and enhance coordination with the Spices Board and other government agencies. It will include a Chairperson, a Secretary from the Department of Commerce, members from various ministries, and representatives from top turmeric-growing states. The Board will focus on research, value addition, promoting turmeric's medicinal properties, improving yield, logistics, and exploring international markets. Quality and safety standards for turmeric production and exports are also key goals. The headquarters is in Nizamabad, Telangana.

91. Which institution developed the Central Suspect Registry?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [B] Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)

[C] Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

[D] National Investigation Agency (NIA)

Correct Answer: B [Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)]

Notes: The online 'central suspect registry' has prevented six lakh fraudulent transactions, saving ₹1,800 crore. It strengthens fraud risk management with a registry of cybercriminal identifiers. It was created using the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP). It includes data on 1.4 million cybercriminals. It has been developed by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) with input from banks and financial institutions. Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), under the Ministry of Home Affairs, coordinates efforts against cybercrime. It also prevents cyberspace misuse by extremist and terrorist groups.

92. Which state government has launched SHE COHORT 3.0 initiative to empower women-led startups?

[A] Odisha

[B] Haryana

[C] Punjab

[D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: C [Punjab]

Notes:

Punjab government has launched SHE COHORT 3.0 (Startups Handholding & Empowerment – Cohort 3.0) initiative in Mohali to empower female startups and students in building tech-based ventures. The initiative is supported by business incubators and ecosystem enablers. More than 250 startups, innovators, and students were briefed on StartUp Punjab's growth plans. It offers a platform to showcase talent and ideas with potential for economic growth. Aims to contribute to India's development by 2047.

93. Which state government has recently launched a pension scheme to provide a monthly pension to individuals during the Emergency (1975–1977)?

[A] Bihar

[B] Uttar Pradesh

[C] Gujarat

[D] Odisha

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: D [Odisha]

Notes:

Odisha has launched a pension scheme providing ₹20,000 per month for individuals detained during the Emergency (1975–1977). The scheme also covers medical expenses for eligible recipients alive as of January 1, 2025. Similar pension schemes exist in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, and Assam. Those arrested under the

Maintenance of Internal Security Act, Defence of India Rules, and related laws during the Emergency can apply. Over 300 people in Odisha are eligible, with an annual cost of ₹8 crore for the state government. Applications are required for pension and medical benefits.

94. PM Wani Scheme has been launched by which organization?

- [A] Department of Telecommunications
- [B] Bharat Broadband Network Limited
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Ministry of Science and Technology

Correct Answer: A [Department of Telecommunications]

Notes:

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommended capping Internet tariffs for Wi-Fi service providers under the Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme at twice the rate of retail broadband. The PM-WANI scheme was launched in December 2020 by the Department of Telecommunication. The scheme aims to expand public Wi-Fi hotspots, especially in rural areas. It seeks to enhance digital infrastructure, increase employment for small entrepreneurs, and provide low-cost internet to underserved urban and rural households. The scheme encourages local shops to offer Wi-Fi for last-mile delivery without requiring a license or registration fee.

95. Recently, the "One Plate, One Bag" campaign was launched in which city of Uttar Pradesh?

- [A] Varanasi
- [B] Agra
- [C] Prayagraj
- [D] Ayodhya

Correct Answer: C [Prayagraj]

Notes:

The "One Plate, One Bag" campaign was launched at the Maha Kumbh, Prayagraj, to promote a plastic-free event. Cloth bags and steel plates and glasses are being distributed to replace plastic and disposable items. Around 70,000 cloth bags have been distributed from six centers so far. More than 2 million steel plates and glasses collected nationwide are being supplied to langars and food outlets. Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath urged pilgrims to adopt eco-friendly practices and avoid single-use plastic during the pilgrimage.

96. The Apple Man of India, who has recently been awarded the Padma Shri award, is?

- A - Harimohan Saxena
- B - Hariman Sharma
- C - Chandramohan Joshi
- D - Prakash Chandra Shri

Correct Answer: A - Harimohan Saxena

Notes:

Hariman Sharma of Himachal Pradesh was awarded the Padma Shri award for revolutionizing Indian agriculture. He developed the HRMN-99 apple variety, which makes apple cultivation possible in tropical and subtropical regions. The variety is low-chill and self-pollinated, and can grow even in 40-45°C temperatures.

97. Doordarshan News Channel was recently honoured by President Draupadi Murmu for which campaign?

- A - For election campaign
- B - For drug prevention
- C - For girl education
- D - For road safety

Correct Answer: A - For election campaign

Notes:

Doordarshan was awarded in the electronic media category for its campaign on voter awareness and education during the Lok Sabha elections 2024. The honour was given to the "Chunav Ka Parv, Desh Ka Garv" series and other initiatives. President Draupadi Murmu presented the award to Doordarshan Director General Kanchan Prasad on 25 January 2025.

98. Sambhar Festival is celebrated in which state of the country?

- A - Rajasthan
- B - Madhya Pradesh
- C - Chhattisgarh
- D - Uttarakhand

Correct Answer: A - Rajasthan

Notes:

Sambhar Festival, a celebration of culture, adventure and heritage, began on 24 January 2025 at Sambhar Lake in Rajasthan. The five-day festival, organised by the Rajasthan Tourism Department and the district administration, includes exciting activities such as kite flying, camel rides, parasailing, ATV rides, bird watching and lake tours.

99. Which international organization is planning to ban the use of Forever Chemicals?

- A - European Union
- B - UNO
- C - WHO
- D - ADB

Correct Answer: A - European Union

Notes:

The European Union is planning to ban Forever Chemicals (PFAS) in consumer products, but excluding industrial uses. These chemicals do not decompose in the environment and can

accumulate in the human body and water. PFAS are used in food packaging, waterresistant coatings, non-stick cookware, asthma inhalers, and electric vehicles.

100. The main cause of spread of malaria disease is

- A - Mosquito bites
- B - Dog bites
- C - Rusted iron
- D - None of the above

Correct Answer: A - Mosquito bites

Notes:

Georgia has been declared malaria free by WHO, while Turkey is no longer the only malaria free certified country in the WHO European Region. Malaria is an infectious disease spread by mosquitoes, caused by the Plasmodium parasite. Its symptoms include fever, fatigue, headache, sweating, vomiting, and anemia.

101. Who among the following won the first Women's Hockey India League title?

- A - Delhi SG Pipers
- B - Bengal Tigers
- C - Surma Hockey Club
- D - Odisha Warriors

Correct Answer: D - Odisha Warriors

Notes:

Odisha Warriors won the title of the first Women's Hockey India League, defeating JSW Soorma Hockey Club 2-1 in the final. Rutuja Dadaso Pisal scored two crucial goals while Jyoti Rumawat was named Player of the Tournament. The league was held at Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Stadium in Ranchi from January 12, in which Delhi SG Pipers, Odisha Warriors, Bengal Tigers and Surma Hockey Club participated.

102. Madison, who won the Women's Singles title of Australia Open 2025, is a resident of which country?

- A - Italy
- B - Belarus
- C - Germany
- D - USA

Correct Answer: D - USA

Notes:

Madison Keys won the 2025 Australian Open Women's Singles title, her first Grand Slam, defeating Aryna Sabalenka in the final. The 2025 Australian Open was held in Melbourne from 6 to 26 January. The tournament began in 1905 as the Australasia Open and was renamed the Australian Open in 1969.

103. In which state was the Chief Minister's Mobile Operation Theatre launched recently?

- A - Meghalaya
- B - Manipur
- C - Nagaland
- D - Mizoram

Correct Answer: C - Nagaland

Notes:

On January 26, Governor La Ganesan launched the Mobile Operation Theatre in Nagaland. It aims to provide healthcare to rural and remote areas. The unit is equipped with advanced technology and can perform keyhole surgery. It has portable ultrasound, X-ray, endoscopy and blood testing equipment. It also provides minimally invasive surgery facilities.

104. Recently, which temple has been granted a license by the Union Home Ministry under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA)? Under which it has been allowed to receive foreign funds?

- A - Banke Bihari Temple located in Vrindavan
- B - Kailadevi (Karauli)
- C - Ram Mandir (Ayodhya)
- D - Hanuman Ji Temple (Prayagraj)

Correct Answer: A - Banke Bihari Temple located in Vrindavan

Notes:

The Union Home Ministry has granted FCRA license to Banke Bihari Temple in Vrindavan, making it eligible to accept foreign funds. After court intervention, a committee was formed to manage the temple, which obtained this license. This license will enable the temple to support religious and cultural activities with foreign contributions.

105. When is National Geographic Day celebrated?

- A - 27 January
- B - 26 January
- C - 14 February
- D - 16 February

Correct Answer: A - 27 January

Notes:

National Geographic Day 2024 is celebrated every year on 27 January to commemorate the founding of the National Geographic Society (27 January, 1888). The Society is known for promoting the knowledge of geography, science and exploration. One of the world's largest nonprofit organizations, it is famous for its prestigious magazine, research, conservation efforts and expeditions.

106. Which Indian women cricketer has been recently selected as ODI Cricketer of the Year by ICC?

A - Smriti Mandhana

B - Shreyanka Patil

C - Shefali Verma

D - Mithali Raj

Correct Answer: A - Smriti Mandhana

Notes:

Smriti Mandhana performed brilliantly in women's ODI cricket in 2024, scoring 747 runs in 13 matches, averaging 57.86 and strike rate 95.15. She scored four centuries, which is a new record in women's ODIs. India won the series 3-0 with consecutive centuries against South Africa. Played a winning century against New Zealand and a century against Australia.

107. How many new countries joined the Global Plastics Action Partnership (GPAP) at the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2025 Annual Meeting?

A - 5

B - 7

C - 10

D - 12

Correct Answer: B - 7

Notes:

Seven new countries, including Angola, Bangladesh, Gabon, Guatemala, Kenya, Senegal and Tanzania, joined the Global Plastics Action Partnership (GPAP) at the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2025 Annual Meeting, taking the total number of countries in the initiative to 25. GPAP aims to reduce plastic waste, promote sustainable materials and strengthen recycling systems.

108. Kumbhvani channel was inaugurated by whom?

A - Prime Minister Narendra Modi

B - Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

C - Union Minister Amit Shah

D - President Draupadi Murmu

Correct Answer: B - Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

Notes:

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the special Kumbhvani channel of Akashvani for Mahakumbh 2025 in Prayagraj. The channel will be broadcast from January 10 to February 26, 2025, from 5:55 am to 10:05 pm, on FM 103.5 MHz. It is aimed at devotees who could not participate in Kumbh.

109. Recently, in which state "Gunotsav-2025" has been launched to improve the quality of education?

A - Assam

B - Tripura

C - Meghalaya

D – Manipur

Correct Answer: A - Assam

Notes: The Assam government launched the first phase of the "Gunotsav 2025" program on 6 January 2025. It aims to evaluate and improve the quality of education across the state. The initiative will be implemented in three phases, with a target of reaching 14.11 lakh students and 16,056 schools.

110. In which country is the outbreak of "Tularemia or Rabbit Fever" infection being seen?

A - America

B - Uganda

C - China

D - Iran

Correct Answer: A - America

Notes:

Tularemia, also known as rabbit fever, is a rare but dangerous disease caused by *Francisella tularensis* bacteria. It is mainly found in rabbits, hares and rodents and spreads to humans through contact with infected animals, tick bites, polluted water or dust. Its symptoms include fever, skin lesions, respiratory problems, eye irritation, sore throat and mouth ulcers.

111. What is the ranking of India according to the Henley Passport Index 2025?

A - 80

B - 85

C - 89

D - 91

Correct Answer: B - 85

Notes:

According to the Henley Passport Index 2025, India's passport has dropped from 80th position to 85th, and Indian passport holders can travel visa-free to 57 countries. Singapore has retained the status of the most powerful passport, while the US passport has dropped from 7th to 9th position. Afghanistan's passport is the weakest.

112. Recently, India has signed an agreement with the US for which anti-submarine will be produced for the Indian Navy?

A - Warfare Sonobuoy

B - Warfare Fighter

C - Chetak 3D

D - Ujjwal

Correct Answer: A - Warfare Sonobuoy

Notes:

India and the US have jointly decided to build anti-submarine warfare sonobuoys, which will increase the strength of India's navy. This decision has been taken in view of the increasing threat of Chinese warships and submarines in the Indian Ocean. Sonobuoy is a special device that can be released into the sea and it catches the sound of submarines and sends accurate information.

127. What is the maximum medical expense provided under the cashless treatment scheme for road accident victims?

- A - Rs 1 lakh
- B - Rs 1.5 lakh
- C - Rs 2 lakh
- D - Rs 5 lakh

Correct Answer: B - Rs 1.5 lakh

Notes:

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced a cashless treatment scheme for road accident victims, which will cover medical expenses up to Rs 1.5 lakh for 7 days after the accident. The accident has to be reported to the police within 24 hours. In hit-and-run cases, the family of the deceased will get a compensation of Rs 2 lakh.

128. Which institute recently launched Asia's largest shallow Wave Basin Research Facility?

- A - IIT Delhi
- B - IIT Madras
- C - IIT Kanpur
- D - IIT Guwahati

Correct Answer: B - IIT Madras

Notes:

IIT Madras has launched Asia's largest and state-of-the-art shallow Wave Basin Research Facility, developed to give new direction to technical and research needs in coastal and marine engineering. The facility is located at the Thaiyur campus and will help in solving complex problems related to ports, waterways and coastal structures.

129. Where has the new campus of Indian Institute of Handloom Technology been inaugurated recently?

- A - Uttar Pradesh
- B - Jharkhand
- C - Bihar
- D - West Bengal

Correct Answer: D - West Bengal

Notes:

The new campus of Indian Institute of Handloom Technology at Phulia in Nadia district of West Bengal was inaugurated by Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh. The campus cost Rs 75.95 crore and will cater to the educational needs of students from West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Sikkim. Increase in number of seats:

130. Who recently chaired the Island Development Agency (IDA)?

- A - Prime Minister - Narendra Modi
- B - Defence Minister - Rajnath Singh
- C - External Affairs Minister - S. Jaishankar
- D - Home Minister - Amit Shah

Correct Answer: D - Home Minister - Amit Shah

Notes:

The 7th meeting of the Island Development Agency (IDA) was held in New Delhi, which was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The meeting was attended by Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands D.K. Joshi, Administrator of Lakshadweep Praful Patel, and Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla.

131. In which state is India's first 'Generation Beta' child born?

- A - Mizoram
- B - Himachal Pradesh
- C - Bihar
- D - Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: A - Mizoram

Notes:

India welcomed a new era with the beginning of Generation Beta in 2025. Born on January 1 in Aizawl, Mizoram, Frankie Remruatdika Jadeng, son of Ramjirbhavi and Jedi Remruatsanga, was identified as India's first Generation Beta child. His family hails from Khatla East area of Aizawl. Generation Beta refers to children born between 2025 and 2039.

132. The Government of India has proposed to revise the GDP base year to which working year?

- A - 2022-23
- B - 2023-24
- C - 2014-15
- D - 2015-16

Correct Answer: A - 2022-23

Notes:

The Government of India plans to change the base year for calculating GDP from 2011-12 to 2022-23. This revision will better reflect the economic scenario and structural changes. For this, a 26- member advisory committee has been formed, which will be headed by Biswanath Goldar.

133. India's first surgical robot is called?

- A - SSI Mantra
- B - SST Mantra
- C - R&B Mantra
- D - MNC Mantra

Correct Answer: A - SSI Mantra

Notes:

Recently, the first surgical robot manufactured in India was installed at Noble Hospital and Research Centre, Pune, which was used for robotic right extended hemicolectomy surgery on a patient suffering from colon carcinoma. This robot is designed by SSI Mantra, having a modular design with more than 5 arms and unique optics with 3D, HD immersive headset.

134. Which Indian chess player has recently won the bronze medal in the World Blitz Championship in the women's category?

- A - R. Vaishali
- B - D. Ravina
- C - Himashi
- D - Swati Matwal

Correct Answer: A - R. Vaishali

Notes:

Indian chess player R. Vaishali won the bronze medal in the women's category at the 2024 FIDE World Blitz Championship. The competition was held in New York on 30-31 December. Vaishali defeated China's Zhu Jiner in the quarter-finals, but lost to Ju Wenjun in the semifinals, who won the gold medal.

135. Recently, which powerful submarine has India inducted into the Indian Navy?

- A - Surat
- B - Nilgiri
- C - Vagsheer
- D - None of the above

Correct Answer: C - Vagsheer

Notes:

The Indian Navy will induct two indigenously built warships, Surat and Nilgiri, and a diesel electric submarine, Vagsheer, at a ceremony at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai on 15 January 2025. These equipment have been manufactured by Mazagon Dock Limited. Surat and Nilgiri warships are capable of operating several helicopters.

134. Which is NASA's first mission - named after a living researcher?

- A - Parker Solar Probe
- B - Chandrayaan-2

C - Chandrayaan-3

D - None of the above

Correct Answer: A - Parker Solar Probe

Notes: NASA's Parker Solar Probe set a historic record by flying very close to the Sun, reaching speeds of 430,000 mph and enduring temperatures of 982°C. Launched in 2018, it is the first NASA mission named after a living scientist, Eugene Newman Parker. It aims to explore a 3.8 million mile radius of the Sun's corona and study the processes that drive the Sun's heating, the source of the solar wind, and the energetic particles.

135. Which team has recently won the Santosh Trophy?

A - West Bengal

B - Kerala

C - Tamil Nadu

D - Maharashtra

Correct Answer: A - West Bengal

Notes:

In the final of the 78th edition of the Santosh Trophy, West Bengal defeated Kerala on 31 December 2024 to win its 33rd title. This was Bengal's 47th final, while Kerala reached the final for the 16th time. Bengal received a prize of Rs 5 lakh and Kerala Rs 3 lakh, while the 'Player of the Championship' award went to Robbie Hansda of Bengal.

136. According to the recent report, how many cubic meters of groundwater recharge has been increased in the country?

A - 16 billion cubic metres

B - 19 billion cubic metres

C - 15 billion cubic metres

D - 6 billion cubic metres

Correct Answer: C - 15 billion cubic metres

Notes:

The Union Jal Shakti Ministry released its Dynamic Groundwater Resources Assessment Report 2024 on December 31, 2024, which showed that groundwater recharge has increased by 15 billion cubic metres and groundwater extraction has decreased by 3 billion cubic metres between 2011 and 2024.

137. Who controls the interest rate on post office savings accounts?

A - Union Finance Ministry

B - RBI

C - PMO

D - DoPT

Correct Answer: A - Union Finance Ministry

Notes: The Union Finance Ministry has not changed the interest rates on National Small Savings Schemes for the last quarter of the financial year 2024-25 (1 January to 31 March 2025). These schemes are made available to the public through post offices and Public Provident Fund, and investment in them is 100% safe, as it is guaranteed by the Government of India.

138. Recently, in which state India's first glass bridge over the sea has been inaugurated?

- A - Karnataka
- B - Tamil Nadu
- C - Maharashtra
- D - Chhattisgarh

Correct Answer: B - Tamil Nadu

Notes:

On 31 December 2024, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated India's first glass bridge in Kanyakumari. The bridge connects the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and the 133 feet high Tiruvallur statue. The bridge is 77 meters long, 10 meters wide and 133 feet above sea level, and will provide a walking experience to tourists.

139. Which country has recently successfully tested the supersonic missile UAV-122 from the Bayraktar Akinci drone?

- A - Turkey
- B - Iran
- C - Pakistan
- D - Bangladesh

Correct Answer: A - Turkey

Notes:

Turkey successfully tested the supersonic missile UAV-122 from its indigenous Bayraktar Akinci drone, a symbol of Turkey's growing military capability and self-reliance. This drone, developed by the Baykar company, is a long-term unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) that can carry out air-to-ground and air-to-air attacks.

140. Where is Bhilai Steel Plant located?

- A - Chhattisgarh
- B - Odisha
- C - Jharkhand
- D - Andhra Pradesh

Correct Answer: A - Chhattisgarh

Notes:

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been given the status of "Great Place to Work" from January 2025 to January 2026. This is the second time the company has received this certification, the first time it was from December 2023 to December 2024.

141. Tamu Losar Festival is celebrated in which of the following countries?

- A - India
- B - Nepal
- C - Bhutan
- D - Tibet

Correct Answer: B - Nepal

Notes:

Tamu Losar Festival was recently celebrated in Nepal, which is celebrated by the Gurung community. The festival was celebrated with great pomp in Gurung populated districts of Nepal, such as Lamjung, Gorkha, Tanahun, Syangja, Manang and Parvat. Tamu Losar is the New Year for the Gurung community and is celebrated in the Nepali month of Push (December-January).

142. Who has recently won the National Men's handball Championship title?

- A - Haryana
- B - Kerala
- C - Punjab
- D - Chhattisgarh

Correct Answer: B - Kerala

Notes:

Kerala won its first title by defeating Chandigarh 34-31 in the Senior National Men's Handball Championship. The final took place in Changanassery, Kerala, where Kerala defeated Services in the semifinals. Chandigarh made it to the final by defeating Indian Railways. Devendra of Kerala received the Best Player and Rahul the Best Goalkeeper awards.

143. Recently, the second census of fishing cats has been completed by the Wildlife Institute of India. In which wildlife sanctuary has it been completed?

- A - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary
- B - Simlipal
- C - Kaziranga
- D - Ranthambore Wildlife

Correct Answer: A - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

Notes:

The second census of fishing cats is being conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India in Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary under India's first fishing cat colouring project. Its objective is to study the behavior, habitat, food habits and area use of fishing cats. The number of fishing cats was 115 in 2018, but now it has increased significantly.

144. China has recently introduced the prototype of the world's fastest high-speed train.

The train is –

A - CR450

B - MT-200

C - CH-126

D - DTX-100

Correct Answer: A - CR450

Notes:

China introduced the prototype of CR 450, the world's fastest highspeed train, with test speeds reaching 450 km/h. It is faster than the CR 400 fursing trains and is a significant step in rail technology, improving speed, energy efficiency, safety and passenger comfort. The CR 450 has a maximum commercial speed of 400 km/h, and it has been developed after 200,000 km of tests.

145. Who has been appointed the new CEO of DBS Bank India?

A - Rajat Sharma

B - Rajat Verma

C - Ashok Sharma

D - Naveen Singhal

Correct Answer: A- Rajat Sharma

Notes:

Rajat Verma has been appointed as the new CEO of DBS Bank India from March 1, 2025, taking over after Surojit Shome retires. Under Shome's leadership, DBS India has seen significant transformations, such as the launch of 'Digibank'. Verma has led DBS since joining DBS in June 2023 and the bank has been awarded the "Best Bank for Sustainable Finance India" award in 2024.

146. Which mission has ISRO recently launched for space docking?

A - SpaDex

B - LUNER

C - AARAMBH

D - PSLV-C25

Correct Answer: A - SpaDex

Notes:

ISRO successfully launched the SpaDeX mission on December 30, 2024, demonstrating autonomous docking and undocking capabilities. The mission was launched from Satish Dhawan Space Center on a PSLV-C60 rocket and placed two small spacecraft SDX01 and SDX02 in low Earth orbit. The mission made India a global player in this field after Russia, the US and China.

147. Global Family Day is celebrated on?

- A - 1 January
- B - 1 February
- C - 1 March
- D - 1 April

Correct Answer: A - 1 January

Notes:

Global Family Day is celebrated on 1 January, which is a symbol of peace and sharing. This day was celebrated for the first time in 2000 and since then every year 1 January is celebrated as Global Family Day. It aims to unite people around the world as one family and promote peace, cooperation and mutual understanding.

148. Which former US President died recently?

- A - Jimmy Carter
- B - Barack Obama
- C - Donald Trump
- D - None of the following

Correct Answer: A – Jimmy Carter

Notes:

Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States, died at the age of 100. Carter was famous for his moral values, humanitarian work and peace efforts. His presidency (1977-1981) was surrounded by challenges such as economic recession, inflation and the Iran hostage crisis, but he established peace between Israel and Egypt through the Camp David Accords in 1978, which was one of his greatest achievements.

149. Recently, RBI has introduced which facility in RTGS and NEFT for transferring money?

- A - Name Check Facility
- B - C.R. Facility
- C - Scan (Finger) Facility
- D - None of the following

Correct Answer: A - Name Check Facility

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the introduction of name check facility for RTGS and NEFT transactions, aimed at reducing fraud and errors. This facility will be similar to services like UPI and IMPS, in which the sender will get an opportunity to confirm the name of the beneficiary before the transaction.

150. Recently, the Indian Army has unveiled the statue of which great warrior in Pangong Tso?

- A - Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj
- B - Shaheed Bhagat Singh
- C - Lala Lajpat Rai

D - Khudiram Bose

Correct Answer: A - Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

Notes:

The Indian Army unveiled a 14,300 feet high statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in Pangong Tso, Ladakh, which is a significant step towards strengthening the strategic and cultural presence near the India-China border.

151. Recently, Malayalam writer Vasudevan Nair passed away, he belonged to which state?

A - Tamil Nadu

B - Karnataka

C - Kerala

D - Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C - Kerala

Notes:

Malayalam literature and cinema's great writer and filmmaker, M.T. Vasudevan Nair passed away recently. In honor of his contribution, the Kerala government has declared two days of state mourning. Born in 1934 in Palakkad district of Kerala, Nair won a prize in a short story competition during his college days.

152. Who is the youngest woman in the world to climb the seven highest peaks of the seven continents of the Earth?

A - Kamya Karthikeyan

B - Usha Sharma

C - Himani Chaudhary

D - Nisha Sharma

Correct Answer: A - Kamya Karthikeyan

Notes:

17-year-old Kamya Karthikeyan, a student of Navy Children School, Mumbai, has become the youngest woman in the world to climb the highest peaks of seven continents. On December 24, 2024, she climbed Vinson Massif in Antarctica with her father, completing her challenge. She also conquered peaks like Mount Everest, Mount Kilimanjaro, Mount Elbrus, Mount Kosciusko, Mount Aconcagua and Mount Denali.

153. Which Indian bowler has recently become the fastest Indian bowler to complete his 200 wickets in a Test match?

A - Mohammed Siraj

B - Jasprit Bumrah

C - Ravindra Jadeja

D - Hardik Pandya

Correct Answer: B - Jasprit Bumrah

Notes:

Jasprit Bumrah achieved the record of becoming the fastest Indian bowler to complete 200 wickets in Test cricket during the Border Gavaskar Trophy in Melbourne. He achieved this feat in just 44 Test matches, breaking the record of Mohammed Shami. Bumrah completed 200 wickets on the 8484th ball and took wickets at an average of 19.56, which is an extraordinary achievement.

154. 'Surya Kiran' joint military exercise is being conducted between which two countries?

- A - India - Nepal
- B - India - Sri Lanka
- C - India - America
- D - India - Japan

Correct Answer: A - India - Nepal

Notes:

A contingent of 334 personnel of the Indian Army has left for Nepal to participate in the 18th edition of the battalion level joint military exercise "Surya Kiran". The exercise will be held in Saljhandi, Nepal from 31 December 2024 to 13 January 2025. The Indian Army will be led by a battalion of 11 Gorkha Rifles, while the Nepali Army will be represented by the Jung Battalion.

February - 2025

1. Where was the 15th International Meeting of the World Pharmacopoeias held recently?

- A - New Delhi
- B - Chennai
- C - Hyderabad
- D - Lucknow

Correct Answer: A - New Delhi

Notes:

The 15th International Meeting of the World Pharmacopoeias was held in New Delhi from 5-7 February 2025, organized by WHO and hosted by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission. The aim of the meeting was to improve drug standards, ensure quality and promote regulatory convergence.

2. Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso have recently separated themselves from which regional block?

- A - European Union
- B - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
- C - ECOWAS
- D - African Union

Correct Answer: C - ECOWAS

Notes:

Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso formally announced their separation from ECOWAS due to the conditions of restoration of diplomatic rule. The military in these countries took power in 2023, 2022 and 2020 respectively, which worsened their relations with ECOWAS. ECOWAS was established in 1975, headquartered in Abuja, Nigeria.

3. Who organised the Green School Awards Ceremony-2025?

- A - Ministry of Science and Technology
- B - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- C - Centre for Science and Environment
- D - Ministry of Education

Correct Answer: C - Centre for Science and Environment

Notes:

PM Shri Government Senior Secondary School, Namchi, Sikkim was declared the only green school in the Northeast at the Green School Awards Ceremony 2025 organised by the Centre for Science and Environment. The ceremony aims to encourage young environmentalists.

4. The natural inland mangrove site of which village in Gujarat has been declared the state's first biodiversity heritage site?

- A - Guneri village of Kutch district
- B - Viramgam village of Ahmedabad district
- C - Mandvi village of Surat district
- D - Dabhoi village of Vadodara district

Correct Answer: A - Guneri village of Kutch district

Notes:

The inland mangrove site of Guneri village in Kutch district of Gujarat has been declared the state's first biodiversity heritage site. Spread over 32.78 hectares, the area was notified on the recommendation of the Gujarat Biodiversity Board, which will be managed by the local Biodiversity Management Committee.

5. Recently, the Reserve Bank has cut the repo rate by how much percent?

- A - 0.50%
- B - 0.25%
- C - 1%
- D - 0.75%

Correct Answer: B - 0.25%

Notes:

RBI cut the repo rate by 0.25% to 6.25%, which is the first time in five years. The last cut was of 0.40% in May 2020, while the last change was in February 2023. The repo rate is the interest rate at which the RBI lends short-term loans to banks and governments, which is determined by the Monetary Policy Committee.

6. What is India's current position in the Logistics Performance Index?

- A - 38th rank B - 42nd rank
C - 52nd rank D - 140th rank

Correct Answer: A - 38th rank

Notes:

India is empowering the logistics sector under PM Gati Shakti and National Logistics Policy. India is currently ranked 38th in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) and aims to reach the top25 by 2030. The sector is expected to reach \$484.43 billion by 2029, while the government plans to reduce logistics costs from 13-14% of GDP to single digits.

7. What has food delivery company Zomato changed its name to recently?

- A - Foodish B - Eternal
C - Bhojan thali D - vyanjana

Correct Answer: B - Eternal

Notes:

Zomato has changed its name to "Eternal", which will be effective from February 6, 2025. This rebranding has been done to integrate the company's diverse businesses and reflect long-term strategy. However, the Zomato brand for food delivery will remain.

8. Recently, Bank.in and Fin.in domains have been prescribed for Indian banks and non-financial institutions for cyber security of digital banking. Who has prescribed this domain?

- A - By RBI B - By the Union Finance Ministry
C - By PMO D - None of the above

Correct Answer: A - By RBI

Notes:

RBI issued 'Bank.in' and 'Fin.in' domains to enhance digital banking security, which will ensure the authenticity of the websites of banks and NBFCs. 'Bank.in' registration will start from April 2025, while 'Fin.in' will be implemented in a phased manner.

9. India aims to achieve how much non-fossil fuel based energy capacity by 2030?

- A - 200 GW B - 300 GW
C - 500 GW D - 1000 GW

Correct Answer: C - 500 GW

Notes:

India has achieved a historic milestone by crossing 100 GW of installed solar power capacity, reflecting its commitment to a clean and green future. This was announced by Union Minister Pralhad Joshi. Solar panels, solar parks and rooftop solar projects contributed significantly to this, including the PM Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme.

10. When will the 15th edition of Aero India be held?

- A - 10 to 14 February B - 14 to 18 February
C - 16 to 18 February D - 11 to 14 February

Correct Answer: A - 10 to 14 February

Notes:

Aero India is Asia's largest air show, organized by the Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production and Defence Exhibition Organisation in Bengaluru. This biennial show brings together global aerospace and defence experts on one platform to discuss cutting-edge technologies, defence solutions and international collaborations.

11. Where is BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025 being organized

- A - Gandhinagar, (Gujarat) B - Jaipur, (Rajasthan)
C - Lucknow, (Uttar Pradesh) D - Bhopal, (Madhya Pradesh)

Correct Answer: A - Gandhinagar, (Gujarat)

Notes:

BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025 will be held from 7 to 11 February 2025 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, which will be inaugurated by Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya on 8 February. The aim of this summit is to promote cooperation, innovation and regional development among the youth of BIMSTEC countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

12. Which country has recently announced its exit from China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

- A - Pakistan B - Sri Lanka
C - Panama D - Djibouti

Correct Answer: C - Panama

Notes:

Panama announced its exit from China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which marks a major change in its foreign policy. This decision of President José Raul Mulino makes the US-China tension clear, especially regarding the Panama Canal. Panama joined the BRI in 2017, under which China invested in projects such as the fourth bridge on the canal, metro line and high-speed rail.

13. Which cities did Philemon Yang visit during his visit to India?

- A - New Delhi and Bengaluru B - Jaipur and Udaipur
C - Lucknow and Varanasi D - Gurgaon and Dehradun

Correct Answer: A - New Delhi and Bengaluru

Notes:

Philemon Yang, President of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, was on an official visit to India from 4-7 February 2025. This was his first visit to India, as he was elected President of the General Assembly on 24 June 2024.

14. Which state is hosting the world's largest Jhumar festival

- A - Assam B - Tripura
C - Nagaland D - Uttarakhand

Correct Answer: A - Assam

Notes:

Assam will host the world's largest Jhumar dance performance on 24 February 2025, with more than 7,500 dancers attempting to create a Guinness World Record. The event will be held under the Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment Summit (25-26 February), with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the chief guest.

15. Which day has been declared as International Arabian Leopard Day by the UN General Assembly?

- A - 10 February B - 11 march
C - 12 April D - 14 May

Correct Answer: A - 10 February

Notes:

The United Nations General Assembly declared 10 February as "International Arabian Leopard Day" under resolution 77/295, to be observed for the first time in 2024. It aims to raise awareness towards the conservation of the endangered Arabian leopard. The Arabian leopard is mainly found in Saudi Arabia, Oman, UAE, Yemen, Jordan and Israel.

16. Recently declared Madhav National Park has been declared a Tiger Reserve, in which state is it located?

- A - Madhya Pradesh B - Tamil Nadu
C - Chhattisgarh D - Odisha

Correct Answer: A - Madhya Pradesh

Notes:

Madhav National Park became the 9th Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh, which will promote wildlife conservation in the Chambal region. There is a plan to expand it to 1,600 square km in the next five years and develop a tiger safari in 100 hectares, which will entail an investment of Rs 20 crore.

17. Where will the three-day International Bird Festival be organized from 16 to 18 February?

- A - Varanasi B - Ayodhya
C - Haridwar D - Prayagraj

Correct Answer: D - Prayagraj

Notes:

A three-day International Bird Festival will be organized from 16 to 18 February to promote environmental conservation and biodiversity in Maha Kumbh 2025. Its objective is to make people aware of rare species of birds and raise awareness towards their conservation. In this festival, devotees and nature lovers will be able to see more than 200 migratory and local birds, including rare species like Indian Skimmer, Flamingo and Siberian Crane.

18. What is the outlay of Skill India program from the year 2022-23 to 2025-26?

- A - Rs 5,000 crore B - Rs 8,800 crore
C - Rs 10,000 crore D - Rs 12,500 crore

Correct Answer: B - Rs 8,800 crore

Notes:

The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation and restructuring of the Skill India program till 2026. The total outlay of this scheme is Rs 8,800 crore, which will be implemented from 2022-23 to 2025-26. It includes Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0), Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PMNAPS) and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) scheme.

19. Dabhota green hydrogen plant is being set up in collaboration with whom?

- A - NTPC B - Oil India Limited
C - Reliance Industries D - Tata Power

Correct Answer: B - Oil India Limited

Notes:

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of North India's first 1 MW green hydrogen plant at Dabhota in Solan district. It will be set up in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) and Oil India Limited at a cost of Rs 9.04 crore.

20. Which country ranks first in the Henley Passport Index 2025 category?

- A - Singapore B - Japan
C - USA D - South Korea

Correct Answer: A - Singapore

Notes:

The Henley Passport Index 2025 ranks passports of 199 countries based on visa-free or visa-on-arrival access. This ranking is based on IATA data and reflects global mobility. Singapore ranked first with visa-free access to 193 destinations, while Japan and South Korea ranked second with 190 destinations.

21. Where is the joint military exercise Cyclone 2025 being organized between India and Egypt recently?

- A - Madhya Pradesh B - Rajasthan
C - Chhattisgarh D - Haryana

Correct Answer: B - Rajasthan

Notes:

A 14-day joint exercise 'Cyclone 2025' started at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan to enhance military cooperation between India and Egypt. Its aim is to strengthen the interoperability of special forces and develop military skills such as counter-terrorism operations, reconnaissance, raids, sniping, surveillance and combat free fall.

22. Recently, American President Trump changed the name of Gulf of Mexico to what?

- A - Gulf of America Day B - Gulf of Peace
C - Gulf of Honor D - Gulf of War

Correct Answer: A - Gulf of America Day

Notes:

US President Donald Trump on February 9 changed the name of Gulf of Mexico to "Gulf of America" and declared it "Gulf of America Day". The decision was taken under an executive order, indicating a strengthening of US sovereignty. During his inauguration on January 20, Trump directed the Department of Homeland Security to complete the process in 30 days and signed the order while flying on Air Force One.

23. Who has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Lebanon recently?

- A - Nawaz Sharif B - Nawaf Salam
C - Shahid Afridi D - Ahsan Sharif

Correct Answer: B - Nawaf Salam

Notes:

After two years of political deadlock in Lebanon, a new government was formed under the leadership of Prime Minister Nawaf Salam. President Joseph Aoun issued an order to form the government on 8 February 2025 and accepted the resignation of acting Prime Minister Najib Mikat.

24. When is World Pulses Day observed?

- A - 10 February B - 11 February
C - 6 February D - 11 March

Correct Answer: B - Nawaf Salam

Notes:

World Pulses Day is observed every year on 10 February to highlight the importance of pulses as a sustainable and nutritious food source. The day emphasizes the nutritional, food security and environmental benefits of pulses. The day, supported by the United Nations, promotes the role of pulses in hunger eradication, human health improvement and soil fertility.

25. Where was the joint training exercise named 'Winged Raiders' held recently?

- A - Eastern Command B - Central Command

C - Northern Command

D - Western Command

Correct Answer: A - Eastern Command

Notes:

The Indian Army and Air Force conducted a joint training exercise named 'Winged Raiders' in the Eastern Command, which focused exclusively on air operations. It was aimed at strengthening interservice synergy and interoperability, allowing both forces to make efficient use of each other's weapon systems.

26. Recently the Union Cabinet approved the creation of which new railway zone under the Indian Railways?

A - South Coast Railway Zone

B - East Coast Railway Zone

C - West Coast Railway Zone

D - North Coast Railway Zone

Correct Answer: A - South Coast Railway Zone

Notes:

The Union Cabinet approved the formation of the 18th zone of Indian Railways, South Coast Railway (SCoR). The zone has been created under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 and has been established by merging parts of East Coast Railway (ECoR) and South Central Railway (SCR).

27. Whose birth anniversary will be celebrated on 12 February 2025?

A - Guru Nanak Dev

B - Guru Ravidas

C - Guru Govind Singh

D - Sant Surdas

Correct Answer: B - Guru Ravidas

Notes:

Guru Ravidas Jayanti will be celebrated on 12 February 2025, as he was born on Magh Purnima. This year Purnima Tithi will be from 6:55 pm on 11 February to 7:22 pm on 12 February. Guru Ravidas was a great saint, philosopher, poet and social reformer of the Bhakti movement. He was born in Banaras and belonged to the leather working community.

28. Which tennis player from Switzerland recently won the Mumbai Open 2025 tennis tournament?

A - Aryna Sabalenka

B - Jil Teichmann

C - Ons Jabeur

D - Simona Halep

Correct Answer: A - Aryna Sabalenka

Notes:

Jil Teichmann of Switzerland won the Mumbai Open 2025 tennis title, defeating Mananchaya Sawangkaew of Thailand in the final. The tournament was held from 3-9 February 2025 at the Cricket Club of India, Mumbai. The Mumbai Open is the only WTA event held in India. First held in 2017, the tournament was won by Aryna Sabalenka.

29. Lymphatic filariasis is primarily caused by?

- A - Bacteria B - Virus
C - Parasitic worm D - Fungus

Correct Answer: C - Parasitic worm

Notes:

Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda launched the National Public Drug Distribution Campaign for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis. It will be implemented in 111 districts of 13 states where more than 17.5 crore people will be given free medicines to eliminate the disease before the 2030 SDG target.

30. Which of the following commodities is not included in the 10 new commodities included in e-NAM?

- A - Dried basil leaves B - Coffee
C - Asafoetida D - Dragon fruit

Correct Answer: B - Coffee

Notes:

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India has decided to expand the scope of trade under e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) so that farmers and traders can get more benefits of the digital trading platform. The Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) has prepared tradable parameters for 10 additional agricultural commodities, which will increase the number of commodities listed on e-NAM to 231.

31. On Unani Day in New Delhi, International Conference on Innovation in Unani Medicine was inaugurated by whom?

- A - President Draupadi Murmu B - Prime Minister Narendra Modi
C - Home Minister Amit Shah D - Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda

Correct Answer: A - President Draupadi Murmu

Notes:

President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated a two-day International Conference on "Innovations in Unani Medicine for Integrated Health Solutions – The Way Forward" in New Delhi on 11 February 2025.

32. When is International Women and Girls in Science Day celebrated?

- A - 11 February B - 12 February
C - 10 March D - 10 April

Correct Answer: A - 11 February

Notes:

International Day of Women and Girls in Science (IDWGS) is celebrated every year on 11 February to encourage women's participation in STEM and promote gender equality. The United Nations declared this day in 2015, but women's participation in science and technical fields is still limited.

33. Where was the Para Asia Cup 2025 held?

- A - Thailand B - Malaysia
C - Japan D - South Korea

Correct Answer: A - Thailand

Notes:

India topped the 2025 Para Archery Asia Cup by winning a total of 12 medals including 6 gold, 3 silver and 3 bronze. Sarita in Women's Compound Open and Shyam Sundar Swami in Men's Compound Open won gold medals. Pooja won the silver medal in Women's Recurve Open. Rakesh Kumar in Men's Compound Open, Harvinder Singh in Men's Recurve Open, and Adil Mohammad Nazir Ansari in Men's W1 won bronze medals.

34. The 'Ugbaad' climate-resilient agriculture project has been launched by which organization?

- A - World Bank
B - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
C - International Monetary Fund (IMF)
D - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Correct Answer: B - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Notes:

FAO launched a seven-year climate-resilient agriculture project called "Ugbaad" in Somalia with an investment of \$95 million. It aims to tackle climate change, strengthen agri-food systems and empower vulnerable communities.

35. When was the National Research Institute for Integrated Pest Management (ICAR-NRIIPM) established?

- A - 1988 B - 1990
C - 1992 D - 1995

Correct Answer: A - 1988

Notes:

ICAR-NRIIPM, which functions under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, is celebrating its 37th Foundation Day on 12 February 2025. Established in 1988 in New Delhi, the institute is a pioneer in plant protection and environmentally friendly pest management. It aims to protect crops from pests and promote sustainable pest control methods.

36. Which country hosted the 3rd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, AI Action Summit, in February 2025?

- A - France B - US
C - Japan D - Uruguay

Correct Answer: A - France

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi co-chaired the 'AI Action Summit' with French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris on 11 February 2025. India and France co-hosted this third international summit, which discussed AI. France announced that the next AI summit will be held in India. The meeting was attended by leaders from several countries including the US, China, Canada and CEOs of top companies like Google, Microsoft.

37. After how many years is the Asia Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum meeting held?

- A - 3 years B - 4 years
C - 5 years D - 6 years

Correct Answer: A - 3 years

Notes:

India is hosting the 14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum meeting in New Delhi on 12-14 February 2025. The meeting is held every three years, and was last held in Tainan, Taiwan in 2019. The forum aims to provide a platform to researchers, scientists and policy makers in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

38. Where was the 2025 Annual Conference of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) held recently?

- A - New Delhi B - Kanpur
C - Jaipur D – Madras

Correct Answer: A - New Delhi

Notes:

India is hosting the IIAS-DARPG India Conference 2025 for the first time, which is being held in New Delhi from 10-14 February 2025. Experts from more than 55 countries will discuss public administration, governance reform and the role of technology in it. During this, the Annual General Assembly meeting of IIAS will also be held. This conference is being jointly organized by DARPG and IIAS of the Government of India.

39. Recently, researchers from which country have discovered mechanisms in the human brain that help in recognizing the emotionality of others?

- A - China B - Israel
C - America D – India

Correct Answer: B - Israel

Notes:

Researchers at the University of Haifa have discovered the role of the brain's medial prefrontal cortex (mPFC), which controls emotional recognition and social behavior. This study, which was published in Current Biology, may be helpful in the treatment of disorders like autism. Experiments conducted on mice showed that mPFC neurons respond differently to stressed and calm mice.

40. Which country has recently developed a hybrid quantum supercomputer?

- A - Japan B - China
C - South Korea D - Israel

Correct Answer: A - Japan

Notes:

Japanese engineers have developed the world's first hybrid quantum supercomputer called Reimej, which has been integrated into the Fugaku supercomputer. This 20-qubit capacity computer uses trapped-ion qubits, while most quantum computers are based on superconducting qubits.

41. When was the Social Development Commission established?

- A - 1940 B - 1942
C - 1945 D - 1946

Correct Answer: D - 1946

Notes:

India participated in the 63rd Session of CSocD held in New York from 10-14 February 2025, where it was represented by Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Smt. Savitri Thakur. The objective of this session was to promote inclusive social policies and strengthen global welfare.

42. What is the rank of India in the Corruption Perception Index 2024?

- A - 90 B - 95
C - 96 D - 100

Correct Answer: C - 96

Notes:

Transparency International released the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) for 2024 with a focus on "corruption hinders the fight against climate change". India is ranked 96th among 180 countries with a score of 38, up from 39 in 2023 and 40 in 2022. India's ranking was 93rd in 2023 and 85th in 2022. Among neighbouring countries, Pakistan was ranked 135th, Sri Lanka 121st, Bangladesh 149th and China 76th.

43. When is World Radio Day celebrated?

- A - 10 February B - 12 February
C - 13 February D - 14 February

Correct Answer: C - 13 February

Notes:

World Radio Day is celebrated every year on 13 February, with the aim of promoting education, information and freedom of expression. The theme for 2025 is "Radio and Climate Change: A Powerful Tool for Climate Action". Commercially introduced in the 1920s, radio became popular by the 1950s. UNESCO recognized it in 2011, and the United Nations made it an international event in 2013.

44. 25T Bollard Pull Tug Ashwa has been built by which company?

- A - Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- B - Cochin Shipyard Limited
- C - Titagarh Rail Systems Limited
- D - Hindustan Shipyard Limited

Correct Answer: C - Titagarh Rail Systems Limited

Notes:

The third 25T Bollard Pull Tug 'Ashwa' (Yard 337) was inducted at the Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam. The tug is part of the six 25T BP tug construction contract signed with Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL), Kolkata in November 2021. It is based on indigenous design and built as per Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) rules.

45. Which player recently won the Indian Snooker Championship?

- A - Pankaj Advani
- B - Aditya Mehta
- C - Geet Sethi
- D - Sourav Kothari

Correct Answer: A - Pankaj Advani

Notes:

Pankaj Advani won his 36th national and 10th men's snooker title by winning the Indian Snooker Championship 2024. He defeated Brijesh Damani in the final. This tournament is India's only selection event for the Asian and World Championships. Advani is India's top snooker and billiards player. He won the first national billiards title in 2003 and has won 17 gold medals in the World Billiards Championship.

46. Sarojini Naidu was appointed the first woman governor of which state?

- A - Bihar
- B - Andhra Pradesh
- C - West Bengal
- D - Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: D - Uttar Pradesh

Notes:

Sarojini Naidu was born on 13 February 1879 in Hyderabad. She was active in the freedom struggle and became the first Indian woman president of the Indian National Congress in 1925. She was arrested in 1930 for participating in the Salt Satyagraha, and was also involved in the Quit India Movement. After independence, she became the first woman governor of Uttar Pradesh.

47. The National Safai Karamchari Commission comes under which Ministry of the Government of India

- A - Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- B - Home Ministry
- C - Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- D - Ministry of Personnel

Correct Answer: A - Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Notes: The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended the term of the National Safai Karamchari Commission till 31 March 2028. It was established in 1994 under the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993.

48. Recently, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has introduced the new Income Tax Bill 2025, which will replace which Income Tax Bill

- A - Income Tax Act 1959 B - Income Tax Act 1961
C - Income Tax Act 1965 D - Income Tax Act 1971

Correct Answer: B - Income Tax Act 1961

Notes:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the Income Tax Bill, 2025 in the Lok Sabha on 13 February 2025, which has been brought to replace the Income Tax Act, 1961. This bill focuses on simplifying tax laws, increasing transparency and reducing tax disputes. Despite opposition from the opposition, it was introduced by voice vote and sent to the Select Committee.

49. In which state of India is the Thaipusam festival organized?

- A - Tamil Nadu B - Karnataka
C - Jharkhand D - Chhattisgarh

Correct Answer: A - Tamil Nadu

Notes:

On 11 February 2025, the Thaipusam festival was celebrated in Tamil Nadu, which is the main festival of the Tamil Hindu community. In this, Lord Murugan is worshipped, who is considered to be Kartikeya, the son of Shiva and Parvati. This festival falls on the first full moon of the "Thai" month of the Tamil calendar and symbolizes the victory of Lord Murugan over the demon Surapadman.

50. Recently, which fighter plane has President Donald Trump offered to give to India?

- A - F-22 Raptor B - F-35
C - MiG-29 D - Rafale

Correct Answer: B - F-35

Notes:

Recently, President Donald Trump offered India the F-35 fighter aircraft. It is an advanced multi-role fighter aircraft developed by Lockheed Martin, equipped with stealth technology and does not get caught on radar. There are three versions of the F-35—F-35A (normal takeoff and landing), F-35B (short take off and vertical landing), and F-35C (aircraft carrier based).

51. What is the rank of India in the Logistics Performance Index Report 2023?

- A - 38th B - 39th
C - 40th D - 41st

Correct Answer: A - 38th

Notes:

India ranked 38th in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023 released by the World Bank, improving by six places. India ranked 22nd in the international shipment category, and the "turnaround time" of ports was recorded at 0.9 days. India's logistics market is emerging as a global logistics hub with 8.8% annual growth, while its logistics cost is 13-14% of GDP.

52. Who among the following has been appointed as the ambassador of ICC Champions Trophy 2025?

- A - Shikhar Dhawan B - Yuvraj Singh
C - Shahid Afridi D - Chris Gayle

Correct Answer: A - Shikhar Dhawan

Notes:

ICC has appointed former Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan as the ambassador of Champions Trophy 2025. Along with him, Sarfaraz Ahmed of Pakistan, Shane Watson of Australia and Shane Watson of New Zealand have also been made ambassadors. The tournament will be held in Pakistan and UAE from 19 February to 9 March 2025. This will be the 9th edition of the Champions Trophy, in which 8 teams will participate.

53. National Statistical System Training Academy (NSSTA) celebrated which of its foundation days recently?

- A - 15th B - 16th
C - 17th D - 18th

Correct Answer: C - 17th

Notes:

National Statistical System Training Academy (NSSTA) celebrated its 17th foundation day in Greater Noida with the theme "Empowering Governance through Statistical Excellence". Its objective is to train statisticians and officers in advanced methodologies and support policy making. NSSTA, established in January 2009, functions under the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation.

54. India's first manned submarine is

- A - Girraj 400 B - Matsya 6000
C - Naitik 200 D - Cheetah 100

Correct Answer: B - Matsya 6000

Notes:

The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai is developing India's first manned submarine 'Matsya 6000' under the Ministry of Earth Sciences. It is being prepared under the Deep Ocean Mission and is likely to be completed by 2026. This submarine will be

equipped with scientific sensors and will be able to carry three people to a depth of 6000 meters.

55. Where has the oldest Jurassic bird fossil been found recently?

- A - China B - India
C - Japan D - South Africa

Correct Answer: A - China

Notes:

Two bird fossils from the Jurassic era (about 149 million years ago) have been discovered in China's Fujian province, the study of which has been published in the journal "Nature". This discovery challenges the existing beliefs related to bird evolution and shows that birds had diversified by the end of the Jurassic era.

56. Under which Article of the Constitution was President's rule imposed in Manipur?

- A - Article 352 B - Article 356
C - Article 370 D - Article 377

Correct Answer: B - Article 356

Notes:

President's rule has been imposed in Manipur under Article 356 due to political instability and failure of constitutional mechanism after the resignation of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. The administration had become weak due to ethnic violence and law and order problems in the state.

57. Jotham Napat has become the Prime Minister of which country?

- A - Vanuatu B - Tuvalu
C - Nauru D - Tonga

Correct Answer: A - Vanuatu

Notes:

Jotham Napat has become the new Prime Minister of Vanuatu and has formed a coalition government, which includes five major political parties. He is the President of the Vanuatu Leaders Party. Vanuatu is an island country located in the South Pacific Ocean, consisting of 83 islands, of which 65 are inhabited.

58. Where was the 24th Divya Kala Mela inaugurated?

- A - Srinagar B - Gulshan Ground, Jammu
C - New Delhi D - Dehradun

Correct Answer: B - Gulshan Ground, Jammu

Notes:

Recently, the 24th Divya Kala Mela was inaugurated by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha and Union Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar at Gulshan Ground in Jammu. The fair will run from 14 to 24 February 2025 and will showcase the products and skills of Divyang artisans and entrepreneurs.

59. Which state topped the Status of Devolution to Panchayats in States Report- 2024?

- A - Tamil Nadu B - Maharashtra
C - Kerala D - Karnataka

Correct Answer: D - Karnataka

Notes:

Union Minister S.P. Singh Baghel released the report "Status of Devolution to Panchayats in States: An Indicative Evidence-Based Ranking, 2024" in New Delhi, which provides ranking to states and union territories on the status of devolution to panchayats. The report evaluates six dimensions of panchayats, including framework, functions, finances, functionaries, capacity building and accountability.

60. Platform 'MITRA' has been launched by whom?

- A - Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
B - Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
C - Ministry of Finance D - NABARD

Correct Answer: B - Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Notes:

SEBI launched a platform called MITRA (Mutual Fund Investment Tracing and Retrieval Assistant) that helps investors track and retrieve inactive mutual fund folios. If a folio has no transactions for the last 10 years but has unit balance, it will be considered inactive. CAMS and KFin Technologies have been directed to manage this platform.

61. Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 was given by which organization?

- A - NITI Aayog
B - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
C - UN Global Compact Network India
D - Ministry of Environment and Forests

Correct Answer: C - UN Global Compact Network India

Notes:

India's largest integrated power company, NTPC Limited has been awarded the Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 in the Water Sustainability category. The award was given at the UN Global Compact Network India ceremony held in Chennai on February 13.

62. Where did the World Government Summit 2025 begin?

- A - Dubai B - Singapore
C - Hanoi D - New Delhi

Correct Answer: A - Dubai

Notes:

The World Government Summit (WGS) 2025 was held in Dubai on 11-13 February on the theme "Building Future Governments", in which Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav represented India. He shared India's commitment to green growth and climate resilience, especially on India's capacity building in clean technology, electric vehicles and climate-resilient infrastructure.

63. Which country has recently approved the construction of a deep sea research center in the South China Sea?

- A - India B - China
C - America D - Japan

Correct Answer: B - China

Notes:

China has approved the construction of a deep-sea research station called the "Deep-Sea Space Station" in the South China Sea, which will be located at a depth of 2,000 metres. The project will be operational by 2030, and will have six scientists conducting research for a month. The station aims to study cold seep ecosystems, methane flow, ecological changes and tectonic activities.

64. Where was the fourth edition of the Global Hindu Buddhist Initiative for Dialogue Conflict Resolution and Environmental Awareness held?

- A - Thailand B - Bangladesh
C - Sri Lanka D - Afghanistan

Correct Answer:

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed the fourth edition of Samvad – the global Hindu-Buddhist initiative for conflict prevention and environmental consciousness on 14 February 2025. The dialogue is being held in Bangkok and Ayutthaya, Thailand from 14-17 February 2025.

65. Who recently inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav-2025?

- A - Prime Minister Narendra Modi
B - Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar
C - President Smt. Draupadi Murmu
D - Home Minister Amit Shah

Correct Answer:

Notes:

President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav-2025, which will be held from February 16 to 24 at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in New Delhi. The festival is a

celebration of tribal heritage, culture, art, crafts, food and trade. Tribal artists from various states performed traditional dances at the opening ceremony.

66. When was the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) established?

A - 1985 B - 1990

C - 1995 D - 2000

Correct Answer:

Notes:

SIDBI and France's AFD signed a \$100 million credit facility agreement that will provide affordable financing to Indian MSMEs. The funds will be available for investments in energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy and climate-friendly business practices.

67. Latika Katt, who recently passed away, was associated with which field?

[A] Journalism

[B] Sports

[C] Sculpture

[D] Politics

Correct Answer: C [Sculpture]

Notes:

Latika Katt, a renowned Indian sculptor, passed away at 76 in Jaipur. She was known for larger-than-life sculptures, public busts, and capturing nature's organic forms. Her works include a 20-ft bronze sculpture of Jawaharlal Nehru at Jawahar Bhawan, Delhi. She experimented with terracotta, papier-mâché, stone, and bronze over five decades. She won the Beijing Art Biennale Award (2010) for Makarsankranti Nahan at Dashaswamedh Ghat.

68. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change organised the World

Wetlands Day 2025 event at which Ramsar Site?

[A] Tawa Reservoir, Madhya Pradesh

[B] Parvati Arga, Uttar Pradesh

[C] Renuka Lake, Himachal Pradesh

[D] Pala Wetland, Mizoram

Correct Answer: B [Parvati Arga, Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change organized World Wetlands Day 2025 at the Parvati Arga Ramsar Site on 2nd February. The event was inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath and Union Minister Kirti Vardhan Singh. The celebration emphasized the importance of wetlands in environmental conservation, biodiversity, and sustainable livelihoods. The theme for 2025 was 'Protecting Wetlands for our Common Future', highlighting the need for collaboration to protect these biodiverse ecosystems and ensure future wellbeing.

69. Which city is the host of 38th Surajkund International Crafts Fair 2025?

- [A]Rohtak
- [B]Faridabad
- [C]Karnal
- [D] Panchkula

Correct Answer: B [Faridabad]

Notes:

The 38th Surajkund International Crafts Fair 2025 held from February 7 to 23 in Surajkund, Faridabad, Haryana. It is organized by the Union Ministries of Tourism, Culture, External Affairs, Textiles, and the Haryana government. The fair showcases India's and other countries' crafts, textiles, culture, and cuisine. The 37th edition in 2024 saw participation from 45+ countries, 592 foreign artists, and 1.3 million visitors. For 2025, BIMSTEC is proposed as the partner organization, enhancing international collaboration.

70.The NIELIT Centre of Excellence in Chip Design has been inaugurated in which city?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Noida
- [C] Bengaluru
- [D] Chennai

Correct Answer: B [Noida]

Notes:

Shri. S. Krishnan, Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Chip Design at Noida. It aims to enhance India's semiconductor design and VLSI (Very Large-Scale Integration) capabilities. The Centre will provide research, innovation, and training to develop a skilled workforce. Facilities include a Project Lab for chip design and a Smart Classroom for immersive learning. A VLSI-based Intellectual Property (IP) demonstration showcased its commitment to semiconductor advancement.

71.PRASAD Scheme was launched by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Culture
- [B] Ministry of Tourism
- [C] Ministry of Defence
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Tourism]

Notes:

A Parliamentary committee urged the government to develop a clear SOP and obtain approvals for timely completion of projects under the PRASHAD scheme. The PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spirituality Augmentation Drive) scheme was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in 2014. It aims to enhance cultural preservation and spiritual tourism at pilgrimage sites across India. Key objectives include improving infrastructure, connectivity, and conservation of heritage sites. It promotes local employment through skill development

and supports eco-friendly tourism. The scheme is 100% publicly funded, with additional support from CSR and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).

72.What is “Stryker” that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Invasive plant
- [B] Infantry combat vehicle
- [C] Indian Naval Ship
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: B [Infantry combat vehicle]

Notes:

The upcoming India-US defence deal includes co-production of Stryker infantry combat vehicles. Stryker is an eight-wheel-drive combat vehicle developed for the US Army by General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS). It was the first new military vehicle inducted into the US Army since the 1980s. The Stryker family includes different variants like infantry carriers, mobile gun systems, and medical evacuation vehicles. It is known for speed and flexibility in urban warfare. The vehicle has a range of 483 km, top speed of 100 km/h, and is air-transportable by C-17 and C-130 aircraft.

73.Which ministry has launched a campaign titled “Shatavari –For Better Health”?

- [A] Ministry of Women and Child Development
- [B] Ministry of AYUSH
- [C] Ministry of Health
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of AYUSH]

Notes:

The Ministry of Ayush launched the “Shatavari – For Better Health” campaign to promote awareness of medicinal plants. It was inaugurated by Shri Prataprao Jadhav, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Ayush. The campaign is led by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), which has previously promoted Amla, Moringa, Giloe, and Ashwagandha. Financial assistance of ₹18.9 lakh will support eligible organizations in promoting Shatavari. The initiative strengthens India’s focus on traditional medicine and holistic well-being.

74.Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is located in which state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Nagaland
- [C] Manipur
- [D] Mizoram

Correct Answer: A [Assam]

Notes:

The Environment Ministry’s Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) approved the use of Extended

Reach Drilling (ERD) technology for research inside Dibru Saikhowa National Park. Dibru Saikhowa is both a National Park and a Biosphere Reserve in Assam, located on the south bank of the Brahmaputra River. It is bordered by the Brahmaputra and Lohit Rivers in the north and the Dibru River in the south. The park consists of moist mixed semi-evergreen and deciduous forests.

75. Which country has created the first-ever kangaroo embryos using in vitro fertilisation (IVF)?

- [A] China
- [B] Australia
- [C] Russia
- [D] France

Correct Answer: B [Australia]

Notes:

Australian researchers created the first-ever kangaroo embryos using in vitro fertilisation (IVF). This was achieved through intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), a technique used in human fertility treatments. Scientists from the University of Queensland used ICSI to create eastern grey kangaroo embryos by injecting a single sperm into a mature egg. Over 20 embryos have been successfully produced. The sperm and egg were collected from recently deceased kangaroos in wildlife hospitals. This breakthrough aims to help conserve endangered marsupials like koalas, Tasmanian devils, and wombats, addressing Australia's high mammal extinction rate.

76. Vishwamitri river, which was seen in news, is located in which state?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Punjab

Correct Answer: B [Gujarat]

Notes:

A two-day crocodile counting in Gujarat's Vishwamitri River in Vadodara ended on February 6, 2025. The Vishwamitri River originates in Pavagadh, Panchmahal District, and flows 200 km into the Gulf of Khambhat. Despite sewage and industrial pollution, the river supports a large population of mugger crocodiles. Vishwamitri's banks have historical settlements dating back to 1000 B.C. The river has three major tributaries: Dhadhar, Khanpur, and Jambuva. Crocodiles in Vishwamitri are legally protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

77. "Ekuverin" is the joint military exercise between India and which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] China

[C]Maldives

[D] France

Correct Answer: C [Maldives]

Notes:

The 13th edition of the India-Maldives military exercise 'Ekuverin' held in Maldives from 2-15 February 2025. The opening ceremony took place at the MNDF Official Composite Training Center in Maafilaafushi on 2 February 2025. 'Ekuverin' means 'Friends' in the Dhivehi language. It is an annual bilateral exercise, held alternately in India and the Maldives since 2009. The 12th edition was held in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand, from June 11-24, 2023. A platoon-level contingent from both nations participates. The exercise enhances coordination for counter-insurgency, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief operations.

78. *Gambusia affinis*, which was seen in news, belongs to which species?

[A]Mosquitofish

[B]Spider

[C]Frog

[D] Bee

Correct Answer: A [Mosquitofish]

Notes:

The National Green Tribunal has sought a response from the Central government on using *Gambusia affinis* (Mosquitofish) and *Poecilia reticulata* (Guppy) for mosquito control. *Gambusia affinis* is native to the southeastern United States and has been used globally for over a century. The IUCN lists it among the 100 worst invasive species due to its impact on ecosystems. *Poecilia reticulata* is a non-migratory fish from South America that threatens native species. These fish have been released in multiple Indian states for mosquito control, raising ecological concerns.

79. The phrase "Satyameva Jayate" is derived from which text?

[A]Rigveda

[B]Ramayana

[C]Mahabharat

[D] Mundaka Upanishad

Correct Answer: D [Mundaka Upanishad]

Notes:

The Union Home Ministry urged states to prevent the misuse of the State Emblem of India, emphasizing that the Lion Capital is incomplete without "Satyameva Jayate" in Devanagari. The emblem is an adaptation of Ashoka's Lion Capital at Sarnath, featuring four lions on a circular abacus with Dharma Chakras, an elephant, horse, bull, and lion. Adopted on 26 January 1950, it shows three visible lions, omitting the bell-shaped lotus. "Satyameva

Jayate”, meaning “Truth alone triumphs”, is from the Mundaka Upanishad. Its use is restricted under the 2005 Act and 2007 Rules.

80.Brucellosis disease, that was recently seen in news, is caused by which agent?

- [A]Fungus
- [B]Virus
- [C]Bacteria
- [D] Protozoa

Correct Answer: C [Bacteria]

Notes:

Brucellosis, a bacterial disease, caused the death of an 8-year-old in Kerala. It is caused by Brucella bacteria, mainly infecting cattle, goats, sheep, swine, and dogs. Humans get infected through direct contact with animals, consuming contaminated animal products, or inhaling airborne agents. Unpasteurised milk and cheese from infected animals are the most common sources. Symptoms include fever, weakness, weight loss, and discomfort, often mild and undiagnosed.

81.Wriddhiman Saha, who recently announced his retirement, is associated with which sports?

- [A]Cricket
- [B]Football
- [C]Boxing
- [D] Wrestling

Correct Answer: A [Cricket]

Notes:

Wriddhiman Saha, India wicketkeeper-batter, retired from all forms of cricket after playing his final Ranji Trophy match for Bengal. He made his international debut in 2010, playing 49 matches for India across formats. Saha represented Bengal and Tripura in domestic cricket and played 142 First-Class and 116 List A matches. His last international appearance was in 2021; he lost his place to Rishabh Pant. Saha also had a successful IPL career, playing for multiple franchises, including Gujarat Titans.

82.Which state government has recently launched Braille-enabled Indian Constitution?

- [A]Karnataka
- [B]Andhra Pradesh
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: A [Karnataka]

Notes:

Sankara Eye Hospital and CII Young Indians (Yi) Bengaluru launched a Braille-enabled Indian

Constitution. Karnataka Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot unveiled it in the city. The initiative empowers blind and visually impaired individuals to read and understand their rights. It promotes inclusivity by ensuring equal access to constitutional knowledge. Kaushik Murali from Sankara Eye Foundation called it a major step toward accessibility. The Braille version will be distributed to key institutions for wider reach.

83. Vishwamitri river, which was seen in news, is located in which state?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Punjab

Correct Answer: B [Gujarat]

Notes:

A two-day crocodile counting in Gujarat's Vishwamitri River in Vadodara ended on February 6, 2025. The Vishwamitri River originates in Pavagadh, Panchmahal District, and flows 200 km into the Gulf of Khambhat. Despite sewage and industrial pollution, the river supports a large population of mugger crocodiles. Vishwamitri's banks have historical settlements dating back to 1000 B.C. The river has three major tributaries: Dhadhar, Khanpur, and Jambuva. Crocodiles in Vishwamitri are legally protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

84. Which state government has launched the 'Skill Uday Tongai', a skill development training programme?

- [A] Nagaland
- [B] Assam
- [C] Tripura
- [D] Sikkim

Correct Answer: C [Tripura]

Notes:

Tripura CM Manik Saha launched the 'Skill Uday Tongai' skill development training programme at Tripura Institute of Technology, Agartala. The programme aims to empower 80,000 school and college students. He also inaugurated the State MIS Portal, a Career Guidance Programme for 70,000 girl students, the NSDC Programme for 7,000 college students, and the English Employability and Entrepreneurship (EEE) programme.

85. Which country has recently joined China's Chang'e-8 moon mission?

- [A] Pakistan
- [B] Russia
- [C] Japan
- [D] India

Correct Answer: A [Pakistan]

Notes:

Pakistan's space agency SUPARCO is collaborating with China for the Chang'e-8 lunar mission in 2028. A 35-kg indigenous Pakistani rover will explore the Moon's south pole as part of the mission. Chang'e-8 is part of China's International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) project and aims to test technologies for a lunar science base. The mission will conduct surveys, lunar sample analysis, and resource utilization experiments. China has allocated 200 kg of payload capacity for international participation. This follows Pakistan's iCube Qamar CubeSat launch on China's Chang'e-6 mission in May 2024.

86. Who won the 2025 Chennai Open Tennis men's single title?

- [A] Kyrian Jacquet
- [B] Elias Ymer
- [C] Dalibor Svrčina
- [D] Billy Harris

Correct Answer: A [Kyrian Jacquet]

Notes:

Kyrian Jacquet of France won the 2025 Chennai Open Tennis men's singles title. He defeated Elias Ymer of Sweden in the final on 9 February 2025 at SDAT Tennis Stadium, Nungambakkam, Tamil Nadu. The 2025 Chennai Open was an ATP 100 Challenger event held from 3-9 February 2025. This is Kyrian Jacquet's first Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) title. In the semi-finals, Jacquet beat Dalibor Svrčina, and Ymer defeated top-seeded Billy Harris.

87. Laokhowa Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which city?

- [A] Manipur
- [B] Sikkim
- [C] Assam
- [D] Arunachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Assam]

Notes:

After 40 years, the Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary saw the return of one-horned rhinos and is attracting more water birds than Assam's Deepor Beel Ramsar site. The sanctuary is located in Nagaon District, Assam, covering 70.13 sq.km. It was designated a buffer zone of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve in 2007 and is part of the Laokhowa-Burachapori ecosystem. The sanctuary is surrounded by human-dominated areas on all sides except the north.

88. Which Indian city is the venue of 4th South Asian Senior Athletics Championships 2025?

- [A] Ranchi
- [B] Hyderabad

[C] Bhopal

[D] New Delhi

Correct Answer: A [Ranchi]

Notes:

Ranchi will host the 4th South Asian Senior Athletics Championships at Birsa Munda Athletics Stadium from May 3 to 5, 2025. This is the first time in 17 years that India is hosting the event, last held in 2008. The event was originally planned for October 2023 but was postponed. Athletes from India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives will participate.

89. What is an “Indirect Prompt Injection” that was recently highlighted in news?

[A] A new method to address the problem of illegal drugs

[B] A new tool introduced by government to check fake currency notes

[C] A technique that manipulates chatbots into executing malicious commands

[D] A security patch for AI models

Correct Answer: C [A technique that manipulates chatbots into executing malicious commands]

Notes:

Researchers have warned that AI chatbots are vulnerable to indirect prompt injection attacks. This technique tricks chatbots into executing malicious commands. It exploits large language models (LLMs) by embedding harmful instructions in documents or emails. Attackers can manipulate chatbots to search for sensitive data or alter long-term memory settings. These attacks appear benign but can lead to serious security risks.

90. Which company won the Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 in the Water Resilience category?

[A] NTPC Ltd

[B] Tata Power

[C] BHEL

[D] Reliance Industries

Correct Answer: A [NTPC Ltd]

Notes:

NTPC Ltd. won the Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 in the Water Resilience category. The award was presented by UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) in Chennai on February 13. NTPC was recognized for its water conservation and sustainable water management initiatives. The award aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). NTPC follows Reduce, Reuse & Recycle principles and uses advanced wastewater treatment. It promotes clean water access, restores water bodies, and raises conservation awareness. The company sets industry benchmarks in water efficiency and sustainability.

91. Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: B [Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

The carcass of a 45-50-year-old male elephant was found in Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS) near the Indo-Nepal border. Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS) is a protected area in the Upper Gangetic Plain, Uttar Pradesh. It became part of 'Project Tiger' in 1987 and is a core area of the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve. The sanctuary has a fragile Terai ecosystem with sal and teak forests, grasslands, swamps, and wetlands.

92.What is the name of the initiative launched by India and the USA for Underwater Domain Awareness?

- [A] Indo-Pacific Maritime Partnership (IPMP)
- [B] Blue Ocean Alliance (BOA)
- [C] Autonomous Systems Industry Alliance (ASIA)
- [D] Maritime Security Cooperation Initiative (MSCI)

Correct Answer: C [Autonomous Systems Industry Alliance (ASIA)]

Notes:

India and the USA launched the Autonomous Systems Industry Alliance (ASIA) initiative for Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA) during the Indian Prime Minister's recent visit to the USA. UDA involves using technology and strategies to monitor underwater activities. India is the first country to collaborate with the U.S. on UDA technologies. The initiative strengthens regional security by detecting threats like piracy and terrorism. It also supports economic interests in the blue economy and environmental management, while enhancing India's regional diplomacy and maritime cooperation.

93.What is the primary function of newly discovered type of brain cells named Ovoid?

- [A] To play a role in recognition memory
- [B] To regulate blood flow in the brain
- [C] To enhance sensory perception
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: A [To play a role in recognition memory]

Notes:

Researchers discovered a new type of brain cell called Ovoid cells. These neurons help in recognition memory by differentiating between new and familiar objects. They are named for their egg-like shape and are found in the hippocampus of humans, mice, and other animals. Ovoid cells activate when encountering something new, triggering memory storage. This discovery could help treat brain conditions like Alzheimer's, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and Epilepsy.

94. Which zoological park is home to India's first 'bio bank'?

- [A] Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park
- [B] National Zoological Park
- [C] Nandankanan Zoological Park
- [D] Nehru Zoological Park

Correct Answer: A [Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park]

Notes:

India's first bio bank will be set up at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park in West Bengal, in collaboration with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB). This facility will preserve cell and tissue samples from endangered animals, including reproductive cells from deceased ones. The samples will be used for future research and could help in efforts to revive critically endangered or extinct species.

95. Gulf of Eilat, which was seen in news, is located in which sea?

- [A] Black Sea
- [B] Red Sea
- [C] Mediterranean Sea
- [D] South China Sea

Correct Answer: B [Red Sea]

Notes:

Recent research reveals a significant pause in coral reef growth in the Gulf of Eilat (Gulf of Aqaba). The Gulf is located at the northern tip of the Red Sea, bordered by Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia. It is much deeper (1,850 meters) compared to the shallow Gulf of Suez (100 meters). The Gulf of Aqaba is known for its coral reefs, which are among the northernmost in the world.

96. Javelin anti-tank guided missile has been developed by which country? [A] United States

[US] [B] Russia [C] France [D] China **Correct Answer:** A [United States (US)] **Notes:** India and the US plan to procure and co-produce Javelin anti-tank guided missiles for India's defense needs. Javelin is a man-portable, fire-and-forget missile designed to destroy heavily armored vehicles. It was developed by US defense companies Raytheon and Lockheed Martin. The missile is effective against main battle tanks, lighter military vehicles, bunkers, fortifications, and helicopters.

97. Which state has become the first in the country to bring a dedicated Global Capability Centre (GCC) policy?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Uttar Pradesh

Correct Answer: C [Madhya Pradesh]

Notes:

Madhya Pradesh became the first Indian state to launch a dedicated Global Capability Centre (GCC) policy. The Madhya Pradesh GCC Policy 2025 aims to make the state a hub for global innovation and collaboration. It offers incentives for capital expenditure, payroll, upskilling, and R&D. Focus sectors include IT, finance, engineering, AI, and cybersecurity. The policy targets over 50 GCCs and 37,000 direct jobs. It aims to decentralize business hubs beyond metro cities.

98. What is the IUCN status of Black Seadevil Fish that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Endangered
- [B] Critically Endangered
- [C] Vulnerable
- [D] Least Concern

Correct Answer: D [Least Concern]

Notes:

Researchers recorded the first-ever sighting of an adult abyssal anglerfish (also known as black demon fish or black seadevil fish) in broad daylight. The Black Seadevil Fish is a deep-sea predator known for its terrifying appearance and unique hunting adaptations. It has dark coloration, sharp teeth, and a monstrous shape, giving it the nickname "black devil." It is listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List.

99. What is the primary objective of the PM-AASHA scheme?

- [A] To provide free education in tribal areas
- [B] To promote organic farming
- [C] To improve health infrastructure in rural areas
- [D] To ensure remunerative prices for farmers' produce

Correct Answer: D [To ensure remunerative prices for farmers' produce]

Notes:

The Centre has extended the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) scheme until 2025-26 under the 15th Finance Commission cycle. The scheme ensures fair prices for farmers and stabilizes essential commodity prices. Under the Price Support Scheme (PSS), the government procures pulses, oilseeds, and copra at Minimum Support Price (MSP) through Central Nodal Agencies. 100% procurement of Tur (Arhar), Urad, and Masur has been approved for 2024-25 to boost domestic production.

100. Which state government has launched 'Jal Kalash' initiative to prevent plastic waste from entering the Ganga?

- [A] Jharkhand
- [B] Bihar
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: C [Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

The Uttar Pradesh government launched the 'Jal Kalash' initiative at Prayagraj during Mahakumbh. It aims to collect and recycle plastic water bottles to prevent environmental harm. The initiative is led by G Ashok Kumar, former Director General of Namami Gange Mission. A 20-day campaign (Feb 1-20, 2025) is organized by Development Alternatives in collaboration with the HCL Foundation. Adarsh Seva Samiti and Mangal Bhumi Foundation are also providing local support to the initiative.

101. Which institution has developed AI-powered tool named AMRSense for tracking antibiotic resistance in real time?

- [A] IIT-Delhi
- [B] IIT Kanpur
- [C] IIT Ahmedabad
- [D] IIT Roorkee

Correct Answer: A [IIT-Delhi]

Notes:

IIT-Delhi researchers developed AI-powered tools for tracking antibiotic resistance in real time. The project is a collaboration between IIT-Delhi, CHRI-PATH, Tata 1mg, and ICMR scientists. The AI tool, AMRSense, analyzes hospital data to provide early insights on antimicrobial resistance. It operates at global, national, and hospital levels to aid quick action. The research established links between antibiotic resistance patterns in community and hospital infections.

102. Bharat Tech Triumph Program has been organized by which institution?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] Interactive Entertainment and Innovation Council (IEIC)
- [C] National Informatics Centre (NIC)
- [D] Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Correct Answer: B [Interactive Entertainment and Innovation Council (IEIC)]

Notes:

The Bharat Tech Triumph Program (TTP) has been launched to support India's gaming industry under the Create in India Challenge Season 1. It aims to identify and showcase Indian gaming talent on the global stage. It is organized by the Interactive Entertainment

and Innovation Council (IEIC) in partnership with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB). Winners will be sponsored to present their innovations at Game Developers Conference (GDC) 2025 in San Francisco and WAVES in India.

103.What is “Extinction Filtering” in the context of biodiversity?

- [A] A drone technology for agriculture
- [B] A process where species sensitive to human disturbance disappear
- [C] A method used to conserve endangered species
- [D] The natural selection of species in protected areas

Correct Answer: B [A process where species sensitive to human disturbance disappear]

Notes:

Human activities outside protected areas are causing biodiversity loss. Extinction filtering removes species sensitive to human disturbances, leaving only those that adapt to degraded habitats. Species evolved in high-disturbance environments are more likely to survive habitat loss and fragmentation. In tropical forests, human overpopulation has driven sensitive mammals to local extinction, while adaptable species persist. This process leads to less diverse and more uniform species in forests. Over time, it weakens ecosystems and reduces their ability to recover from environmental changes.

104.Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyaan is an initiative of which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [B] Ministry of AYUSH
- [C] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- [D] Ministry of Education

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of AYUSH]

Notes:

The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) completed the first phase of the Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyaan with five Guinness World Records. This initiative, under the Ministry of AYUSH, aims to bring Ayurveda to every home by helping people understand their unique Prakriti (Ayurvedic body type). The campaign encourages people to adopt personalized health practices and be part of a nationwide wellness movement.

105.Which ministry has reclassified Barytes, Feldspar, Mica, and Quartz as major minerals?

- [A] Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change
- [B] Ministry of Mines
- [C] Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- [D] Ministry of Power

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Mines]

Notes:

The Ministry of Mines reclassified Barytes, Feldspar, Mica, and Quartz as major minerals

through a gazette notification. Major minerals are regulated by the Central Government under the MMDR Act, 1957 and have high economic and strategic significance. These minerals are now governed by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) with a lease period of up to 50 years and revenue accruing to state governments.

106.RS-24 Yars is an intercontinental ballistic missile of which country?

- [A] Russia
- [B] China
- [C] Japan
- [D] Australia

Correct Answer: A [Russia]

Notes:

Russia deployed RS-24 Yars intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) on combat patrol routes with nuclear warheads. RS-24 Yars (NATO: SS-29) is a Russian ICBM system that entered service in February 2010. It is similar in design to Russia's SS-27 (Topol M) and Bulava (SS-NX-32) missiles. It is a three-stage, solid-fueled missile, launched from silos or mobile launchers. It has a range of 2,000–10,500 km and carries up to 10 nuclear warheads.

107.What is the primary objective of the SWAYATT initiative?

- [A] Encouraging foreign investments in e-commerce
- [B] Promoting participation of women entrepreneurs, startups, and youth in public procurement
- [C] Providing financial assistance to large corporations
- [D] Establishing a global e-commerce platform

Correct Answer: B [Promoting participation of women entrepreneurs, startups, and youth in public procurement]

Notes:

The Government e Marketplace (GeM) celebrated six years of the Startups, Women & Youth Advantage through eTransactions (SWAYATT) initiative in New Delhi. SWAYATT was launched on 19th February 2019 to boost participation of women-led enterprises and youth in public procurement. It is based on GeM's principle of social inclusion and aims to improve ease of doing business. The initiative connects startups, women entrepreneurs, MSEs, SHGs, and youth to government procurement. It focuses on training last-mile sellers, promoting women entrepreneurship, and supporting small-scale businesses in public procurement.

108.What type of warship is "INS Tamal" that was recently seen in news?

- [A] Diesel Electric Submarine
- [B] Stealth Guided Missile Frigate
- [C] Aircraft Carrier
- [D] Recovery Vessel

Correct Answer: B [Stealth Guided Missile Frigate]

Notes:

The Indian Navy crew has arrived in St. Petersburg for the commissioning of INS Tamal, a stealth frigate built in Russia. INS Tamal is a state-of-the-art stealth guided missile frigate. It is an upgraded Krivak-III class frigate, part of a \$2.5 billion India-Russia deal for four frigates. Two frigates were built in Russia, while the other two are being made at Goa Shipyard Limited. INS Tushil was commissioned in December 2024. INS Tamal will be the last warship imported, as India now designs and builds its own warships.

109. Which country owns the “Svalbard Global Seed Vault”?

- [A] Sweden
- [B] Finland
- [C] Ireland
- [D] Norway

Correct Answer: D [Norway]

Notes:

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault, also called the Arctic Doomsday Vault, received over 14,000 new seed samples. It is located on the Norwegian Arctic Island and owned by Norway. It is managed by the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food, NordGen, and the Crop Trust. It stores duplicate seeds from global genebanks as a backup against disasters like nuclear war, conflict, or climate change.

110. Mount Fentale, that was recently seen in news due to volcanic eruption, is located in which country?

- [A] Indonesia
- [B] Vietnam
- [C] Philippines
- [D] Ethiopia

Correct Answer: D [Ethiopia]

Notes:

Mount Fentale in northern Ethiopia released huge methane plumes starting January 31, 2025. This event, described as a “burp,” involved large amounts of methane escaping from underground gas deposits. The phenomenon was first detected through satellite monitoring and later confirmed by GHGSat. This unprecedented natural event could have significant climate change implications due to the high potency of methane as a greenhouse gas.

111. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is associated with which organization?

- [A] European Union (EU)
- [B] United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)
- [C] World Bank
- [D] World Health Organization (WHO)

Correct Answer: A [European Union (EU)]

Notes:

The European Union (EU) acknowledged India's concerns over the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). CBAM is an EU tariff on carbon-intensive imports to prevent carbon leakage. It aims to put a fair price on carbon emissions from imported goods and promote cleaner production globally. CBAM ensures that imported goods pay a carbon price equal to EU domestic production. It applies to all imports, including online orders and gifts. The mechanism helps the EU meet its climate goals by discouraging carbon-intensive production outside the EU.

112. Where was the Bharat Calling Conference 2025 organized?

[A] New Delhi

[B] Hyderabad

[C] Chennai

[D] Mumbai

Correct Answer: D [Mumbai]

Notes:

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal inaugurated the 'Bharat Calling Conference 2025' in Mumbai. The event was organized by IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The theme was 'Path to Viksit Bharat 2047: Pioneering Prosperity for All'. The conference emphasized India's position as a leader in global economic growth. India offers unmatched investment opportunities in various sectors. The country has a strong economy, a large consumer market, and government policies that support business growth. India is set to become one of the world's top investment destinations.

113. What is the theme for National Science Day 2025?

[A] Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science & Innovation for VIKSIT BHARAT

[B] Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat

[C] Integrated Approach in S&T for Sustainable Future

[D] Impact on Education Skills and Work

Correct Answer: A [Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science & Innovation for VIKSIT BHARAT]

Notes:

National Science Day is celebrated on February 28 every year. It marks Sir C.V. Raman's discovery of the 'Raman Effect' in 1928. Raman won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930, becoming the first Indian Nobel laureate in science. The celebration started in 1987 to promote scientific inquiry and innovation. The 2024 theme is "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science & Innovation for VIKSIT BHARAT." It highlights youth's role in making India a global science leader. The day aims to raise awareness, showcase achievements, and inspire future scientists.

114. Which ministry has launched Aadhaar Good Governance portal to streamline approval process for Aadhaar authentication requests?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Finance
- [C] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [D] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Correct Answer: D [Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology]

Notes:

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched the Aadhaar Good Governance portal to simplify Aadhaar authentication approvals. The portal aims to make Aadhaar more user-friendly and improve access to services. The online platform swik.meity.gov.in is now active. It follows the Aadhaar Authentication for Good Governance Amendment Rules, 2025, notified in January 2025. The amendment enhances transparency and inclusivity in decision-making. Aadhaar is the world's most trusted digital ID.

March - 2025

1. Which day is observed as Zero Discrimination Day?

- [A] March 1
- [B] March 2
- [C] March 3
- [D] March 4

Correct Answer: A [March 1]

Notes:

Zero Discrimination Day is observed on March 1 every year to promote equality and dignity for all. The day is led by UNAIDS, which raises awareness against discrimination based on sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, race, and gender. The theme for 2025 is "We Stand Together," emphasizing collective action against discrimination. The day highlights the importance of social justice and sustainable health. UNAIDS organizes events to spread awareness and encourage efforts toward a discrimination-free society.

2. Which country has recently discovered a 4,000-year-old Neolithic wooden circle?

- [A] Ireland
- [B] Denmark
- [C] Sweden
- [D] Norway

Correct Answer: B [Denmark]

Notes:

A 4,000-year-old Neolithic wooden circle was discovered in Denmark, similar to Stonehenge. It consists of 45 wooden piles arranged in a 30-meter diameter, likely for rituals or sun worship. A nearby Bronze Age (1700–1500 BCE) settlement included a chieftain's grave and a bronze sword. The Bronze Age (2000–700 BCE) was when people widely used bronze tools. The discovery suggests cultural links between Denmark and Britain through shared artifacts. Stonehenge (3100–1600 BCE) in England is a prehistoric monument with massive stone circles.

3.Which regulatory body has launched a centralised database Portal for corporate bonds called Bond Central?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- [B] Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- [C] Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: B [Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)]

Notes:

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched a centralized database portal for corporate bonds called Bond Central. It serves as a single, authentic source of information on corporate bonds in India. It is developed by the Online Bond Platform Providers Association (OBPP Association) with collaboration from Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) like stock exchanges and depositories. The portal is free to access and acts as an information repository for the public. It aims to enhance transparency and help investors make informed decisions.

4.As per recent report, which state has emerged as the national leader in mangrove afforestation under the 'MISHTI' scheme?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Andhra Pradesh

Correct Answer: A [Gujarat]

Notes:

Gujarat leads India in mangrove afforestation, covering 19,020 hectares in two years under the MISHTI scheme. MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes) was launched in 2023 to expand mangrove forests and support coastal livelihoods. The initiative aims to strengthen coastal ecosystems across India's coastal states and union territories. Gujarat's rapid afforestation efforts have made it the top performer in the scheme.

5.India's first World Peace Center has been inaugurated in which city?

- [A] Pune
- [B] Gurugram
- [C] Chandigarh
- [D] New Delhi

Correct Answer: B [Gurugram]

Notes:

India's first World Peace Center was inaugurated in Gurugram, Haryana by former President Ram Nath Kovind and other dignitaries. Established by Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti under the guidance of Jain Acharya Lokesh. The center aims to promote peace, harmony, and spiritual consciousness globally. It will spread the ideals of Bhagwan Mahavir, Lord Buddha, and Guru Nanak. The center will have a global impact, influencing platforms like the United Nations and World Parliament of Religions.

6. Lake Tanganyika, which was seen in news, is located in which continent?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Africa
- [C] Europe
- [D] South America

Correct Answer: B [Africa]

Notes:

Countries around Lake Tanganyika launched a five-year project to tackle biodiversity threats. Lake Tanganyika is an ancient lake in East Africa. It borders Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and Zambia. It is the world's longest and one of the deepest lakes, stretching over 400 miles. It is located in the Western Rift Valley, steep land rises along its shores. It marks the division between East and West African floral regions, with oil palms on its shores.

7. What is the Wallace Line, recently highlighted in news?

- [A] A political boundary between Indonesia and Australia
- [B] An invisible boundary separating the ecozones of Asia and Australia
- [C] A fault line causing frequent earthquakes in Southeast Asia
- [D] A trade route used in the 19th century

Correct Answer: B [An invisible boundary separating the ecozones of Asia and Australia]

Notes:

The Wallace Line is an invisible boundary separating Asian and Australian animal species. It was first identified by English naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace in the 19th century. The line runs through the Malay Archipelago, between Bali and Lombok, and between Borneo and Sulawesi. Asian side species (Borneo, Bali) resemble mainland Asian animals like tigers and monkeys. Australian side species (Sulawesi, Lombok) resemble Australian wildlife like kangaroos and cuscuses. Scientists now view it as a transition zone rather than a strict

boundary. Climate change and habitat destruction threaten these ecosystems and species adaptation.

8.Which institute has developed framework to protect infrastructure against ballistic missiles?

- [A] IIT Roorkee
- [B] IIT Bombay
- [C] IIT Madras
- [D] IIT Ahmedabad

Correct Answer: C [IIT Madras]

Notes:

IIT Madras researchers developed a framework to enhance protection of critical infrastructure from ballistic missile threats. The framework helps designers improve the ballistic resistance of reinforced concrete (RC) panels. Findings were published in the journal Reliability Engineering & System Safety. Researchers used computational simulations to study missile impacts on RC. RC is used in military bunkers, nuclear power buildings, bridges, and runways.

9.Which country is the world's largest producer of Gum Arabic, that was recently highlighted in news?

- [A] Mali
- [B] Peru
- [C] Chile
- [D] Sudan

Correct Answer: D [Sudan]

Notes:

Gum Arabic, used in products like Coca-Cola and M&M's, is increasingly trafficked from rebel-held regions in Sudan, disrupting supply chains. It is a water-soluble exudate from *Acacia senegal* and *A. seyal* species. It is native to North Africa, also grows in Australia, India, and South America. Major producers include Cameroon, Chad, Mali, Nigeria, and Sudan. Sudan is the world's largest producer of gum arabic, accounting for 70% of the market. Gum Arabic is non-toxic, odourless, and dissolves in water, forming a clear solution. It is used as a stabilizer and emulsifier in food products.

10.Crassolabium dhritiae, that was recently seen in news, belongs to which species?

- [A] Snake
- [B] Nematode
- [C] Spider
- [D] Bee

Correct Answer: B [Nematode]

Notes:

Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Kolkata, discovered a new soil-dwelling nematode species, *Crassolabium dhritiae*, in Keonjhar district, Odisha. It was found in the Deccan Peninsular biogeographic zone. The species is named after Dhriti Banerjee, director of ZSI, for her contributions to zoology and taxonomy. It has a slender body, rounded lip region, wide odontostyle, long pharynx, distinctive female reproductive structures, and a uniquely shaped tail.

11. Dnipro River, which was seen in news, is located in which continent?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Europe
- [C] North America
- [D] Africa

Correct Answer: B [Europe]

Notes:

Russia is launching repeated assaults to cross the Dnipro River in Kherson, despite heavy casualties, aiming to seize more territory before potential peace talks. The Dnipro River is one of Europe's major transboundary rivers. It is the fourth-longest river in Europe, after the Volga, Danube, and Ural. The river flows through Eastern Europe, draining much of Belarus and Ukraine. Historically, it served as an important natural barrier, dividing Ukraine into right and left banks.

12. Which city has been proposed for the establishment of India's first integrated API, Green Hydrogen, and 2G Ethanol manufacturing facility?

- [A] Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- [B] Solan, Himachal Pradesh
- [C] Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Jaisalmer, Rajasthan

Correct Answer: B [Solan, Himachal Pradesh]

Notes:

India's first integrated API, Green Hydrogen, and 2G Ethanol manufacturing facility will be set up in Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh, Solan, Himachal Pradesh. The Himachal Pradesh government signed a memorandum with M/s Spray Engineering Devices Limited on 5th March 2025 in Shimla. The project, worth ₹1400 crore, will create 1000 direct jobs. It supports the state's goal to become India's first green energy state by March 2026. A 30 MW green hydrogen plant will power the API facility, later expanding to 50 MW. Green hydrogen is produced via electrolysis using renewable energy sources like water, sun, and wind.

13. Which city is the host of Khelo India Para Games (KIPG) 2025?

[A] Hyderabad [B] New Delhi [C] Bengaluru [D] Bhopal **Correct Answer:** B [New Delhi] **Notes:** The Khelo India Para Games (KIPG) 2025 will be held in New Delhi from March 20-27. Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya announced that several international para athletes will participate. This is the second edition of KIPG; the first was held in December 2023 in Delhi. Around 1,230 para athletes will compete in six sports disciplines. Many participants are medallists from the 2024 Paris Paralympics and 2022 Asian Para Games. KIPG is part of the Khelo India mission to promote para sports and provide a platform for talented athletes.

14. Which organization has successfully conducted a high-altitude trial of ILSS for LCA Tejas?

- [A] Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
- [B] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- [C] Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- [D] Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

Correct Answer: C [Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)]

Notes:

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the high-altitude trials of the Integrated Life Support System (ILSS) for the LCA Tejas aircraft. The trials were conducted at altitudes of up to 50,000 feet above Mean Sea Level. The ILSS is an advanced system that generates and regulates breathable oxygen for pilots during flight. The ILSS is based on the On-Board Oxygen Generating System (OBOGS). The ILSS includes 10 line replaceable units, including the low-pressure breathing regulator, BOS, emergency oxygen system, oxygen sensor, and anti-G valve.

15. Where was the Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 organized?

- [A] Jakarta, Indonesia
- [B] Paris, France
- [C] Barcelona, Spain
- [D] New Delhi, India

Correct Answer: C [Barcelona, Spain]

Notes:

Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia represented India at Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 in Barcelona, Spain. He engaged with industry leaders, addressed key sessions, and explored tech innovations. India showcased its rapid 5G expansion, lowest data tariffs, indigenous telecom infrastructure, and strong cybersecurity framework. Scindia stressed the importance of tech governance, balancing innovation with

regulation, and fostering global partnerships. The event included the unveiling of India Mobile Congress 2025 and the inauguration of the Bharat Pavilion, highlighting India's telecom capabilities.

16. "Golden Dome" is a missile defence programme of which country?

- [A] India
- [B] Iran
- [C] Japan
- [D] United States

Correct Answer: D [United States]

Notes:

The United States plans to build a Golden Dome missile defense system. Golden Dome is a missile defense program of the USA. It aims to protect against ballistic, hypersonic, and cruise missiles and other advanced aerial threats. The system is inspired by Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system. Iron Dome is a multi-layered system designed to intercept short-range threats effectively.

17. Kanwar Lake, that was recently seen in news, is located in which state?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Bihar
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: B [Bihar]

Notes:

Kanwar Lake (Kabartal), Asia's largest freshwater oxbow lake in Bihar, is rapidly drying up in early March, which is alarming for its ecosystem. Despite its ecological significance, the Bihar government has not sanctioned its restoration plan, showing apathy toward saving this vital wetland. The lake is also known as Kabartal Jheel and is a rainfed water body. It was formed as a residual oxbow lake due to the meandering of the Gandak River, a tributary of the Ganga. It covers a large area of the Indo-Gangetic plains in northern Bihar and plays a crucial role in maintaining regional biodiversity. The wetland serves as an important stopover for 58 migratory bird species along the Central Asian Flyway, where birds rest and refuel during migration. It is also a valuable site for fish biodiversity, with over 50 species documented, making it a crucial habitat for aquatic life.

18. Which organization developed the Brahmastra Missile (Long Range Anti-Ship Missile)?

- [A] Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- [B] Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
- [C] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- [D] Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Correct Answer: D [Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)]

Notes:

Indian scientists developed the Brahmastra Missile (Long Range Anti-Ship Missile), a hypersonic glide missile with a speed of 12,144 km/h. It was developed by DRDO. It surpasses missiles like China's DF-17 in range and technology. The missile has a 1,500 km range and can destroy enemy ships within 7-8 minutes. It can be launched from land or sea, offering flexibility.

19.What is the name of the scheme introduced by government to support Cooperative Sugar Mills (CSMs) in ethanol production?

- [A] Ethanol Interest Subvention Scheme
- [B] Biofuel Promotion Initiative
- [C] Green Fuel Subsidy Scheme
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: A [Ethanol Interest Subvention Scheme]

Notes:

The government launched the Modified Ethanol Interest Subvention Scheme to support Cooperative Sugar Mills (CSMs). It helps convert sugarcane-based ethanol plants into multi-feedstock plants using maize and damaged food grains (DFG). The scheme offers 6% annual interest subvention or 50% of the bank interest rate, whichever is lower. The subvention is available for five years, including a one-year moratorium. This initiative aligns with the Ethanol Blended with Petrol (EBP) Programme, promoting biofuel production and energy sustainability.

20.North Sea, that was recently seen in news, is a marginal sea of which ocean?

- [A] Atlantic Ocean
- [B] Pacific Ocean
- [C] Arctic Ocean
- [D] Indian Ocean

Correct Answer: A [Atlantic Ocean]

Notes:

A collision between an oil tanker and a cargo ship in the North Sea caused a massive fire, injuring 32 people. A large-scale rescue operation was launched by the UK Coastguard, with firefighting vessels and emergency services responding. The North Sea is a marginal sea of the Atlantic Ocean, located between Great Britain, Scandinavia, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and France.

21.Melioidosis disease, that was recently seen in news, is caused by which agent?

- [A] Fungus
- [B] Bacteria
- [C] Virus
- [D] Protozoa

Correct Answer: B [Bacteria]

Notes:

A study in Odisha found that melioidosis cases peak during and after the monsoon season. Melioidosis is a bacterial disease caused by *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, which lives in soil and surface water in tropical and subtropical regions. It is endemic in Southeast Asia, northern Australia, the Indian subcontinent, and parts of China. Also known as Whitmore's disease, it has a high Case Fatality Rate (16%-50%). It spreads through contact with contaminated soil, air, or water.

22. Where was the 57th annual conference of the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) held?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Manipur
- [C] Nagaland
- [D] Sikkim

Correct Answer: A [Assam]

Notes:

The Union Home Minister addressed the 57th annual conference of the All Bodo Students' Union (ABSU) in Kokrajhar, Assam. He highlighted the success of the Bodo Peace Accord (2020). The accord aimed to bring peace and stability to Bodo-dominated areas, especially the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR). It was signed by the Government of India, the Assam Government, and Bodo organizations, including the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB). Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) was renamed BTR with greater autonomy. Non-Bodo villages in BTC were excluded. BTC's powers were expanded under the Sixth Schedule. Bodo was recognized as an associate official language of Assam.

23. The Gomira masked dance is primarily practiced in which state?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: D [West Bengal]

Notes:

Artists performed the 'Gomira' dance during the Chanchala Kali Mata Puja in West Bengal. In West Bengal, the Chanchala Kali Mata Puja, a 300-year-old tradition, is celebrated after Holi (Dol). The Gomira masked dance is a traditional folk performance of the Rajbongshi and Polia communities in North Bengal. It is influenced by Mahayana Buddhism, Tantric Buddhism, and Shaivite and Shakta traditions. The dance originated from a fusion of these spiritual influences. Masks used in the dance are made from papier-mâché, sholapith, bamboo, wood, sponge wood, clay, and paper. The dance is performed to the rhythmic beats of traditional percussion instruments like Dhak and Kansar.

24. Which institution has launched the “Samarth Incubation Programme” to boost innovation in telecommunications and Information Technology (IT)?

- [A] IIT Delhi
- [B] Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)]

Notes:

Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) launched the Samarth Incubation Programme to boost innovation in telecommunications and Information Technology (IT). It supports startups working in Telecom Software, Cybersecurity, 5G/6G, AI, IoT, and Quantum Technologies. The program provides up to Rs 5 lakh, 6 months of office space at C-DOT, lab access, and expert mentorship. Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), is the implementation partner to nurture high-impact startups. The program runs in a hybrid mode with two cohorts of 18 startups each.

25. Which state secured the top position in the national rankings for Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM)?

- [A] Telangana
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: D [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

Tamil Nadu topped the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) rankings with 96.32 points, followed by Mizoram (93.96), Uttar Pradesh (92.37), and Telangana (91.87). The mission aims to develop 300 rural clusters with urban-like facilities across 34 States and UTs to bridge the rural-urban divide. Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) was launched in 2016.

26. Which ministry is responsible for implementing the Jal Shakti Abhiyan?

- [A] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- [B] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- [C] Ministry of Rural Development
- [D] Ministry of Jal Shakti

Correct Answer: D [Ministry of Jal Shakti]

Notes:

Concerns were raised in Lok Sabha about gaps in implementing drinking water schemes under Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA). JSA was launched in 2019 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to

ensure water conservation, rainwater harvesting, and groundwater recharge. It follows the core strategy: "Catch the Rain – Where it Falls, When it Falls." Focus areas include water conservation, renovation of water bodies, borewell recharge, watershed development, and afforestation. Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), launched in 2019, aims to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024 under Har Ghar Jal. The National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) was integrated into Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

27. Corbett Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- [A] Himachal Pradesh
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Uttarakhand

Correct Answer: D [Uttarakhand]

Notes:

The Supreme Court criticized the Uttarakhand government for slow action against senior officers accused of illegal constructions in Corbett Tiger Reserve. Corbett Tiger Reserve is located in the foothills of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand. It was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park and renamed Corbett National Park in 1957 to honor Jim Corbett. The total area of the reserve is 1,288.31 sq. km, with undulating terrain and several valleys. Rivers Ramganga, Pallaen, and Sonanadi flow through it. The reserve lies in the Bhabar and lower Shivalik regions with a deep-water table and porous terrain.

28. Which state is the host of 57th Senior National Kho-Kho Championship 2025?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Odisha]

Notes:

The 57th Senior National Kho-Kho Championship will be held in Puri, Odisha, from March 31 to April 4, 2025. The event will take place at the District Sports Complex, Puri. A total of 74 teams, including 30 state teams and institutional squads like Airport Authority, Railways, BSF, Maharashtra Police, and CISF, will compete. The championship is organized under the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI). The event marks a significant step in the rapid growth of Kho-Kho in India.

29. What is the name of the initiative launched by central government to support Indian biotech startups?

- [A] Bio Shakti
- [B] Bio Saarthi

- [C] Bio Udyam
- [D] None of the Above

Correct Answer: B [BioSaarthi]

Notes:

The Government of India launched the BioSaarthi initiative to help Indian biotech startups grow in domestic and global markets. Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh unveiled the initiative in New Delhi on 21 March 2025. The event marked the 13th Foundation Day of the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC). The Minister also released the "India Bioeconomy Report 2025." It connects startups with experienced mentors, including Indian diaspora experts. The initiative aims to boost innovation, industry-academia collaboration, and global success for Indian biotech startups.

30. Gambhir River, that was recently seen in news, is primarily located in which state?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: B [Rajasthan]

Notes:

Rajasthan High Court sought a reply from top officials over alleged encroachment on the Gambhiri River floodplain, which supplies water to Ghana Bird Sanctuary. The Gambhir River, also called the Utangan River, is a seasonal river in Rajasthan, flowing only during the rainy season. It originates in the Aravalli Hills near Hindaun and flows south to north before joining the Yamuna in Uttar Pradesh. It spans 288 km and forms the Rajasthan-Uttar Pradesh boundary. The river becomes perennial after meeting the Parbati and supplies water to Keoladeo National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

31. Which research institute in India has developed the world's first genetically modified (GM) cotton resistant to Pink Bollworm (PBW)?

- [A] CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)
- [B] CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI)
- [C] IIT Bombay
- [D] Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)

Correct Answer: B [CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI)]

Notes:

CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) in Lucknow developed the world's first genetically modified (GM) cotton fully resistant to Pink Bollworm (PBW). GM cotton was introduced in India in 2002, with Bollgard 1 and Bollgard 2 developed with Monsanto, but they failed to fully protect against PBW. CSIR-NBRI is a leading research institute focused on botanical research and conservation. Pink Bollworm (PBW), also called gulabi sundhi,

damages cotton by burrowing into bolls. PBW spreads through air and crop residue, affecting future harvests.

32. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park is located in which state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [West Bengal]

Notes:

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, has set up India's first frozen zoo to store genetic material of Himalayan species. It is a collaboration with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad. The zoo preserves DNA, sperm, eggs, and embryos in liquid nitrogen at -196°C for future conservation. The Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP), also known as Darjeeling Zoo, is located in Darjeeling, West Bengal.

33. Bagad Rath Yatra Festival is recently celebrated in which state?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: C [Maharashtra]

Notes:

Bagad Rath Yatra is a vibrant festival in Wai, Maharashtra, celebrated on Rang Panchami. It honors Lord Bhairavnath with a unique ritual where a devotee, 'Bagadya,' is suspended from a tall wooden chariot. The festival symbolizes community unity and deep-rooted cultural traditions. It has a 350-year-old history, showcasing seamless collaboration among participants. Powerful invocations and rituals reflect the strength and inspiration drawn from cultural heritage. The festival's demanding tasks appear effortless due to devotion and collective spirit.

34. Subacute Sclerosing Panencephalitis (SSPE), that was recently seen in news, is associated with which viral infection?

- [A] Hepatitis-B
- [B] Measles (Rubella)
- [C] Yellow Fever
- [D] Ebola

Correct Answer: B [Measles (Rubella)]

Notes:

Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (SSPE) is a fatal brain disorder linked to measles (rubella) infection. It can develop years after measles recovery, affecting children and adolescents, with men at higher risk. Low measles vaccination coverage in Uttar Pradesh has

made SSPE a serious health concern. SSPE cases are reported worldwide but remain rare in Western countries.

35. Which state is the host of 57th Senior National Kho-Kho Championship 2025?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: C [Odisha]

Notes:

The 57th Senior National Kho-Kho Championship will be held in Puri, Odisha, from March 31 to April 4, 2025. The event will take place at the District Sports Complex, Puri. A total of 74 teams, including 30 state teams and institutional squads like Airport Authority, Railways, BSF, Maharashtra Police, and CISF, will compete. The championship is organized under the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI). The event marks a significant step in the rapid growth of Kho-Kho in India.

36. Who has been chosen for the highest civilian award of the Maharashtra government 'Maharashtra Bhushan' 2024?

- [A] Ram Sutar
- [B] Krishna Reddy
- [C] Satish Sinha
- [D] Ashwini Bhat

Correct Answer: A [Ram Sutar]

Notes:

Veteran sculptor Ram Sutar has been selected for the Maharashtra Bhushan 2024, the highest civilian award of Maharashtra. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced the award on March 20, 2025, in the state legislative assembly. A committee led by the Chief Minister unanimously chose him for the honor. Ram Sutar, a gold medalist from J.J. School of Art, Mumbai, is a master of bronze sculpting. He designed the Statue of Unity, a 182m tall statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Kevadia, Gujarat. He created the seated Mahatma Gandhi statue in India's Parliament and Gandhi busts in 450+ cities worldwide. His 108-ft statue of Kempa Gowda stands at Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru. Previously, he received the Padma Shri in 1999 and the Padma Bhushan in 2016 for his contributions to art.

37. Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki, that was recently seen in news, is located in which country?

- [A] Philippines
- [B] Ethiopia
- [C] Indonesia
- [D] Malaysia

Correct Answer: C [Indonesia] **Notes:** Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki volcano in Indonesia erupted frequently, sending an ash column 8,200 meters high. Authorities expanded the danger zone, but evacuation details are unavailable. It is located on Flores Island in East Nusa Tenggara province, Indonesia. It is part of a twin-volcano system, with Lewotobi Laki-Laki (male) and Lewotobi Perempuan (female). These are stratovolcanoes, formed by repeated lava layers. Indonesia frequently experiences volcanic eruptions as it lies on the Pacific 'Ring of Fire,' where tectonic activity causes earthquakes and tsunamis.

38. Which state is the host of ISTAF Sepak Takraw 2025 World Cup?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Bihar
- [D] Rajasthan

Correct Answer: C [Bihar]

Notes:

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated the ISTAF Sepak Takraw 2025 World Cup at Patliputra Sports Complex Indoor Stadium in Patna. 20 countries, including India, are participating in the tournament. The event will last for six days with a total of 150 matches. The competition includes quad, regular, doubles, and mixed doubles categories. The ISTAF World Cup is an indoor international Sepak Takraw competition conducted by the International Sepaktakraw Federation (ISTAF). It is contested by men's and women's national teams. The first ISTAF World Cup was held in 2011 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

39. Which state government has adopted Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act in March 2025?

- [A] Telangana
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Haryana

Correct Answer: A [Telangana]

Notes:

Telangana Assembly adopted a resolution to implement the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 (Central Act No. 42 of 1994). The Act regulates organ transplantation and prevents commercial dealings in human organs and tissues. Telangana had its own Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1995 (Act No. 24 of 1995) but opted for the Central Act due to its 2011 amendments. The 2011 amendments included tissue transplantation, establishment of state and national-level bodies, and stricter penalties for violations. The adoption allows Telangana to enforce the 2011 amendments effectively.

40. Which Indian city is the host of Billie Jean King Cup Asia-Oceania Group-1 Tennis tournament?

- [A] Jaipur
- [B] Indore
- [C] New Delhi
- [D] Pune

Correct Answer: D [Pune]

Notes:

Pune will host the Billie Jean King Cup Asia-Oceania Group-1 tournament for the first time in Indian tennis history. The event will be held from April 8-12 at the Mhalunge Balewadi Tennis Complex. This marks Maharashtra's return to international tennis after 25 years. Six teams—India, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Korea, and Thailand—will compete in a round-robin format with two singles and one doubles match per tie. India, led by Ankita Raina and doubles specialist Prarthana Thombare, will aim for two qualification spots.

41. Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum is part of which initiative?

- [A] Smart Cities Mission
- [B] Central Vista Redevelopment Project
- [C] Make in India Initiative
- [D] Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Correct Answer: B [Central Vista Redevelopment Project]

Notes:

The North and South Blocks in New Delhi will house the Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum. This project is part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project. The museum will showcase India's thousands-year-old civilizational and cultural heritage. An agreement was signed on 19th December 2024 between the National Museum and France Museums Development for technical cooperation. The project timeline and budget depend on the feasibility study and further formalities. The museum aims to celebrate India's heritage, connect the past with the present, and inspire the future. Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat shared this information in Lok Sabha.

42. The Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) scheme was launched under which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [C] Ministry of Minority Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Minority Affairs]

Notes:

Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) is a Central Sector Scheme under the

Ministry of Minority Affairs. It merges five schemes: Seekho Aur Kamao, Nai Manzil, Nai Roshni, USTTAD, and Hamari Dharohar. It focuses on uplifting six notified minority communities through skilling, women leadership, education, and infrastructure development. Credit linkages are provided through the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC). Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) supports artisans in marketing, branding, and training.

43. Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

[A] Maharashtra

[B] Odisha

[C] Karnataka

[D] Kerala

Correct Answer: C [Karnataka]

Notes:

Karnataka Forest Department will 'soft release' captured elephants into Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary to reduce human-elephant conflicts in Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, and Kodagu. Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga districts of Karnataka. It is named after the Bhadra River, which flows through the sanctuary. Declared a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1951 and became a Project Tiger Reserve in 1998. It was the first tiger reserve in India to complete a village relocation program by 2002.

44. Senkaku Islands, that were recently seen in news, are located in which sea?

[A] East China Sea

[B] Red Sea

[C] Arabian Sea

[D] Black Sea

Correct Answer: A [East China Sea]

Notes:

Japan raised concerns over a prolonged incursion by Chinese Coast Guard ships near the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea. The Senkaku Islands, a disputed territory between Japan and China, are located in the East China Sea. They are uninhabited and located about 90 nautical miles north of Japan's Yaeyama Islands and 120 nautical miles northeast of Taiwan. They are known as Diaoyu Islands in China, Diaoyutai Islands in Taiwan, and Pinnacle Islands by others. The islands cover 6.3 sq km, with the largest, Uotsuri Island, spanning 3.6 sq km. The terrain consists of sandstone, tuff, and andesite, with coral formations uplifted in the Holocene era.

45. Which state has recently National Award for excellence in tuberculosis (TB) testing?

[A] Odisha

[B] Telangana

[C] Bihar

[D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: B [Telangana]

Notes:

Telangana won the Best National Performance Award in NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) testing under the 100-Day 'TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan' campaign. The award was presented by Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda on World TB Day in New Delhi. Telangana achieved over 100% screening in nine TB-affected districts, identifying over 4,600 new TB cases.

46. Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

[A] Madhya Pradesh

[B] Odisha

[C] Gujarat

[D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Odisha]

Notes:

Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary hosted the first-ever 'Indian Bison Fest' to raise awareness about conservation. The sanctuary is located in Bargarh district, Odisha, near the Hirakud Dam on the Mahanadi River. It has historical significance as freedom fighter Veer Surendra Sai used 'Barapathara' within the sanctuary as his base during his rebellion against the British. Debrigarh was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1985. The event highlighted the ecological importance of the Indian Bison and the need for its protection.

47. Which ministry hosted India's first Nano Electronics Roadshow in March 2025?

[A] Ministry of Science and Technology

[B] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

[C] Ministry of Education

[D] Ministry of Communications

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology]

Notes:

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) hosted India's first Nano Electronics Roadshow on March 27, 2025, at the National Science Seminar Complex, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru. It was organized in collaboration with IISc Bengaluru and five Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) – Bombay, Madras, Delhi, Kharagpur, and Guwahati. The event showcased over 100 intellectual properties, 50 technologies, and innovations from 35 startups, supported by nanoelectronics centers across India. The roadshow highlighted India's semiconductor ecosystem, supporting the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision.

48.What is the name of operation recently launched by India in response to the 2025 Myanmar earthquake?

- [A] Operation Sadbhav
- [B] Operation Brahma
- [C] Operation Karuna
- [D] Operation Setu

Correct Answer: B [Operation Brahma]

Notes:

The government of India launched Operation Brahma to assist earthquake victims in Myanmar. A 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit Myanmar on 28th March 2025, killing at least 1,000 people, with over 10,000 feared dead, as per the United States Geological Survey. Under the Neighbourhood First policy and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief framework, India sent two Indian Air Force C-130J aircraft from Hindon Air Force Station, Uttar Pradesh. The Indian Navy prepared four ships carrying 50 tonnes of relief materials. India is coordinating aid efforts through Myanmar's government, as many affected areas are controlled by Ethnic Armed Organisations.

49.Who won India's first gold medal in the Senior Asian Wrestling Championships 2025?

- [A] Manisha Bhanwala
- [B] Pooja Sihag
- [C] Shivani Pawar
- [D] Antim Panghal

Correct Answer: A [Manisha Bhanwala]

Notes:

Manisha Bhanwala won India's first gold medal since the 2021 edition at the Asian Wrestling Championship 2025 in Amman, Jordan. She secured gold in the women's 62 kg category, defeating Korea's Ok J Kim by 8-7. Antim Panghal won a bronze medal in the 53 kg category, defeating Taipei's Meng H Hsieh by technical superiority without conceding a point. Indian wrestlers have won one gold, one silver, and six bronze medals, including two in Greco-Roman wrestling.

50.Which city has become home to India's first textile machine park?

- [A] Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Surat, Gujarat
- [C] Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Jaipur, Rajasthan

Correct Answer: C [Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh]

Notes:

Uttar Pradesh MSME Minister announced India's first Textile Machine Park near Kanpur on 875 acres in Chaparghata village, Bhongaon. The park will follow the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model to reduce imports and promote Make in India. It aims to

manufacture textile machines currently imported from China, Vietnam, South Korea, Taiwan, and Europe. More than 200 large and medium units will be set up for machine production. Machines like circular knitting, flat knitting, printing, and technical textile machines will be manufactured. Local technical experts will be trained for repair and maintenance. Uttar Pradesh's textile sector is witnessing rapid growth.

51. Which organisation is organising the International Radiobiology Conference?

A - INMAS (DRDO)

B - BARC

C - UGC

D - AIIMS

Correct Answer: A - INMAS (DRDO)

Notes:

INMAS, a Delhi-based DRDO laboratory is organising the International Radiobiology Conference from 21 February to 1 March 2025, which was inaugurated by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. The theme this year is "Biological effects and biomedical response measures in space radiation, heavy ions and human space missions".

