

FEBRUARY - 2024



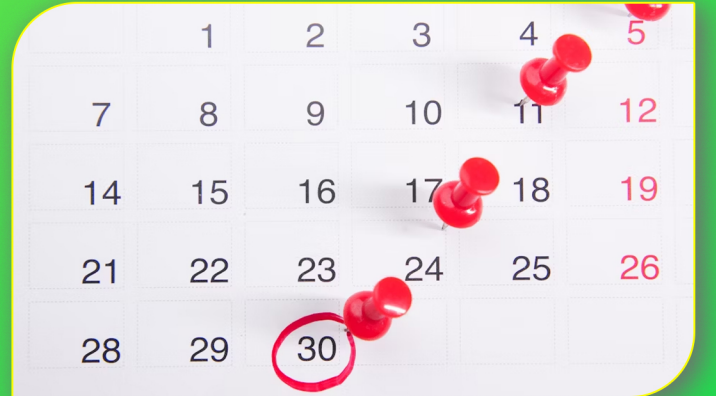
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2024 - 25

தமிழ்நாடு
நிதிநிலை அறிக்கை
குடைகளைத் தூண்டி... வளர்ச்சியை நோக்க!!!



1. The 4th National Chilika Bird Festival was held from January 27–29, 2024. Chilika Lake is situated in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Odisha ☒
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Kerala



- ✓ The 4th National Chilika Bird Festival was held from January 27–29, 2024. The festival celebrates the 10 lakh winged visitors of 200 species that visit Mangalajodi during the winter. The festival was inaugurated by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. The three-day program included 52 selected birders from different parts of India.

2. Deep Grace Ekka, who recently announced her retirement, is associated with which sports?

- A. Hockey ☒
- B. Cricket
- C. Football
- D. Table Tennis



- ✓ Deep Grace Ekka is a former Indian woman's hockey defender and penalty corner specialist. Recently, the 29-year-old announced her retirement from international hockey. Ekka played in 268 matches for the Indian women's hockey team, including two Olympic Games. She was a key player in India's qualification for the 2016 Rio Olympics and was a key defender at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics, where India finished fourth.

3. Which district of Kerala is set to host the International Literature Festival?

- A. Thrissur ☒
- B. Kollam
- C. Wayanad
- D. Kannur



- ✓ The International Literature Festival of Kerala (ILFK) commenced in Thrissur with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan emphasizing literature's role in uniting humanity. Themed "Literature, culture and progress," the seven-day festival organized by the Kerala Sahitya Akademi features global, Indian, and regional writers, including poets from Palestine and Manipur. The event aims at cultural renaissance.

4. Which Middle Eastern country recently launched the satellites namely Mahda, Kayhan-2, and Hatef-1?

- A. Iran ☒
- B. Iraq
- C. Egypt
- D. Jordan



- ✓ Iran launched three satellites into space using the Simorgh rocket: Mahda: A 32 kg satellite Kayhan-2: A nano-satellite weighing less than 10 kg Hatef-1: A nano-satellite weighing less than 10 kg The satellites were launched from the Imam Khomeini Spaceport in Iran's Semnan province.

5. Which state is home to the 'Kutia Kondh Tribe' classified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group?

- A. Odisha ☒
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Chhattisgarh



- ✓ Two Kutia Kondh individuals, belonging to a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group in Odisha, have been invited as special guests to the Republic Day parade in New Delhi. Each year, the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs invites representatives from such groups for Republic Day events.

6. Recently, which player made history by hitting the fastest triple-century in first-class cricket?

- A. Tanmay Agarwal ☒
- B. Hardik Tamore
- C. Shivam Dube
- D. Abhishek Reddy



- ✓ Tanmay Agarwal set the record for the fastest triple century in first-class cricket in January 2024. Agarwal scored 323 runs off 160 balls against Arunachal Pradesh in a Ranji Trophy Plate Group game. Agarwal's innings included 33 boundaries and 21 sixes. He broke the previous record held by Marco Marais, who scored a triple century in 191 deliveries in 2017.

7. Ratle Hydro Electric Project is built on which river?

- A. Chenab River ☒
- B. Tawi River
- C. Sutlej River
- D. Kaveri River



- ✓ The government has announced the diversion of Chenab River water through tunnels to accelerate the 850-MW Ratle Hydro Electric Project in Jammu & Kashmir. The project, located in the Kishtwar District, is a run-of-river hydroelectric power initiative on the Chenab River. Developed by Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation (RHPCL) as a joint venture between Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation.

8. 'INS Sumitra' is what kind of vessel?

- A. Patrol vessel ☒
- B. Frigate
- C. Destroyer
- D. Aircraft Carrier



- ✓ The Indian Navy's INS Sumitra, a Saryu-class patrol vessel, rescued hijacked fishermen off Somalia's east coast. Commissioned in 2014, it's the last vessel of its class, constructed by Goa Shipyard. Based in Chennai under the Eastern Naval Command, its primary roles include EEZ surveillance, anti-piracy patrols, fleet support, maritime security, and escort operations. The recent successful rescue underscores its vital contributions to regional security.

9. Recently, where was the foundation stone of North-East India's first Naturopathy Hospital laid?

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Manipur
- C. Mizoram
- D. Assam ☒



- ✓ Union Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, and Assam's Chief Minister, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma, laid the foundation stone for the Central Research Institute of Yoga & Naturopathy and a 100-bed Yoga & Naturopathy hospital in Dibrugarh, Assam. With an investment of ₹100 crores, the 15-acre institution aims to synergize traditional Yoga and Naturopathy with modern technology, setting benchmarks in education, preventive healthcare, and research. The institute will focus on evidence-based research, international collaboration, and incubation for startups in the Yoga and wellness sector.

10. Which naval ship was recently decommissioned after 38 years of service to the Indian Navy?

- A. INS Suvarna
- B. INS Nirupak ☒
- C. INS Kabra
- D. INS Aditya



- ✓ The Indian Navy bid farewell to INS Nirupak, a survey ship commissioned in 1985, after 38 years of service. Launched on June 4, 1981, and based in Visakhapatnam, the vessel played a crucial role

in hydrography, earning awards for excellence. It actively participated in humanitarian operations, including the 2004 tsunami relief.

11. Recently, Who has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Puducherry?

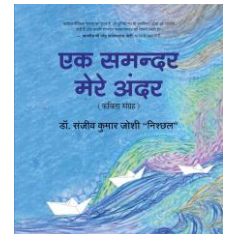
- A. Rajeev Verma
- B. Abhijit Vijay Chaudhary
- C. Sharat Chauhan ☒
- D. Ashish Madhaorao



- ✓ The Union Home Ministry announced the appointment of Dr. Sharat Chauhan as the new Chief Secretary of Puducherry. Chauhan is a member of the AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory) cadre and previously served in Arunachal Pradesh.

12. Who is the author of the book 'Ek Samandar, Mere Andar'?

- A. Sanjeev Joshi ☒
- B. Vikram Seth
- C. Aravind Adiga
- D. Vineet Bajpai



- ✓ National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan introduced the book 'Ek Samandar, Mere Andar,' penned by Sanjeev Joshi, Deputy CEO of BrahMos Aerospace. The book, consisting of 75 poems, was unveiled at the India International Centre.

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1. What is the purpose of the C-bot, an autonomous underwater vehicle, launched by the CSIR- NIO in Goa?

- A. Space Exploration
- B. Monitoring coral reefs ☒
- C. Agricultural Research
- D. Air Quality Measurement



- ✓ The Goa-based CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) launched C-bot, an autonomous underwater vehicle for monitoring coral reefs. The vehicle is also known as the Coral Reef Monitoring and Surveillance Robot. C-bot is a robot with advanced features for increased surveillance over the coral reefs. It can travel to a depth of 200 meters underwater.

2. Dr Radhakrishnan Committee is related to which one of the following reforms?

- A. Agricultural Reforms
- B. Educational Reforms ☒
- C. Tax Reforms
- D. Banking Reforms



- ✓ The Ministry of Education recently approved reforms in Higher Education Institutions' accreditation system based on recommendations from the Dr Radhakrishnan Committee.
- ✓ The Composite Assessment System (CAS) merges Program and Institutional Accreditation, introducing Binary Accreditation. NAAC aims to implement this in four months, with no new applications under the old system. Maturity-Based Graded Accreditation from Level 1 to 5 will be enforced by December 2024. Additionally, a unified One Nation One Data Platform and "Stakeholder validation" are proposed for transparent accreditation processes.

3. The tableau themed "Bharat: Mother of Democracy" clinched 1st place at the Republic Day 2024. It was associated with which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Culture ☒
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ The Ministry of Culture's tableau, themed "Bharat: Mother of Democracy", won first prize at the 75th Republic Day parade in 2024. The tableau showcased the evolution of democracy from ancient India to modern times. The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) announced the win. The Ministry of Home Affairs' tableau, depicting "vibrant villages", won second prize.

4. What is the rank of India in the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2023?

- A. 93 ☒
- B. 83
- C. 91
- D. 81

93

- ✓ According to a Transparency International report, India ranked 93 out of 180 countries in the 2023 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI). The CPI is published annually by Transparency International, a non-governmental organization. The CPI ranks countries on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean) based on their perceived levels of public sector corruption.

5. Who has been appointed as the first woman chief secretary of Uttarakhand?

- A. Radha Raturi ☒
- B. Kusum Kandwal
- C. Kamini Gupta
- D. Geeta Khanna



- ✓ Radha Raturi, a senior IAS officer of the 1988 batch, has been appointed as the first woman chief secretary of Uttarakhand. She replaces Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and is the first woman to hold this top administrative post in the state.

6. According to Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAI) report, which state/UT has the highest number of snow leopard?

- A. Ladakh ☒
- B. Jammu and Kashmir
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ Union Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav released India's first-ever Snow Leopard Population Assessment report.
- ✓ The four-year-long scientific exercise, coordinated by the Wildlife Institute of India, estimates approximately 718 snow leopards in the wild. Ladakh leads with 477, followed by Uttarakhand (124), Himachal Pradesh (51), Arunachal Pradesh (36), Sikkim (21), and Jammu and Kashmir (nine). India holds 10-15% of the global snow leopard population.

7. Salher fort, Shivneri fort and Panhala fort are located in which Indian state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Maharashtra ☒
- C. Karnataka
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ India has proposed the “Maratha Military Landscapes of India” for UNESCO World Heritage List recognition in 2024-25. Developed between the 17th and 19th centuries, these military landscapes showcase an exceptional fortification system envisioned by Maratha rulers.
- ✓ The network of forts, spanning the Sahyadri mountain ranges, Konkan Coast, Deccan Plateau, and Eastern Ghats, integrates distinctive landscapes. Notable components include Salher fort, Shivneri fort, Raigad, Vijaydurg, and others. The Maratha Military ideology, dating from the 17th century, continued until Peshwa rule in 1818 CE.

8. Which ministry has released the report titled “The Indian Economy: A Review”?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- C. Ministry of Finance ☒
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



वित्त मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
FINANCE

- ✓ The Ministry of Finance released a report titled The Indian Economy: A Review in January 2024. The report was released a few days before the Union Budget for 2024-25 was presented in Parliament on February 1. The Ministry of Finance is made up of five divisions: Economic Affairs, Revenue, Expenditures, Investment and Public Asset Management, and Financial Services.

9. Eravikulam National Park is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala ☒
- C. Odisha
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ Eravikulam National Park in Kerala's Idukki district, closing for the Nilgiri tahr's calving season, hosts diverse flora and fauna. Declared a National Park in 1978, it spans 97 sq.km, featuring Anamudi, the highest peak of the Western Ghats. Famous for the "Neelakurinji" flower blooming every twelve years, the park experiences heavy monsoons.

10. Recently, which state government has signed a MoU with NTPC for green hydrogen and renewable energy development?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Maharashtra ☒
- D. Haryana



- ✓ **NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Maharashtra government for the development of green hydrogen and renewable energy. The MoU includes the development of green hydrogen and its derivatives, such as green ammonia and green methanol, with a capacity of up to 1 million tons per year. The MoU also includes the development of renewable energy projects and pumped storage projects of 2 GW.**

11. "Bharat 5G Portal- an integrated portal" is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Communication ☒
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- D. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting



- ✓ **The Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, unveiled the "Bharat 5G Portal" during 'Bharat Telecom 2024.' This integrated platform focuses on quantum, 6G, IPR, and 5G domains. In collaboration with PANIIT USA, it introduces the Future Tech-Experts registration portal to support India's Telecom ecosystem. The portal serves as a centralized hub for quantum, IPR, PoCs/Pilot, 5G, and 6G, promoting innovation, collaboration.**

12. Where was the first 'National Conference on Promotion of Seaweed Cultivation' held?

- A. Rameshwaram
- B. Kutch ☒
- C. Ahmedabad
- D. Thiruvananthapuram



- ✓ **The National Conference on Promotion of Seaweed Cultivation, chaired by the Union Minister of Fisheries in Koteswar, Kutch, Gujarat, showcased diverse seaweed cultivation methods (Monoline, tube-net, and rafts).**
- ✓ **CMFRI, CSMCRI, and NFDB demonstrated these techniques. Seaweeds, macroscopic algae lacking true roots and leaves, thrive in marine and coastal waters. They are classified into four groups based on pigments that absorb specific wavelengths of light. The event aimed at fostering seaweed development and enhancing awareness about its potential in India.**

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1. *Agasthyagama edge* belongs to which one of the following species?

- A. Snake
- B. Kangaroo lizard ☒
- C. Wolf Spider
- D. Frog



- ✓ Scientists recently discovered a new kangaroo lizard species, *Agasthyagama edge*, in the Western Ghats. Named after the EDGE program, it's the second in the *Agasthyagama* genus. Found in Kulamavu, Idukki, it belongs to the Agamidae family. These terrestrial reptiles, lacking a fifth toe for climbing, prefer leaf-covered areas. Averaging 4.3 cm in length, they are fast runners feeding on small insects, and they hide within dry leaves to avoid predators.

2. "Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril" (Come Look for You, In Your Village) scheme is launched by which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ The Government of Tamil Nadu introduces the Ungalai Thedi Ungal Ooril Scheme, offering citizens monthly access to state government schemes and scholarships. This initiative aims to review project performance, inspect infrastructure, and address public concerns, ensuring effective implementation of government programs.

3. Recently, which neurotechnology company has embedded the first computer chip in a human brain?

- A. Neuralink ☒
- B. Kernel
- C. Blackrock Neurotech
- D. Neurable



- ✓ Neuralink is the first company to implant a computer chip in a human brain. Neuralink is a neurotechnology company founded in 2016 by Musk and seven other scientists and engineers. The company's implant, known as the "Link," is a small device that's surgically placed inside the human brain. Neuralink says its device can interpret neural activity so a person can operate a computer or smartphone by simply thinking. The company ultimately hopes to use the brain-machine interface to restore sensory and motor functions in people with disabilities, treat neurological conditions like dementia and depression, and even enable telepathic communication.

4. What is 'Kudavolai System'?

- A. Caste System
- B. Electoral System ☒
- C. Irrigation System
- D. Tax System



- ✓ **Tamil Nadu's Republic Day Parade 2024 featured the Kudavolai System, an ancient electoral method dating back to the 10th century Chola era. Documented in Uthiramerur inscriptions, it was employed to elect village administration representatives.**
- ✓ **The system involved dividing villages into wards, with residents choosing their representatives through a unique process: contestants' names on palm leaf tickets (volai) placed in a pot (kuda), and a boy selecting tickets to declare elected leaders. Tamil Nadu's tableau showcasing this historical system earned the third-best award.**

5. Recently, which department launched the 'StartupShala', a flagship accelerator program of startup India?

- A. Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- B. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade ☒
- C. Department of Economic Affairs
- D. Department of Agricultural Research and Education



- ✓ **StartupShala, launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), features the Flagship Accelerator Program. Designed to propel early-stage startups, the program aims to expedite their growth by furnishing resources and opportunities.**
- ✓ **Through a vast network of partners spanning incubation centers, educational institutions, and corporate entities, startups benefit from diverse facilities and resources, elevating their journey to the next level of success.**

6. What is the IMF's estimated forecast for India's GDP growth in the current financial year?

- A. 6.1%
- B. 6.2%
- C. 6.4%
- D. 6.7% ☒



- ✓ **The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has upgraded India's GDP growth forecast to 6.7% for the current fiscal year, a 40 basis points rise from the previous estimate of 6.3%. This positive revision is credited to strong public investment and positive labor market trends, as outlined in the latest World Economic Outlook report.**

7. Which one of the following is the mascot for the Khelo India Winter Games 2024?

- A. Bengal Tiger
- B. Snow Leopard ☒
- C. Falcon
- D. Arctic Fox



- ✓ The mascot for the 2024 Khelo India Winter Games is the snow leopard, named "Sheen-e She" or "Shan" in the Ladakh region. The mascot was chosen to reflect the region's biodiversity and tradition. The games will be held in Ladakh from February 2–6, and in Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir from February 21–25. The mascot symbolizes the spirit of the games and highlights the need to conserve this endangered species.

8. Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary and Longwood Shola Reserve Forest are located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ India has included five additional wetlands in the Ramsar Convention's global list of significant wetlands, bringing the nation's total to 80. Announced by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, the newly added wetlands include Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve, Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve, and Aghanashini Estuary from Karnataka, along with Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary and Longwood Shola Reserve Forest from Tamil Nadu. This designation underscores India's commitment to preserving vital waterlogged ecosystems.

9. Which state of India has recorded the highest number of Ramsar sites?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ Tamil Nadu leads India in environmental conservation with 16 Ramsar sites, the highest nationwide. The recent additions, Longwood Shola Reserve Forest and Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary, underscore the state's commitment to ecological preservation. Ramsar sites, designated under an international treaty, highlight the ecological importance, biodiversity richness, and their crucial role in supporting human life and environmental health.

10. Which player won the Women's singles title at the Australian Open, 2024?

- A. Ankita Raina
- B. Aryna Sabalenka ☒
- C. Zheng Qinwen
- D. Barbora Krejčíková



- ✓ **Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus won the 2024 Australian Open women's singles title. Sabalenka defeated China's Zheng Qinwen 6–3, 6–2 to win her second consecutive Grand Slam title. Sabalenka is the 1st woman to win back-to-back Australian Open titles since Victoria Azarenka in 2012 & 2013.**

11. 'Kalaingar Sports Kit' scheme is launched by which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra



- ✓ **Sports Development and Youth Welfare Ministry announced the 'Kalaingar Sports Kit' initiative, distributing sports equipment in 12,000 village panchayats to commemorate M. Karunanidhi's birth centenary. The scheme begins on February 7 in Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu and aims to support young athletes.**

12. Which ministry has received the highest budgetary allocation in the Interim Budget 2024?

- A. Ministry of Railways
- B. Ministry of Defence ☒
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

- ✓ **The Defence Budget for the Financial Year 2024-25 has reached Rs 6,21,540.85 crore, constituting 13.04% of the total Union Budget. Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman presented this budget with a focus on self-reliance and exports.**
- ✓ **The Ministry of Defence (MoD) received the highest allocation, marking an 18.35% increase from FY 2022-23. Capital accounts for 27.67%, revenue for 14.82%, pay and allowances for 30.68%, defence pensions for 22.72%, and civil organizations under MoD for 4.11%.**

13. Recently, which five countries officially joined the BRICS group?

- A. Saudi Arabia, Egypt, UAE, Iran & Ethiopia ☒
- B. Argentina, Chile, Iraq, Sudan & Somalia
- C. Peru, Namibia, Guyana, Bulgaria & Turkey
- D. Mali, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos & Bhutan



- ✓ Five countries officially joined the BRICS group: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Iran, and Ethiopia. The countries were invited to join the group in August 2023, after the 15th BRICS Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa. Argentina was also invited but backed out at the end of December. BRICS is an acronym for the emerging national economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The term was originally coined in 2001 as "BRIC" by the Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill.

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1. What was the theme of the 20th National Good Governance Webinar Series for 2023-2024?

- A. Advancing Agricultural Practices for Sustainable Growth
- B. Enhancing Educational Opportunities through Digital Initiatives
- C. Promoting Excellence in Sports and Wellness through Khelo India Scheme ☒
- D. Strengthening Healthcare Infrastructure for Public Welfare



- ✓ **The theme of the 20th National Good Governance Webinar Series for 2023-2024 was "Promoting Excellence in Sports and Wellness through Khelo India Scheme". The webinar included presentations on initiatives taken by the districts of Churu, Rajasthan and Bishnupur, Manipur, which were awarded the PM's Award for 2021.**

2. 'Economics of the Food System Transformation' report is released by which organization?

- A. International Monetary Fund
- B. Food and Agricultural Organization
- C. Food System Economics Commission (FSEC) ☒
- D. World Bank



- ✓ **The 'Economics of the Food System Transformation' report is a global policy report from the Food System Economics Commission (FSEC). The report estimates that transforming the global food system could create economic benefits of 5–10 trillion USD per year. The report also states that the policies and implementation to achieve these transformations would cost only 0.2–0.4% of global GDP. The report discusses the unsustainable trajectory of the global food system and the potential economic benefits of a transformation. It also states that transforming food systems worldwide could help address global climate, nature, and health emergencies.**

3. 'Operation Black Gold' is related to which one of the following?

- A. Crude oil Smuggling
- B. Gold Smuggling ☒
- C. Black Money Smuggling
- D. Drugs Smuggling



- ✓ **Operation Black Gold is about the seizure of an alloy containing 16.67 kg of gold and 39.73 kg of silver in Delhi. The alloy was worth over Rs 10 crore and was seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) at FPO Delhi. According to preliminary investigations, a systematic syndicate was involved in the gold smuggling. The gold was coated with silver to change its color from yellow to white. The white mixture was then used to make electric meter covers, which were then painted black to avoid suspicion.**

4. Recently, the Government of India has declared which airport as an 'International Airport'?

- A. Surat Airport ☒
- B. Shimla Airport
- C. Gorakhpur Airport
- D. Jorhat Airport



- ✓ **Surat Airport in Gujarat has achieved 'International Airport' status, per the Indian government's recent announcement. The move, aimed at facilitating global travel and boosting import-export activities for the diamond and textile industries, is set to unlock economic potential.**

5. Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed restrictions on which payment bank?

- A. Airtel Payments Bank
- B. Paytm Payment Bank ☒
- C. Jio Payment Bank
- D. India Post Payment Bank



- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed restrictions on Paytm Payments Bank (PPBL). The restrictions will come into effect on February 29, 2024. The RBI has ordered PPBL to stop accepting fresh deposits in its accounts or wallets after February 29, 2024. The RBI has also ordered PPBL to halt deposits and credit transactions after February 29, 2024. Customers will face restrictions on deposits, credit transactions, and top-ups.**

6. Which state has secured the first position in the medal tally at the Khelo India Youth Games 2023 in Chennai?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra ☒
- C. Gujarat
- D. Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ **Maharashtra topped the medal tally at the 2023 Khelo India Youth Games with 158 medals. The host state, Tamil Nadu, finished second with 98 medals. Haryana came in third. Maharashtra's medal count included 57 gold, 48 silver, and 53 bronze medals. Tamil Nadu's medal count included 38 gold, 21 silver, and 39 bronze medals.**

7. What is 'eROSITA'?

- A. Drone
- B. X-ray telescope ☒
- C. Artificial Intelligence tool
- D. Submarine



- ✓ The German eROSITA consortium has released data from the first all-sky survey conducted by the eROSITA X-ray telescope on the Russian-German SRG observatory. eROSITA stands for extended ROentgen Survey with an Imaging Telescope Array and is the main instrument on the Russian spacecraft Spektrum-Roentgen-Gamma (SRG). Launched in July 2019, it maps the entire celestial sphere every six months.

8. '*Sphaerotheca varshaabhu*' belongs to which one of the following species?

- A. Frog ☒
B. Fish
C. Spider
D. Snake



- ✓ Researchers have discovered a new frog species, *Sphaerotheca varshaabhu*, thriving in Bengaluru's urban landscape. Named for its rain-loving behavior, the amphibian emerges from burrows during early showers. With unique characteristics, it adapts to urban challenges, displaying behaviors and physical attributes that set it apart.

9. 'One Stop Centre scheme' is formulated by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Women and Child Development ☒
B. Ministry of Finance
C. Ministry of Rural Development
D. Ministry of Agriculture



महिला एवं
बाल विकास मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
WOMEN AND
CHILD DEVELOPMENT
सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ The Union Minister for Women and Child Development announced the establishment of One Stop Centres (OSCs) in over 700 districts nationwide, under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The initiative aims to offer comprehensive support for women facing violence, providing immediate access to medical, legal, psychological, and counseling services. The funding comes from the Nirbhaya Fund, with 100% financial assistance from the Central Government.

10. Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
B. Kerala
C. Karnataka
D. Maharashtra



- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has designated 80,114.80 hectares of Bargur Hills in Erode district as the Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. This area connects the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve to the Male Mahadeshwara Hills Tiger Reserve and the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, forming a vital corridor for the tiger population.

- ✓ The region is rich in biodiversity, serving as a habitat for diverse flora and fauna. It is identified by the National Tiger Conservation Authority, part of the Nilgiris Elephant Reserve, and crucial for water sources and cultural significance to local communities.

11. C- CARES web portal is associated with which sector?

- A. Petroleum sector
- B. Renewable energy sector
- C. Coal sector ☒
- D. Agriculture sector



- ✓ Recently, Union Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi launched the C-CARES web portal for the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO). Developed by C-DAC, it aims to digitize records and streamline processes for 3.3 lakh Provident Fund subscribers and 6.1 lakh pensioners in the coal sector. The portal enables online settlement of claims, ensuring transparency, faster processing, and better record management. Aligned with the vision of Digital India, it signifies a significant leap towards efficient and transparent operations in the coal sector.

12. Which Union Ministry implemented the 'Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 scheme'?

- A. Ministry of Railways
- B. Ministry of Women and Child Development ☒
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ The budget allocation for Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 in 2023-24 is ₹25,449 crore, which is a 6% increase from the revised estimates of ₹23,913 crore for 2022-23. In 2024, the budget estimate is ₹20,554 crore, which is 1.4% higher than the revised allocation of ₹20,263 crore for 2023. Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 is a part of the Mission Poshan 2.0, which was launched in February 2021 by Finance Minister. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is responsible for implementing this scheme.

13. In the interim budget 2024-25, which of the following crops are taken into consideration for 'Atmanirbhar Oil Seeds Abhiyan'?

- A. Mustard, Groundnut, Sesame, Soybean & Sunflower ☒
- B. Palm, Coconut, Canola & Castor
- C. Peanuts, Cotton & Flax
- D. Rapeseed & Palm



- ✓ Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman, highlighted farmer's welfare and rural demand in the interim budget 2024-25. The budget emphasizes achieving 'atmanirbharta' in oil seeds, outlining strategies like research for high-yielding varieties, modern farming techniques adoption, market linkages, procurement, value addition, and crop insurance for mustard, groundnut, sesame, soybean, and sunflower.

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1. Darlipali thermal power plant is located in which state?

- A. Odisha ☒
- B. Gujarat
- C. Karnataka
- D. Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated NTPC Ltd's Darlipali thermal power plant (1,600 MW), Rourkela PP-II expansion project (250 MW), and laid the foundation stone for Talcher 2x660 MW in Odisha, with a total investment of Rs 28,978 crore. Darlipali, a pit-head station, has supply agreements with multiple states. The Rourkela project supports the steel plant, while Talcher's 660 MW will cater 50% to Odisha and the rest to Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Assam.

2. 'Electricity 2024' report is released by which organization?

- A. International Energy Agency ☒
- B. International Development Association
- C. Organization for Economic Development
- D. World Bank



- ✓ The International Energy Agency's "Electricity 2024" report on India's energy future reveals key trends: persistent coal reliance, a surge in renewable energy (44% of total capacity), and nuclear power's promising growth. Despite India's net-zero target by 2070, coal is projected to meet 68% of electricity demand by 2026. Renewable generation stabilizes with 21% in 2023, and hydropower faces a 15% fall due to changing weather. India aims to triple nuclear capacity by 2032.

3. What is the total estimated expenditure in the Budget for FY 2024-25?

- A. Rs 47.66 lakh crore ☒
- B. Rs 33.56 lakh crore
- C. Rs 48.20 lakh crore
- D. Rs 45.15 lakh crore



- ✓ The 2024-25 government budget is projected at Rs 47, 65,768 crore (47.66 lakh crore), indicating a 6% rise from the revised 2023-24 estimate. Anticipated growth includes a 3.2% increase in revenue expenditure and a significant 16.9% surge in capital expenditure, reflecting fiscal priorities and economic strategies for the upcoming year.

4. Recently, where was the 'National Arogya Fair' inaugurated?

- A. Gandhi Nagar
- B. New Delhi ☒
- C. Chandigarh
- D. Jaipur



- ✓ The National Arogya Fair, supported by the Ministry of Ayush, takes place at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi, from February 1 to February 4, 2024. Featuring India's healing traditions, including Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy, the event aims to showcase and promote holistic well-being.
- ✓ It includes workshops, seminars, exhibitions, free health consultations, and cultural programs, fostering collaboration and awareness. The objective is to highlight the benefits of Ayush systems, encouraging holistic health practices and providing a platform for businesses in the field.

5. What is the theme of 'World Wetland Day' 2024?

- A. Wetlands and Human Wellbeing ☒
- B. Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future
- C. Wetlands and Climate Change
- D. Wetlands and Water



- ✓ The theme for World Wetlands Day 2024 is "Wetlands and Human Wellbeing". The theme highlights how wetlands and human life are interconnected, and how people gain sustenance, inspiration, and resilience from wetlands. World Wetlands Day is celebrated on February 2nd each year. It's an international day that promotes the sustainable management and conservation of wetlands.

6. Which one of the following best describes the term 'Blue Economy 2.0', seen in the budget 2024?

- A. Sustainable development related to oceans, seas, and coasts ☒
- B. Providing New Agricultural Practice methods
- C. Improving Urban Infrastructure
- D. Renewable Energy Sources



- ✓ The Interim Budget prioritizes the advancement of 'Blue Economy 2.0,' concentrating on sustainable development concerning oceans, seas, and coasts. Key initiatives include schemes for coastal restoration, aquaculture, and mariculture, with an integrated approach.
- ✓ Plans encompass setting up five integrated aquaparks and enhancing the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for increased productivity, exports, and job creation. The Blue Economy is defined by the World Bank as the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth and improved livelihoods, preserving ocean ecosystem health.

7. Wheat Blast is a disease of wheat crop, caused by which one of the following?

- A. Fungus ☒
- B. Bacteria
- C. Helminths
- D. Virus



- ✓ Researchers modeling future wheat blast spread predict a 13% global wheat production reduction by 2050 due to the fast-acting fungal disease caused by *Magnaporthe oryzae*. Wheat blast affects various grasses, especially wheat, barley, lolium, and rice. It spreads through infected seeds and spores, thriving in warm, humid conditions. Resistant to fungicides, it induces bleaching, lower yields, and poor seed quality, leading to crop burning as a preventive measure.

8. What is the primary objective of 'GHAR Portal'?

- A. Monitor and track the restoration of historical monuments
- B. Digitally track and monitor the restoration and repatriation of children ☒
- C. To offer healthcare services to children
- D. To provide real time updates about upcoming disasters



- ✓ The GHAR (Go Home and Re-Unite) Portal, developed by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), facilitates the digital monitoring and repatriation of children under the Juvenile Justice Act. It expedites repatriation by tracking cases, transferring them to relevant authorities, and facilitating communication with State Governments for translators or experts. Child Welfare Committees use the portal's checklist to identify children in need.

9. 'INS Sandhayak' is what kind of vessel?

- A. Survey vessel ship ☒
- B. Frigate
- C. Naval Destroyer
- D. Aircraft Carrier



- ✓ The Indian Navy commissioned its latest survey vessel, INS Sandhayak, in Vizag, the first in a series of four Survey Vessels (Large). Constructed at GRSE, Kolkata, its primary purpose is hydrographic surveys for port approaches and navigational routes.
- ✓ The vessel covers the Exclusive Economic Zone and continental shelf, gathering oceanographic data. With limited defence capabilities, it can serve as a hospital ship. Equipped with advanced tools, INS Sandhayak powered by two diesel engines.

10. What is the theme of World Cancer Day 2024?

- A. Close the Care Gap ☒
- B. Not Beyond Us
- C. Together let's do something
- D. We can I can



- ✓ **World Cancer Day, observed on February 4th, highlights the global challenge of cancer, affecting millions with its diverse forms. The 2024 theme, "Close the Care Gap: Everyone Deserves Access To Cancer Care," underscores the disparities in care, emphasizing accountability with the sub-theme "Together, we challenge those in power."**

11. What is Cygnus X-1?

- A. Asteroid
- B. Black hole ☒
- C. AI tool
- D. Submarine



- ✓ **Astro Sat, India's inaugural multi-wavelength astronomy mission, successfully measured the X-ray polarization of the Cygnus X-1 black hole system. Discovered four decades ago, Cygnus X-1 is among the first confirmed black hole systems in our galaxy. The black hole is 20 times the Sun's mass. It is located 400 times farther than Earth-Sun distance.**

12. Recently, who has taken charge as the Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India?

- A. Adhir Arora
- B. Karambir Singh
- C. Lochan Singh Pathania ☒
- D. Sunil Lamba



- ✓ **Vice Admiral Lochan Singh Pathania is the Chief Hydrographer of the Indian government. He joined the Indian Navy in 1990 in the Executive branch. He has commanded the ships Darshak and Sandhayak, and has carried out hydrographic surveys across India and the Indian Ocean Region.**

13. Which institution launched North India's first Human DNA Bank under 'Make in India' initiative?

- A. Banaras Hindu University ☒
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. Delhi University
- D. IIT Delhi



- ✓ Banaras Hindu University (BHU) inaugurates North India's first human DNA bank, equipped with an Automated DNA Extractor Machine developed indigenously under the 'Make in India' initiative. It efficiently extracts DNA from various biological materials. The initiative stemmed from a three-day conference on Personalized Medicine held in March 2023.

14. Who has been selected as torchbearer for the 2024 Paris Olympics?

- A. Saina Nehwal
B. Neeraj Chopra
C. Abhinav Bindra ☒
D. P V Sindhu



- ✓ Abhinav Bindra, a former shooter and India's first Olympic gold medalist, has been selected as a torchbearer for the 2024 Paris Olympics. Bindra is one of 11,000 torchbearers selected throughout France for the 2024 Olympics. The 2024 Olympic torch relay will start in France on May 8, 2024, with the flame arriving in Marseille before traveling across France for 68 days.

15. What is 'Trichoglossum'?

- A. Ancient Irrigation System
B. Anti ship missiles
C. A genus of fungus ☒
D. Asteroid



- ✓ Researchers discovered a new fungus species, 'Trichoglossum syamviswanathii', in Kerala. Trichoglossum is a genus of fungus known as "hairy earth tongues" due to its filamentous structure. The fungus exhibits saprotrophic behavior and can be found in plant roots as endophytes. Predominantly distributed in tropical and temperate forests across five continents, these fungi play a crucial role in decomposing organic matter.

16. Kamakhya Divyalok Pariyojana is associated with which state?

- A. Manipur
B. Mizoram
C. Assam ☒
D. Sikkim



- ✓ The Kamakhya Divyalok Pariyojana, a Rs 498 crore project by the central government, aims to transform the Kamakhya Temple pilgrimage experience in Guwahati, Assam. Enhancements include infrastructure upgrades, improved connectivity, temple beautification, and facilities for devotees. The initiative is expected to boost tourism in the Northeast. The temple, with Tantric significance, is atop Nilachal Hill and hosts the annual Ambubachi Mela.

17. Where was the 7th session of the CODEX Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) held?

- A. Kochi ☒
- B. Thiruvananthapuram
- C. Jaisalmer
- D. Kutch



- ✓ The 7th session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) took place in Kochi from January.29 to Feb.02, 2024. Established in 2013 under the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), India has consistently hosted the committee, with the Spices Board India serving as the organizing secretariat. In this session, quality standards for small cardamom, turmeric, juniper berry, allspice, and star anise were finalized.
- ✓ The Codex Alimentarius Commission, jointly established by FAO and WHO, is an international body with 189 member countries, meeting annually in Geneva and Rome.

18. What is the primary focus of the Gamma Ray Astronomy PeV EnergieS phase-3 (GRAPES-3) project?

- A. To study cosmic rays ☒
- B. To study exoplanet
- C. Investigating dark matter
- D. Measuring Earth's natural resources



- ✓ The GRAPES-3 experiment, situated in Ooty, India and operated by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, made a significant discovery in the cosmic-ray proton spectrum, revealing a new feature at 166 TeV. Equipped with air shower detectors and a large muon detector, GRAPES-3 aims to investigate the origin, acceleration, and propagation of cosmic rays, including the existence of the "Knee" in their energy spectrum. It also explores the production of highest-energy cosmic rays, astronomy of multi-TeV γ -rays, and the impact of the Sun on Earth.

19. Which state cabinet approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) report?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Uttarakhand ☒
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ Uttarakhand's Cabinet, under Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, has approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) bill—a historic decision. Based on committee recommendations, the bill aims to standardize civil laws, transcending religious affiliations. The proposed measures include banning polygamy and child marriage, establishing a common marriageable age, and enforcing uniform grounds and procedures for divorce, promoting legal standardization.

20. Recently, which country has become the first European country to accept Unified Payment Interface (UPI) payment system?

- A. Germany
- B. Italy
- C. France ☒
- D. Spain



- ✓ The formal launch of India's Unified Payment Interface (UPI) occurred during Republic Day celebrations in Paris, with French President Emmanuel Macron present. The Indian Embassy introduced UPI at the Eiffel Tower, marking its global expansion. Developed by the National Payments Corporation of India in 2016, UPI consolidates multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application, offering a convenient system for managing diverse accounts on one platform.

21. Where will the 'Exercise Vayu Shakti 24' be held?

- A. Jodhpur
- B. Pokhran ☒
- C. Balasore
- D. Ajmer



- ✓ The Indian Air Force will be conducting Exercise Vayu Shakti-24 on 17 February 2024 at the Pokhran Air to Ground Range, near Jaisalmer. The last edition of exercise Vayu Shakti was held on 16 February 2019. The exercise will also showcase joint operations with the Indian Army.
- ✓ This year, the exercise will see participation by 121 aircraft, including the indigenous Tejas, Prachand and Dhruv. Other participating aircraft would include the Rafale, Sukhoi-30 MKI, Jaguar, Hawk, C-130J, Chinook, Apache and Mi-17. Exercise Vayu Shakti will be a demonstration of the IAF's capability to deliver weapons with long range, precision capability as well as conventional weapon accurately, on time and with devastating effect, while operating from multiple air bases.

22. Recently, which state won the Nagesh Trophy in the Men's National T20 Cricket for the Blind?

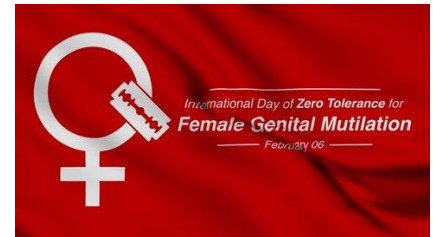
- A. Maharashtra
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka ☒
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ Karnataka secured the Nagesh Trophy in the Men's National T20 Cricket Tournament for the Blind 2023-24, triumphing over Andhra Pradesh by nine wickets in a thrilling final in Nagpur. The win ended Karnataka's 20-year national title drought, highlighting the remarkable talent, resilience, and determination of visually impaired cricketers.

23. What is the theme of International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female FGM 2024?

- A. Unleashing Youth Power
- B. Achieving the new Global Goals through eliminating FGM
- C. Her Voice, Her Future ☒
- D. Unite, Fund and Act



- ✓ The theme for the 2024 International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is "Her Voice, Her Future". The theme highlights the important role of community-led initiatives in achieving lasting change. The International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM is an annual awareness day sponsored by the United Nations that takes place on February 6 as part of the UN's efforts to eradicate FGM. It was first introduced in 2003.

24. Lantana Camara (Lantana) is belongs to which one of the following species?

- A. Flowering plant ☒
- B. Butterfly
- C. Fish
- D. Frog



- ✓ Sculptures made from the invasive lantana camara plant recently gained attention at a Bengaluru exhibition. Native to the American tropics, it was introduced to India during the colonial period. Despite its adaptability to climate changes, lantana camara is among the world's top ten invasive species, causing significant concern in India. The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats is heavily impacted by its invasion, making it one of the largest affected areas.

25. Who has been appointed as the first woman Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court?

- A. Ritu Bahri ☒
- B. Hima Kohli
- C. Indira Banerjee
- D. Ruma Pal



- ✓ Justice Ritu Bahri becoming the first woman Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court, taking the oath administered by Governor Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh. Previously a senior judge in Punjab and Haryana High Court, Bahri's appointment marks a milestone for Uttarakhand. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, Tourism Minister Satpal Maharaj, Higher Education Minister Dhan Singh Rawat, and Chief Secretary Radha Raturi were present at the swearing-in ceremony.

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1. 'Vyommitra' robot is associated with which space mission?

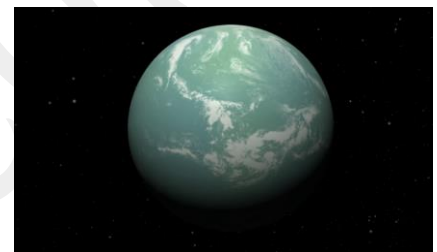
- A. Aditya L1
- B. Gaganyaan ☒
- C. Chandrayaan 3
- D. Chandrayaan 2



- ✓ **Vyommitra is a female-looking spacefaring humanoid robot being developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation to function on-board the Gaganyaan, a crewed orbital spacecraft. Set for a third-quarter launch in 2024, Vyommitra simulates human functions in space.**

2. Recently, which space agency has identified a potential "super-Earth" that could harbor life?

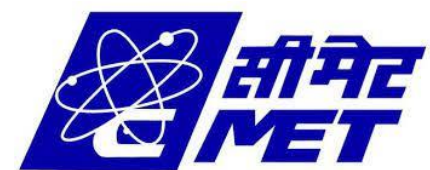
- A. NASA ☒
- B. ISRO
- C. ROSCOSMOS
- D. JAXA



- ✓ **NASA has identified a potential "super-Earth," TOI-715 b, situated 137 light-years away. This distant planet orbits a small, reddish star within the conservative habitable zone, indicating the possibility of liquid water. TOI-715 b is 1.5 times wider than Earth, completes an orbit in just 19 days, and may have a companion Earth-sized planet. NASA's findings suggest conditions for surface water, pending atmospheric factors.**

3. Where was the Centre of Excellence (CoE) on E-waste Management inaugurated?

- A. C-MET, Hyderabad ☒
- B. C-MET, Mumbai
- C. C-MET, Thrissur
- D. C-MET, Lucknow



- ✓ **The Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET) is an autonomous scientific society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in India. It operates three R&D laboratories in Pune, Hyderabad, and Thrissur, focusing on critical electronic materials.**
- ✓ **C-MET, Hyderabad, is dedicated to developing advanced electronic and strategic materials. A major focus is environmentally friendly e-waste recycling technologies to address India's 3.2 million tons of electronic waste, promoting resource efficiency.**

4. Dusted Apollo belongs to which one of the following species?

- A. Butterfly ☒
- B. Frog
- C. Fish
- D. Spider



- ✓ The rare Dusted Apollo butterfly (*Parnassius stenosemus*) was recently spotted and photographed for the first time in Himachal Pradesh, extending its known distribution from Ladakh to West Nepal. Resembling Ladakh Banded Apollo, it distinguishes with a complete discal band on the upper forewing. The sighting of the protected Regal Apollo (*Parnassius charltonius*) also occurred, highlighting the rich diversity of Apollo butterflies in the region.

5. *Thrips Parvispinus* belongs to which one of the following species?

- A. Invasive pest species ☒
- B. Butterfly
- C. Spider
- D. Fish



- ✓ The Union Agriculture Minister revealed in Rajya Sabha that Thrips Parvispinus, an invasive pest, may have displaced native chilli thrips in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. This polyphagous pest affects various crops, including drumstick, pigeon pea, and mango. Originally reported in India in 2015, Thrips Parvispinus has spread globally, causing economic losses and viral infections. The pest's infestation posing a threat to horticultural crops amid changing agricultural practices and climate conditions.

6. Where was the 'India's First Digital National Museum of Epigraphy' inaugurated?

- A. Hyderabad ☒
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Chennai
- D. Jaipur



- ✓ Union Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the foundation stone for India's digital National Museum of Epigraphy at the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad. Managed by the Archaeological Survey of India, the museum aims to digitize one lakh ancient inscriptions from various periods and languages, aligning with the Bharat Shared Repository of Inscriptions initiative.

7. Which one of the following is the best description of 'ABHYAS'?

A. A Transit method to detect planets

B. A high-speed expendable aerial target ☒

C. A Satellite

D. A next generation Stealth aircraft



- ✓ **Four flight trials of High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) - ABHYAS were successfully carried out by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur in Odisha.**
- ✓ **The objectives like safe release of booster, launcher clearance and attaining the required end of launch velocity were achieved. Designed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), ABHYAS offers a realistic threat scenario for practice of weapon systems. It is designed for autonomous flying with the help of an auto pilot indigenously made by the ADE.**

8. Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar programme comes under which ministry?

A. Ministry of Finance

B. Ministry of Rural Development

C. Ministry of Culture ☒

D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ **The Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar program, initiated by the Ministry of Culture, aims to culturally map India's 6.5 lakh villages, encompassing 29 States and 7 Union Territories. Launched on July 27, 2023, under the National Mission on Cultural Mapping, it compiles information on seven categories, from arts and crafts to historical and ecological aspects.**

9. Who won the 87 kg Greco-Roman title at the National Wrestling Championships 2024?

A. Yogeshwar Dutt

B. Sunil Kumar ☒

C. Ravi Dahiya

D. Saurav Gurjar



- ✓ **Sunil Kumar won the 87 kg Greco-Roman title at the 2024 National Wrestling Championships, which took place in Jaipur, Rajasthan on February 4, 2024. Kumar, an Asian Games bronze medalist, beat Manoj Kumar 9-1 to win the title.**

10. Recently, which album won the 'Best Global Music Album' award at the Grammy Awards 2024?

- A. This Moment ☒
- B. Endless Summer Vacation
- C. The Record
- D. World Music Radio



- ✓ **This Moment** by the Indian jazz band Shakti won the 2024 Grammy Award for Best Global Music Album. The album was released in 2024, and features eight songs by John McLaughlin, Zakir Hussain, Shankar Mahadevan, V Selvaganesh, and Ganesh Rajagopalan. The Grammy Awards are a series of awards that recognize outstanding achievements in the music industry.

11. Who has been appointed as the new Army Vice Chief?

- A. Upendra Dwivedi ☒
- B. Baggavalli Somashekar Raju
- C. Chandi Prasad Mohanty
- D. Manoj Pande



- ✓ **Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi** has been strategically appointed as the Indian Army's new Vice Chief, succeeding Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar. Dwivedi, with a distinguished career, held key positions like Deputy Chief and Director General of Infantry. Now Lt Gen Suchindra Kumar set to command the Northern Army in Udhampur.

12. What is the proposed interim budget for Jammu and Kashmir for the fiscal year 2024-25?

- A. \$12 billion
- B. \$14 billion ☒
- C. \$11 billion
- D. \$16 billion



- ✓ **India has unveiled an interim budget of \$14 billion** for Jammu and Kashmir, marking a significant commitment to the region's economic development. The proposed budget of Rs 1.18 lakh crore (\$14.16 billion) emphasizing India's dedication to the growth and stability of Jammu and Kashmir.

13. Where was the first BIMSTEC Aquatics Championship organized?

- A. Lucknow
- B. Chennai
- C. New Delhi ☒
- D. Gandhi Nagar



- ✓ Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the 1st BIMSTEC Aquatics Championships 2024 in New Delhi, marking the first-time hosting of the event. He emphasized the collaboration of seven BIMSTEC countries, transforming the Bay of Bengal into a hub for progress and development. The four-day competition features swimming, water polo, and diving events for Under-20 athletes, with 39 medals and nine trophies at stake.

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<https://wp.me/p7JanY-ag8>

1. Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant is located in which state?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Haryana ☒
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ **Vyommitra is a female-looking spacefaring humanoid robot being developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation to function on-board the Gaganyaan, a crewed orbital spacecraft. Set for a third-quarter launch in 2024, Vyommitra simulates human functions in space.**

2. Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- A. Mizoram
- B. Manipur
- C. Tripura ☒
- D. Assam



- ✓ **The Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary in Tripura recently welcomed new additions, including two Royal Bengal tigers, two leopards, four golden pigeons, a silver pigeon, two peafowls, and four hill mynas. Established in 1972, the sanctuary spans 18.5 sq. km, featuring sections for different animal types. The sanctuary also boasts a rich avian population with species like winged stork and White ibis.**

3. What is the primary objective of SAMARTH scheme?

- A. Providing scholarship to rural students for higher education
- B. Providing assistance to farmers
- C. Providing assistance to the MSMEs ☒
- D. providing comprehensive medical care to children



- ✓ **The Minister of State for Heavy Industries revealed SAMARTH Centres to Lok Sabha. SAMARTH, or Smart Advanced Manufacturing and Rapid Transformation Hub, operates under the "Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector" scheme. These centers aid MSMEs by organizing events on Industry 4.0, offering consultancy in areas like IoT, software development, and data analytics, and providing incubation support to start-ups.**

4. Where was the 'Himalayan Griffon' vulture reported during the inaugural tri-state synchronized vulture survey?

- A. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary ☒
- B. Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary
- C. Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary
- D. Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary



- ✓ In the inaugural tri-State synchronized vulture survey, 320 vultures were tallied across seven protected areas in Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. The Himalayan griffon, an Old-World vulture from the Accipitridae family, was exclusively reported in Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. Their distribution spans the Himalayas, Tibetan region, and Central Asian Mountains.

5. Recently, which institute has collaborated with Munitions India Limited to create the nation's first domestically designed 155 Smart Ammunition?

- A. IIT Kanpur
B. IIT Chennai ☒
C. IIT Delhi
D. IIT Mumbai



- ✓ IIT Madras and Munitions India Limited are partnering to create India's first domestically designed 155 Smart Ammunition. The two-year initiative, under the Ministry of Defence, aims to achieve a Circular Error Probable of 10 meters, significantly improving precision in defense operations. The project focuses on enhancing accuracy and lethality using guidance systems and advanced technologies.

6. Which city of Uttar Pradesh received the Centre's 'Water Warrior Award'?

- A. Lucknow
B. Noida ☒
C. Ayodhya
D. Saharanpur



- ✓ Noida has been honored as a "water warrior" city by the Union water ministry for outstanding efforts in wastewater treatment and reuse. The city boasts eight sewage treatment plants (STPs) with a total capacity of 411 MLD (million litres daily), treating 260 MLD of sewage. Notably, 70-75 MLD is repurposed for irrigation, construction, firefighting, pond maintenance & road sprinkling.

7. Where is the 6th 'World Government Summit' being held?

- A. Dubai ☒
B. Paris
C. Belgium
D. Abu Dhabi



- ✓ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is going to address the World Government Summit (WGS) in Dubai on February 14, his second invitation since 2018. The annual event, held in Dubai since 2013, brings together global leaders to discuss pressing issues.

- ✓ Scheduled from Feb.12 to 14, the summit is a significant diplomatic platform, emphasizing the strengthening ties between India and the UAE, as evident from UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan's recent participation in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit.

8. Divya Kala Mela is organized by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment ☒
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ The Divya Kala Mela, launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, kicked off at Agartala. Minister Ratanlal Nath and others inaugurated the event, promoting disabled artisans' creations, spanning home decor, clothing, stationery, and eco-friendly products. The program empowers disabled entrepreneurs, aligning with its core mission of creativity and empowerment.

9. What is the theme of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2024?

- A. Together for Love: Stop HIV Stigma
- B. To acknowledge how HIV disproportionately affects Black people
- C. Engage, Educate, Empower: Uniting to End HIV/AIDS in Black Communities ☒
- D. Let communities lead



- ✓ The theme for National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in 2024 is "Engage, Educate, Empower: Uniting to End HIV/AIDS in Black Communities". National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an opportunity to increase HIV education, increase testing, increase community involvement, increase treatment, promote HIV testing, prevention, and treatment and stop HIV stigma.

10. Vidyanjali Scholarship Programme launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Education ☒
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- D. Ministry of MSME



शिक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION

- ✓ Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the EdCIL Vidyanjali Scholarship Programme in New Delhi.
- ✓ The program aims to support students who are academically gifted and meritorious but lack financial means to pursue education. The Ministry of Education, Government of India launched the Vidyanjali program in September 2021 to strengthen schools through community and private sector involvement. The program aims to increase the quality of education provided in government schools by taking help from private sector and community.

11. Kyasanur Forest Disease has emerged in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka ☒
- C. Kerala
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ **Kyasanur Forest Disease, also known as Monkey Fever, poses a significant health threat in Karnataka, India. This year there are 49 confirmed cases and two fatalities. Originating in 1957 from the Kyasanur Forest, the disease is caused by the Kyasanur Forest Disease Virus (KFDV). Uttara Kannada district has seen the majority of cases.**

12. Vaccine Safety Net is an initiative of which organisation?

- A. UNICEF
- B. WHO ☒
- C. UNFPA
- D. UNDP



- ✓ **The Healthy Indian Project (THIP) has joined the World Health Organization's Vaccine Safety Net (VSN), reinforcing its commitment to delivering credible vaccine safety information in India. As part of the global network, THIP becomes a reliable source for verified vaccine safety details contributing to the WHO's initiative to provide accurate immunization information worldwide. VSN, established by the WHO in 1999, comprises diverse websites offering reliable vaccine safety information in various languages.**

13. What is the primary objective of the 'Support to Students for Participating in Competitions Abroad' (SSPCA) scheme introduced by AICTE?

- A. Encouraging domestic competitions
- B. Enhancing global competitiveness of Indian students in technical education ☒
- C. Providing financial aid for local events
- D. Promoting cultural exchange programs



- ✓ **The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched the 'Support to Students for Participating in Competitions Abroad' (SSPCA) initiative to enhance the global competitiveness of Indian technical students. The program offers financial aid, mentorship, and logistical support, providing travel grants of up to Rs 2 lakh per student for international scientific competitions. Eligible students, enrolled in AICTE-approved institutions, can benefit from this scheme, aiming to empower them to represent India effectively on the global stage.**

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1. World Sustainable Development Summit is annually organized by which institute?

- A. The Energy and Resources Institute ☒
- B. World Bank
- C. Environmental Assessment Institute
- D. Centre for Environment Education



- ✓ The Vice-President inaugurated the 23rd World Sustainable Development Summit in New Delhi, hosted by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Established in 2001, the annual summit focuses on fostering global commitment to sustainable development. WSDS 2024 centers on the theme 'Leadership for the Sustainable Development and Climate Justice,' seeking to address long-term solutions.

2. Recently, which city announced free bus travel for transgender community?

- A. Lucknow
- B. Indore
- C. Delhi ☒
- D. Jaipur



- ✓ The Delhi government unveiled free bus rides for the transgender community, marking a significant step towards inclusive public transportation. This move aims to facilitate accessible and cost-free travel for transgender individuals on public buses in Delhi.

3. Prime Minister of India inaugurated the India Energy Week 2024 in which state?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Goa ☒



- ✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched India Energy Week 2024 in Goa, highlighting India's dedication to significant investments in the energy sector. Addressing global energy leaders, PM Modi underscored the nation's commitment to unprecedented levels of investment, emphasizing India's role in shaping the future of the global energy landscape.

4. Recently, 390-year-old Deepastambham (lamp post) was found on the edge of which river?

- A. River Krishna ☒
- B. River Noyyal
- C. River Kaveri
- D. River Godavari



- ✓ A 390-year-old Deepastambham (lamp post) was discovered on the River Krishna's edge in Nalgonda district, Telangana. Standing at 20 feet, the pillar with lamp hollows and a multilingual inscription date back to June 1635, dedicated to Kasi Viswanatha. Uncommon in the Deccan region but prevalent in west coast temples like Goa, it served as a potential riverine trade route lighthouse, fostering trade connections in early medieval times.

5. Where was the 7th 'Indian Ocean Conference' held?

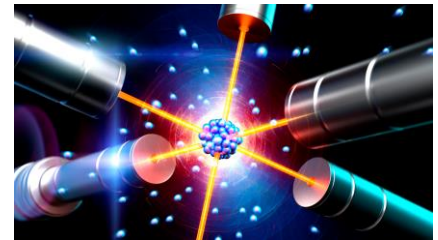
- A. New Zealand
- B. Russia
- C. India
- D. Australia ☒



- ✓ The 7th Indian Ocean Conference, hosted in Perth, Australia, is a key consultative forum for Indian Ocean Region nations. Organized by the Ministry of External Affairs and India Foundation, the theme is "Towards a Stable and Sustainable Indian Ocean." Over 22 countries and 400 leaders will discuss regional cooperation for Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).

6. Which institute recently designed a new image-correction algorithm that significantly enhances the study of ultracold atoms?

- A. Institute of Life Sciences
- B. Raman Research Institute ☒
- C. Institute of Biotechnology
- D. National Institute of Virology



- ✓ Indian scientists at Bangalore's Raman Research Institute (RRI) developed an innovative image-correction algorithm, enhancing ultracold atom studies. Founded in 1948 by Nobel Laureate Sir C.V. Raman, RRI is an autonomous research institute focused on basic sciences. Restructured in 1972, it receives funding from the Department of Science and Technology.

7. Ajanta and Ellora caves are located in which state?

- A. Maharashtra ☒
- B. Gujarat
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ The Ministry of Tourism has added Ajanta and Ellora caves in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar to its Swadesh Darshan Scheme II. Located in Maharashtra, these UNESCO World Heritage sites boast 29 Ajanta and 34 Ellora caves, showcasing ancient rock-cut marvels from 2nd century BC to 11th century AD.

8. What is the theme of 'National Science Day' 2024?

- A. Women in Science
- B. Future of STI: Impact on Education Skills and Work
- C. Integrated Approach in S&T for Sustainable Future
- D. Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat ☒



- ✓ Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh revealed the theme for "National Science Day 2024" as "Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat," emphasizing the promotion of science, technology, and innovation. Celebrated annually on February 28, National Science Day commemorates Sir C.V. Raman's discovery of the 'Raman Effect' in 1930. This year's theme aims to inspire collaboration and contributions towards India's well-being and global humanity.

9. Which one of the following best describes about recently launched 'Sarathi Portal'?

- A. A helpline to resolve crop insurance-related grievance ☒
- B. Facilitate export of agricultural crops
- C. Land Registration
- D. Providing information to farmers about new agricultural techniques



- ✓ Agriculture Minister Arjun Munda unveiled the 'Sarathi' portal, aiming to offer a range of insurance products, including PMFBY, for Indian farmers. The Krishi Rakshak portal and helpline number 14447 were also launched to enhance grievance redressal for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

10. Kokborok language is recognized as one of the official state languages of which state?

- A. Mizoram
- B. Manipur
- C. Assam
- D. Tripura ☒



- ✓ The Tripura Board of Secondary Education (TBSE) permits both Roman and Bengali scripts for the Kokborok exam in Tripura. Kokborok, the mother tongue of Borok people, including Tripuris, is a Tibeto-Burman language and a lingua franca for most of Tripura's tribal communities. Borok communities are found in Tripura, other North-Eastern States, and Uttarakhand. Kokborok holds official state language status in Tripura.

11. Dachigam National Park is located in which state/UT?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Jammu & Kashmir ☒
- C. Kerala
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ Due to heavy snowfall, Himalayan Black Bears at the rehabilitation centre of Dachigam National Park receive a special diet for hibernation. DNP, located in Jammu and Kashmir's Zabarwan Mountains, occupies half of Dal Lake's catchment zone. It houses the critically endangered Hangul (Kashmir stag) and the largest population of Asiatic black bears in Asia.

12. Zircon Missile, a supersonic ballistic missile, launched by which country?

- A. Russia ☒
- B. Israel
- C. Ukraine
- D. China



- ✓ Russian forces recently launched a 3M22 Zircon missile targeting Kyiv. The 3M22 Zircon is a scramjet-powered hypersonic cruise missile developed in Russia, boasting speeds up to Mach 9 and a 1000 km range. It features a two-stage design with solid fuel in the first stage and a scramjet motor in the second.

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1. Recently, which musician has been honored with the Laxminarayan International Award?

- A. Santhosh Narayanan
- B. Pyarelal Sharma ☒
- C. AR Rahman
- D. VM Bhatt



- ✓ Pyarelal Sharma, the renowned musician, has been honored with the Laxminarayan Intl. Award at the Global Music Festival. Presented by L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurthy Subramaniam, Pyarelal is a highly successful Hindi cinema composer with an illustrious 8-decade career. The award recognizes his outstanding contributions to the world of music.

2. What is the rank of India in the World Bank's 'Logistics Performance Index Report (2023)?

- A. 38th ☒
- B. 36th
- C. 35th
- D. 39th



- ✓ India's logistics performance has shown significant improvement, ranking 38th out of 139 countries in the World Bank's 2023 Logistics Performance Index, a climb of six places since 2018 and sixteen places since 2014. Initiatives like the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and the National Logistics Policy, along with digital reforms like the Unified Logistics Interface Platform, contribute to this positive trend.

3. When is the 'World Pulses Day' observed every year?

- A. 10 February ☒
- B. 9 February
- C. 8 February
- D. 11 February



- ✓ World Pulses Day, observed on February 10 annually, promotes awareness about the nutritional and environmental benefits of pulses in sustainable food production. The United Nations assigns a theme each year; the 2024 theme is "Pulses: Nourishing Soils and People," aiming to integrate pulses into diets and agricultural practices. The day originated in 2019, emphasizing pulses' role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

4. Aadi Mahotsav is organized by which Cooperative body?

- A. National Cooperative Union of India Ltd
- B. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd ☒



C. National Cooperative Exports Ltd

D. National Cooperative Organics Ltd

- ✓ **The President of India will inaugurate Aadi Mahotsav 2024, the annual National Tribal Festival at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi. Organized by TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the event highlights India's tribal heritage, showcasing talent, craftsmanship, and cultural diversity. With 300 stalls, the festival promotes tribal art, handicrafts, natural produce, and cuisine, fostering interaction and contributing to the empowerment of tribal communities.**

5. FIFA World Cup 2026 will be hosted by which one of the following countries?

A. Canada, Mexico, and the United States ☒

B. Italy and France

C. Spain and Russia

D. Africa, Europe and South America



- ✓ **The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be hosted by Canada, Mexico, and the United States. The tournament will take place from June 11 to July 19, 2026, and will feature 104 matches across 16 cities. The tournament will feature 48 teams, with 60 games played in the United States, 10 in Canada, and 10 in Mexico. The tournament will begin in Mexico City's Estadio Azteca stadium and conclude in New York, New Jersey, on July 19, 2026. The 2026 World Cup will be the first hosted by three nations and the first North American World Cup since 1994.**

6. How much budgetary support has the government constituted for 'Fisheries Infrastructure Development Fund'?

A. Rs. 830.57 crore

B. Rs. 939.48 crore ☒

C. Rs. 935.55 crore

D. Rs. 955.68 crore



- ✓ **The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved a 3-year extension of the Fisheries Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) until 2025-26. The extension maintains the approved fund size of Rs 7522.48 crore with a budgetary support of Rs 939.48 crore. FIDF, initiated in 2018-19, has so far approved 121 projects, creating fisheries infrastructure and generating over 2.5 lakh employment opportunities.**

7. Recently, who released the report titled 'LNG as a transportation fuel in medium and heavy commercial vehicles'?

A. NITI Aayog and Netherlands Embassy ☒

B. Ministry of Renewable Energy & Netherlands Embassy

C. NITI Aayog and Russian Embassy

D. Ministry of Agriculture and NITI Aayog

- ✓ NITI Aayog and the Netherlands Embassy released the report 'LNG as a transportation fuel in medium and heavy commercial vehicles' during India Energy Week 2024 in Goa. The collaboration, initiated in 2020, focuses on energy transition. The report addresses LNG utilization in Indian commercial vehicles, examining coordination challenges and drawing insights from global practices. The Netherlands, a leader in green hydrogen, plans to aid India in achieving climate targets. The report outlines strategies for a 15% gas share in primary energy by 2070.

8. Where was the cultural festival 'Vividhta ka Amrit Mahotsav' organized?

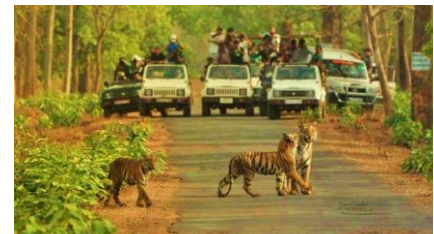
- A. Chennai
B. Bhopal
C. New Delhi ☒
D. Jaisalmer



- ✓ President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the 4-day 'Vividhta ka Amrit Mahotsav' cultural festival at Amrit Udyan, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. Organized by the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, the event aims to showcase the rich diversity of North East India. With over 320 participants, it highlights traditional arts, crafts, and agricultural products, promoting cultural exchange and catalyzing progress in the region's handicraft, handloom, and agriculture sectors.

9. Bannerghatta National Park is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
B. Karnataka ☒
C. Kerala
D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ Protests have erupted over a proposal by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to construct a six-lane elevated highway through Bengaluru's Bannerghatta National Park (BNP). The project, part of the satellite township ring road, aims to ease traffic but has sparked concerns among environmentalists for its potential impact on the ecologically sensitive park, home to endangered species. The plan includes cutting 1,288 trees within the park.

10. What is the name of the new scheme approved by the Union Cabinet to improve the fisheries sector?

- A. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana ☒
B. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
C. Sagar Parikrama Scheme
D. Palk Bay Scheme



- ✓ The Union Cabinet recently approved the 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY),' a sub-scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.

- ✓ With a budget of Rs 6,000 crores, the 4-year initiative aims to formalize the fisheries sector, providing institutional credit to fishers, aquaculture farmers, and vendors. Key benefits include a National Fisheries Digital Platform, support for micro-enterprises and cooperatives, job creation, and a shift from conventional subsidies to performance-based incentives.

11. Save Wetlands Campaign is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change ☒
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Textiles



- ✓ The 'Save Wetlands Campaign', initiated by MoEF&CC on World Wetlands Day 2023, concluded successfully on World Wetlands Day - 2024. The campaign aimed at wetlands conservation and emphasizing awareness. Aligned with Mission LiFE and Mission Sahbhagita philosophy, it operated nationwide, leveraging Ramsar Sites as model anchors. Participants included State Wetland Authorities, District Administrations, Municipal Corporations, Gram Panchayats, Educational Institutes, and Knowledge Partners, yielding positive outcomes.

12. Kalingarayan Anicut barrage is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ The Kalingarayan Anicut, a 13th-century barrage on the Bhavani River in Erode, Tamil Nadu, is among the world's oldest water diversion projects.
- ✓ Acknowledged as a World Heritage Irrigation Structure in 2021 by ICID, it was commissioned by Kalingarayan, the ruler of Poondurai Nadu, a Kongu Nadu subdivision. In 1240, he joined Madurai Pandyas as a soldier, and in 1265, earned the title 'Kalingarayan' from Sadayavarman Sundara Pandyan, subsequently ruling Poondurai Nadu.

13. FAST Telescope is developed by which country?

- A. Russia
- B. USA
- C. China ☒
- D. India



- ✓ Astronomers at Nanjing University, China, using the world's largest single-dish radio telescope, FAST, detected a radio pulsar in CTB 87 supernova remnant.

- ✓ FAST, located in Guizhou, has a receiving area equivalent to 30 football fields and aims to maintain its world-class status for 20-30 years. Its goals include detecting neutral hydrogen at the universe's edge, reconstructing early universe images, discovering pulsars, participating in gravitational wave detection, and contributing to the search for extraterrestrial intelligence.

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1. "Road to Paris 2024: Championing Clean Sports and Uniting for Anti-Doping" conference is recently hosted by which organization?

- A. National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) ☒
- B. National Forensic Science University
- C. Sports Authority of India
- D. National Sports Federation of India



- ✓ With the Paris Olympics approaching, the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) held the "Road to Paris 2024: Championing Clean Sports and Uniting for Anti-Doping" Conference to educate Indian athletes on the dangers of prohibited substances. Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Centre of Excellence for Nutritional Supplements Testing at the National Forensic Sciences University in Gandhinagar.

2. What is the name of the satellite recently launched by NASA to survey oceans and atmosphere?

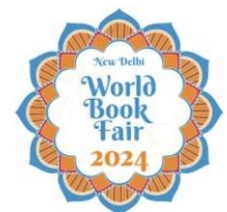
- A. STARS-1
- B. ROSAT
- C. PACE ☒
- D. ASTRO A



- ✓ NASA and SpaceX rescheduled the Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, and ocean Ecosystem (PACE) mission launch due to weather delays. The mission, exploring ocean-atmosphere connections amid climate change, aims to understand the impact of microscopic life in water and air.
- ✓ PACE will monitor carbon dioxide exchange, atmospheric variables, and ocean health through phytoplankton study. The mission's aerosol products will aid health advisories for phenomena like wildfires and monitor harmful algae blooms.

3. What is the theme of New Delhi World Book Fair 2024?

- A. Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav
- B. Books for Readers with Special Needs
- C. Indigenous Voices: Mapping India's Folk & Tribal Literature
- D. Multilingual India: A Living Tradition ☒



- ✓ The New Delhi Book Fair, hosted by the National Book Trust and ITPO from February 10 to 18, 2024, celebrates "Multilingual India: A Living Tradition." Saudi Arabia is the Guest of Honor, highlighting its literary heritage with 25 delegates, fostering cultural exchange and strengthening bilateral ties between India and Saudi Arabia at Pragati Maidan.

4. Recently, which Northeastern state becomes first to reinstate Old Pension Scheme for employees?

- A. Mizoram
- B. Sikkim ☒
- C. Manipur
- D. Assam



- ✓ Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang of Sikkim has declared the reinstatement of the Old Pension Scheme for state government employees hired after April 1, 2006. According to the Sikkim Services Pension Rules, 1990, employees appointed before March 31, 1990, will benefit from this revival. This move is a significant measure towards securing the financial well-being of state government employees, especially with the imminent state assembly elections.

5. Recently, which bank has approved a \$200 million loan for Brahmaputra River Project in Assam?

- A. ICICI Bank
- B. Asian Development Bank ☒
- C. World Bank
- D. HDFC Bank



- ✓ The Asian Development Bank has sanctioned a \$200 million loan to bolster flood and riverbank erosion risk management along the Brahmaputra River in Assam, India. The project emphasizes a comprehensive and integrated strategy, leveraging successful past initiatives to tackle persistent challenges of flooding and erosion in the region. It prioritizes long-term planning and heightened support for climate and disaster resilience to mitigate these issues effectively.

6. Mimas is a natural satellite of which planet?

- A. Saturn ☒
- B. Neptune
- C. Mars
- D. Venus



- ✓ Saturn's moon Mimas, discovered in 1789 by William Herschel, may conceal a vast ocean beneath its surface. As the smallest and innermost of Saturn's major moons, Mimas is also known as Saturn I. A recent analysis suggests a relatively "young" ocean formed on Mimas approximately 5 to 15 million years ago, adding intrigue to the moon's geological history.

7. Aral Sea stands at the boundary between which two countries?

- A. Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan ☒
- B. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan
- C. Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan
- D. Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan



- ✓ The Aral Sea, once the world's fourth-largest inland water body, has nearly disappeared due to a major Soviet water diversion project in 1960. The diversion of the Syr Darya and Amu Darya rivers for irrigation projects led to the sea's gradual drying up. Located between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, the Aral Sea depression formed millions of years ago and drained several countries. Harsh Central Asian climate and unsustainable human interventions caused its decline, leaving it on the brink of complete disappearance.

8. Who is the new brand ambassador of 'Fit India Movement'?

- A. Neeraj Chopra
- B. Narendra Kumar Yadav ☒
- C. Joginder Sharma
- D. Sunil Kumar



- ✓ The government of India appointed IRS officer Narendra Kumar Yadav as the brand ambassador for the Fit India movement. Yadav is the Additional Director of GST and the first civil servant to be appointed as a brand ambassador for the movement.

9. Where was the Centre for Excellence in Nutritional Supplements Testing for Sportspersons (CoE-NSTS) inaugurated?

- A. Coimbatore
- B. Gandhinagar ☒
- C. Bhopal
- D. Imphal



- ✓ India has inaugurated its first-ever Center for Excellence in Nutritional Supplements Testing for Sportspersons (CoE-NSTS) at the National Forensic Science University, Gandhinagar. Unveiled by Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur, the lab is dedicated to screening supplements for banned substances, ensuring the well-being of athletes and upholding sports integrity. The initiative aims to provide Indian athletes with dope-free nutritional supplements.

10. Which institute has been honored with the Nelson Mandela Award 2024 by the WHO?

- A. AIIMS, Delhi
- B. AIIMS, Madurai
- C. National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences ☒
- D. National Institute of Ayurveda



- ✓ The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) has been honored with the 2024 Nelson Mandela Award (NMA) by the World Health Organization (WHO) for its exceptional commitment to promoting mental health and well-being.

- ✓ Recognized for pioneering mental health and neuroscience advancements, NIMHANS supports innovative research, education, and patient care, integrating mental health into general healthcare. The award coincides with NIMHANS' 50th foundation year.

11. Where was the 67th All India Police Duty Meet (AIPDM) held?

- A. Chennai
- B. Lucknow ☒
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Palayamkottai



- ✓ The 67th All India Police Duty Meet (AIPDM) was hosted by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, from February 12th to 16th, 2024. Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Railways, will be the chief guest at the opening ceremony. The event, organized by the RPF, aims to promote excellence and collaboration among police officers, fostering scientific detection, investigation, and internal security. The dedicated mobile app and website facilitate real-time updates and communication, enhancing the overall participant experience.

12. Which one of the following is the best description of term 'infexnTM'?

- A. Startup growth program
- B. Genomics-based infectious diseases test ☒
- C. Enhancing the flavor of genetically modified crops
- D. Loan window for MSMEs



- ✓ Kerala is set to introduce India's inaugural genomics-based infectious diseases test, 'infexnTM.' Developed by HaystackAnalytics and NIMS Medicity, the test utilizes targeted next-generation sequencing, capable of identifying bacterial and/or fungal infections, along with relevant antimicrobial resistance genes within 24 hours.

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1. 'Dakshin Bharat Sanskritik Kendra' was established in which city of India?

- A. Hyderabad ☒
- B. Chennai
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Kochi



- ✓ The former Vice-President of India and Union Minister for Culture will inaugurate the 'Dakshin Bharat Sanskritik Kendra' in Hyderabad, part of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's national academy for music, dance, and drama. Established in 1953, it aims to preserve and promote India's diverse cultural heritage.

2. Recently, UPI payment system has been launched in which two countries?

- A. Sri Lanka and Mauritius ☒
- B. Australia and Egypt
- C. Chile and Peru
- D. Iran and Israel



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Mauritian Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth, inaugurated Unified Payment Interface (UPI) services in Sri Lanka and Mauritius, and RuPay card services in Mauritius via video conferencing.
- ✓ Mr. Jugnauth announced the co-branded RuPay card as Mauritius' domestic card. This initiative aims to enhance economic ties and connectivity between the countries, providing convenience to their citizens. Sri Lankan President congratulated Modi on the consecration of Shri Ram Mandir and highlighted longstanding economic relations.

3. Which countries have been declared as guests of honor at the 2024 World Government Summit in Dubai?

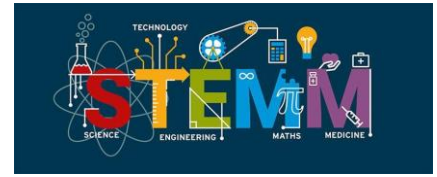
- A. Egypt and Iraq
- B. China, France and Russia
- C. India, Qatar, and Turkey ☒
- D. India, Ukraine and Australia



- ✓ India, Türkiye, and Qatar named guests of honor at the 2024 World Governments Summit in Dubai, February 12-14, themed 'Shaping Future Governments.' Over 25 global government and state heads are participating in this summit.

4. What is the primary objective of the SWATI Portal?

- A. Creating a single online portal representing Indian Women and Girls in STEMM ☒
- B. To develop a new technology for women in science
- C. To provide financial support to women entrepreneurs
- D. Improving the lives of senior citizens



- ✓ **The Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India launched the "Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation (SWATI)" Portal, focused on showcasing Indian women and girls in STEMM fields. The portal, a first-of-its-kind in India, is developed by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research. SWATI aims to address gender-gap challenges in policy making by serving as a comprehensive interactive database.**

5. What is the theme of 'International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2024'?

- A. Innovate, Demonstrate, Elevate, Advance
- B. Women and Girls in Science Leadership, a New Era for Sustainability ☒
- C. Investment in Women and Girls
- D. Equality and Parity in Science



- ✓ **The theme for the 9th International Day of Women and Girls in Science in 2024 is "Women and Girls in Science Leadership, a New Era for Sustainability". The theme emphasizes the importance of women's leadership in science for achieving global sustainability goals. The day is celebrated on February 11th. The Royal Academy of Science International Trust organizes the 2024 International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly.**

6. Government recently launched a 'Mass Drug Administration' campaign for which disease?

- A. Dengue
- B. Tuberculosis
- C. Lymphatic Filariasis ☒
- D. Chickenpox



- ✓ **The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has launched the Sarva Dawa Sevan or Mass Drug Administration (MDA) campaign, aiming to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) in 10 high-burden states by 2027, three years ahead of the global target.**
- ✓ **Health workers will conduct door-to-door Mass Drug Administration in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh. Intensive monitoring at the block level and daily analyses of coverage and monitoring reports will be emphasized.**

7. Where was a new defense system 'Precision Approach Radar' inaugurated?

- A. Andaman and Nicobar Island ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Lakshadweep
- D. Chennai



- ✓ Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar inaugurated Precision Approach Radar (PAR) at INS Utkrosh in Andaman and Nicobar Islands during his 3-day visit to bolster the strategic tri-service command. The PAR, manufactured by a Chennai company, enhances aircraft landing safety in low visibility conditions, such as heavy rain and fog, offering precise horizontal and vertical guidance.

8. Which country won the 2024 ICC Under-19 World Cup?

- A. India
- B. Australia ☒
- C. South Africa
- D. New Zealand



- ✓ Australia won the 2024 ICC Under-19 World Cup by defeating India by 79 runs in the final match on February 11, 2024 at Willowmoore Park, Benoni, South Africa. This is Australia's fourth ICC Under-19 World Cup victory, and the third consecutive time they defeat India in the final. The 2024 Under-19 Cricket World Cup ran from January 19 to February 11, 2024.

9. CM ELEVATE Entrepreneurship Programme launched by which state government?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Meghalaya ☒
- C. Assam
- D. Manipur



- ✓ Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma launched CM-Elevate, a state-funded entrepreneurship program, aiming to support over 20,000 entrepreneurs in various businesses over the next 3-4 years. The government has allocated Rs 300 crore for the scheme, offering up to 75% subsidy and comprehensive support for proposal implementation. Conrad K Sangma emphasized promoting entrepreneurship to reduce dependency on government jobs and encourage private sector job creation.

10. When is the 'World Unani Day' observed every year?

- A. 11 February ☒
- B. 12 February
- C. 16 February
- D. 17 February



- ✓ World Unani Day is celebrated annually on February 11. The day commemorates the birth anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan, a social reformer and Unani scholar. Khan is known for bringing Unani medicine to India and was a founder of Jamia Millia Islamia in New Delhi. The theme for World Unani Day 2024 is "Unani Medicine for One Earth, One Health"

11. GROW report and portal is launched by which one of the following?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
B. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
C. NITI Aayog ☒
D. Ministry of Textiles



NITI Aayog

- ✓ NITI Aayog launched the "Greening and Restoration of Wasteland with Agroforestry (GROW)" initiative, unveiling a portal for universal access to state and district-level data. Hosted on the Bhuvan website, GROW employs advanced technologies like remote sensing and GIS to assess agroforestry suitability across India. It aligns with national goals, aiming to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030 and create a carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes.

12. Where was the first council meeting of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund held?

- A. United States ☒
B. United Kingdom
C. Russia
D. India



- ✓ The inaugural meeting of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) in Washington DC, United States set guidelines for implementation, proposed during COP15 in 2022. GEF's member governments committed \$1.1 billion for global initiatives addressing biodiversity, climate change, nature renewal, and pollution control.

13. Fire Capped Tit belongs to which one of the following species?

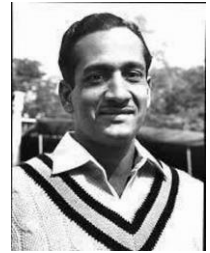
- A. Bird ☒
B. Fish
C. Plant
D. Spider



- ✓ Birders recently observed the fire-capped tit, a small bird species. It is a part of the Paridae family, in Aravalli hills, signaling reverse migration from winter to summer. Native to the Himalayas, it migrates south to Western Ghats and Kerala in September, returning in February/March.

14. Dattajirao Krishna Rao Gaekwad, who passed away recently, was associated with which sport?

- A. Football
- B. Cricket ☒
- C. Hockey
- D. Boxing



- ✓ **Former Indian cricket captain Dattajiro Krishnarao Gaekwad, aged 95, passed away, making him the oldest living Indian cricketer before his demise. Gaekwad led the Baroda cricket team to victory in the Ranji Trophy during the 1957–58, leaving a significant mark on the sport.**

15. Recently, IEEE Kerala Section has given the KPP Nambiar Award to whom?

- A. S Somnath ☒
- B. Palanivel Veeramuthuvel
- C. M Sankaran
- D. Ritu Karidhal Srivastava



- ✓ **ISRO Chairman S Somanath received the 2024 KPP Nambiar Award from IEEE Kerala section for his pivotal role in Chandrayaan-3 and significant contributions to ISRO missions. The award, named after electronic industry pioneer KPP Nambiar, honors individuals or groups in Kerala for notable advancements in technology aligned with IEEE's vision.**

16. Ministry of Education recently signed an agreement with which International governing body to promote football in the country?

- A. FIFA ☒
- B. World Anti-doping Agency
- C. International Football Association Board
- D. International Olympic Committee



- ✓ **The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with FIFA, is enhancing football accessibility in schools. They are distributing 11 lakh footballs nationwide, benefiting over 1.5 lakh schools.**
- ✓ **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched the initiative, providing 6,848 footballs to 1,260 schools in Odisha. This marks a crucial step towards integrating football activities into the education system, promoting sports engagement among students on a large scale.**

17. Hastsal Minar is located in which state/UT?

- A. Jammu & Kashmir
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Delhi ☒



- ✓ The Hastsal Minar, located in a small village in western Delhi, was completed in 1634 during Shah Jahan's reign. Also known as Mini Qutab Minar, it's constructed with lakhori bricks and red sandstone, standing 17 meters tall with five storeys. Used by Shah Jahan as a hunting lodge, it gained Grade A heritage value in 2018, under Delhi government's Phase IV project for monument conservation.

18. Where was the statue of India's first Chief of Defence Staff, Late Gen Bipin Rawat, unveiled?

- A. Gandhi Nagar
- B. Udagamandalam
- C. Dehradun ☒
- D. Chandigarh



- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled a life-size statue of late General Bipin Rawat, the first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), at TonsBridge School, Dehradun. Singh recalled an incident where Rawat, wounded at a remote border post, strengthened India's defense strategies.

19. When is the National Women's Day observed every year in India?

- A. 13 February ☒
- B. 15 February
- C. 16 February
- D. 17 February



- ✓ The 13th of February is National Women's Day, an annual celebration in India. 13th February marks the 145th birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu, the "Nightingale of India." A key figure in India's independence struggle and a celebrated poet, she is honored on National Women's Day for her advocacy of women's rights.

20. Recently, which ministry inaugurated the pilot project titled 'Smart Gram Panchayat' at Paprour Gram Panchayat, Bihar?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj ☒
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs



ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
**MINISTRY OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

D. Ministry of Tourism

- ✓ Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh inaugurated a landmark initiative at Paprour Gram Panchayat under Barauni Block of Begusarai District, signalling a significant leap towards digital empowerment in Grameen Bharat (rural India).
- ✓ The pilot project titled 'Smart Gram Panchayat: Revolution towards Digitization of Gram Panchayat' was launched with the aim to extend PM-WANI (Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface) Service in all Gram Panchayats across Begusarai District in Bihar. Begusarai has now become the first District in Bihar to equip all Gram Panchayats with Wi-Fi services under the PM-WANI Scheme.

21. Ten Cities Development Concept is launched by which state government?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Meghalaya
- C. Assam ☒
- D. Manipur



- ✓ The Assam government has launched the 'Ten Cities Development Concept' for sustainable urban development. Focused on ten cities including Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Nagaon, Tezpur, North-Lakhimpur, Bongaigaon, Silchar, Karimganj, Dhubri, and Haflong/Diphu, the initiative serves as 'Lighthouses' guiding other urban local bodies. It aims to enhance urban infrastructure, promote balanced development, and create economic opportunities, emphasizing the state's commitment to inclusive growth in both urban and rural areas.

22. Which bank has released the CRISIL study report named 'Prabhaav'?

- A. SIDBI ☒
- B. NABARD
- C. HDFC
- D. SBI



- ✓ The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has released the CRISIL study report, "Prabhaav," evaluating the impact of the Fund of Funds for Start-ups (FFS) under the Start-up India Action Plan.
- ✓ Managed by SIDBI for DPIIT, FFS has facilitated investments and aided start-ups in deep tech, agri-tech, health tech, and financial services. The Ministry of Finance and DPIIT officials praised SIDBI's effective scheme management and positive outcomes, as revealed in the report.

23. Recently, India and Bangladesh launched the inaugural trial movement of vessels between which two ports?

- A. Petrapole Land Port & Ghojadanga Land Port
- B. Maia Port & Sultanganj Port ☒
- C. Banglabandha Land Port & Mongla Port



D. Ashuganj Port & Mongla Port

- ✓ India and Bangladesh launched the inaugural trial movement of vessels between Maia Port in India and Sultanganj Port in Bangladesh on February 12. Operating on Indo Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) Route no. 5 & 6, the waterway from Maia to Dhubri via Aricha is expected to cut the distance by approximately 930 kilometers, aligning with the Act East Policy's commitment to enhancing regional connectivity and trade efficiency.

24. What is the theme of World Radio Day 2024?

- A. Radio: A century informing, entertaining and educating ☒
- B. Radio and Trust
- C. Radio and Diversity
- D. Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace



- ✓ World Radio Day is celebrated on February 13th, and 2024 will be the 11th edition of the event. The theme for World Radio Day 2024 is "Radio: A century informing, entertaining and educating". This theme is meant to highlight the history of radio and its influence on many areas, including news, music, sports, and drama. The theme also emphasizes radio's ongoing evolution in a digital age.

IMPORTANT LINKS

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<https://wp.me/p7JanY-ag8>

1. What is 'Cuscuta dodder'?

- A. Invasive weed ☒
- B. Fish
- C. Virus
- D. Spider



- ✓ **Cuscuta dodder, an invasive weed native to North America, is threatening Chengalpet forests and Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary of Tamil Nadu, endangering local ecology and migratory bird habitats. This parasitic vine lacks roots, infesting acres of trees in reserve forests and penetrating India's oldest bird sanctuary. Found on Barringtonia trees crucial for bird nesting, it forms dense canopies before strangling and killing hosts.**
-

2. Recently, which country won the 9th GovTech Prize for AI Powered Government Services at the World Government Summit 2024?

- A. UAE
- B. India ☒
- C. Qatar
- D. Turkey



- ✓ **India won the 9th GovTech Prize at the 2024 World Government Summit in Dubai for its innovative use of artificial intelligence (AI) in enhancing government services. The award recognizes the Government of India's Ministry for Road Transport and Highways' transformative project, iRASTE. The Emirates Government Service Excellence Program (EGSEP) manages the annual GovTech Prize and the "M-Gov Award".**
-

3. Which state government has officially declared kaji nemu (Citrus limon) as the state fruit?

- A. Nagaland
- B. Manipur
- C. Assam ☒
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ **Assam's state government designates Kaji Nemu (Citrus limon), a distinctive lemon variety native to the region, as the official 'State Fruit.' State Agriculture Minister Atul Bora announced the decision, highlighting the fruit's cultural, traditional and nutritional importance to the state and its people.**
-

4. Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) is associated with which initiative?

- A. Pragati Scholarship
- B. One nation, One Student ID ☒
- C. Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat
- D. Samara Siksha



- ✓ The Ministry of Education has created 25 crore APAAR IDs in alignment with the National Education Policy 2020 and National Credit and Qualifications Framework. The initiative, 'One nation, One Student ID,' assigns a unique 12-digit ID to each student, streamlining academic records. This system minimizes fraud and duplicates, offering a reliable reference for educational institutions, thus ensuring a unified academic experience for students.

5. Usha Kiran Khan, who passed away recently, was associated with which field?

- A. Sports
- B. Politics
- C. Literature ☒
- D. Medicine



- ✓ Renowned author Usha Kiran Khan, aged 78, passed away after a brief illness. A Padma Shri recipient in 2015, Khan earned various literary honors, such as the Sahitya Akademi Award, Mahadevi Verma Award, Dinakar National Award and Bharat-Bharati.

6. How many units of free electricity per month are provided under the recently launched PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana?

- A. 300 ☒
- B. 200
- C. 400
- D. 500



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India launched PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, a ₹75,000 crore initiative providing 300 units of free electricity per month to 1 crore households. The scheme promotes rooftop solar systems through incentives to Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats. Benefits include annual savings, electric vehicle charging, entrepreneurship, and job opportunities in solar-related fields.

7. Hori Habba is associated with which state?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Kerala
- C. Manipur
- D. Karnataka ☒



- ✓ Casualties during Hori Habba, a bull-taming sport in Karnataka, spark concerns over animal and human safety. Similar events like Jallikattu in Tamil Nadu, Kambala in coastal Karnataka, Rooster fights in Andhra Pradesh, Bulbul fights in Assam, and Bullock Cart Races in Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu face scrutiny for their association with gambling and potential risks to participants and animals.

8. The Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) temple was recently inaugurated in which city of UAE?

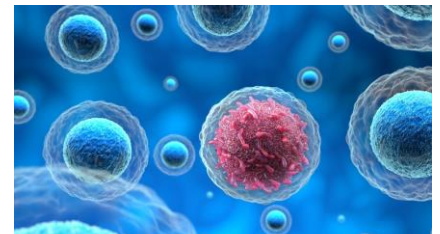
- A. Abu Dhabi ☒
- B. Dubai
- C. Ajman
- D. Kalba



- ✓ On February 14, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) Mandir in Abu Dhabi. BAPS, a socio-spiritual Hindu faith rooted in the Vedas, was formally established in 1907 CE. It promotes practical spirituality and addresses spiritual, moral, and social challenges. BAPS followers adhere to five lifetime vows, and the organization is involved in global humanitarian activities, education, women's development, and holds NGO status with the UN Economic and Social Council.

9. Recently, AIIMS New Delhi and the University of Liverpool signed an agreement for which research?

- A. Cancer ☒
- B. AIDS
- C. Diabetes
- D. Tuberculosis



- ✓ The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, and the University of Liverpool have signed a Collaboration Agreement for the 'AIIMS Liverpool Collaborative Centre for Translational Research in Head and Neck Cancer (ALHNS)'.
- ✓ This collaboration aims to advance medical innovation and personalized cancer treatments. The agreement, signed in the presence of Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, aligns with the country's vision of affordable and accessible healthcare for all citizens.

10. Which one of the following city will have the world's first air taxi?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Dubai ☒
- C. London
- D. Abu Dhabi



- ✓ Dubai has made history by unveiling plans for the world's first air taxi service at the World Government Summit 2024. The city will pioneer a city-wide electric aerial taxi service using Joby Aviation S4, accommodating four passengers and a pilot. Set to launch in 2026, this initiative represents Dubai's commitment to sustainable and accessible urban transportation.

11. National Generic Document Registration System is initiated by which ministry?

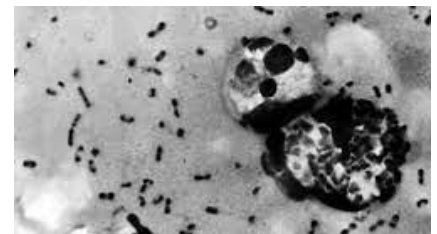
- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Rural Development ☒
- C. Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- D. Ministry of Tourism



- ✓ The National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) and Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) were launched in Assam by the Secretary, Department of Land Resources. Initiated by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, NGDRS is a common application for registration departments nationwide.
- ✓ Developed by the National Informatics Centre Pune, it offers a user-friendly interface for online land buying, property valuation, and document submission, reducing the need for multiple visits to the sub-registrar's office.

12. Bubonic Plague is an infectious disease caused by which one of the following?

- A. Bacteria ☒
- B. Virus
- C. Fungi
- D. Helminths



- ✓ Bubonic plague is caused by the bacterium Yersinia pestis, commonly found in small mammals and fleas. Named the Black Death, it killed millions in the Middle Ages. Symptoms include fever, chills, abdominal, arm, and leg pains, and swollen lymph nodes. Spread by fleas, it has a case-fatality ratio of 30-60% but can be treated with antibiotics like Ciprofloxacin and Doxycycline.

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<https://wp.me/p7JanY-ag8>

1. Recently, the government has released guidelines for starting pilot programmes to use green hydrogen in which of the following sectors?

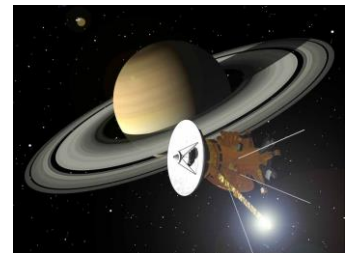
- A. Steel sector
- B. Transportation sector ☒
- C. Industrial sector
- D. Shipping sector



- ✓ **The Indian government, through the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, has issued guidelines for pilot projects under the National Green Hydrogen Mission, focusing on using Green Hydrogen in the transportation sector. With decreasing costs of renewable energy and electrolyzers, vehicles utilizing green hydrogen are expected to be cost-competitive soon.**
- ✓ **The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, along with Scheme Implementing Agencies, will conduct pilot projects to replace fossil fuels in transportation with green hydrogen, supporting technology and infrastructure development.**

2. What was the primary objective of the Cassini-Huygens Mission?

- A. Analyzing the composition of Asteroids
- B. Exploring about black holes
- C. Investigating the atmosphere and moons of Saturn ☒
- D. Searching for exoplanets



- ✓ **NASA's Cassini spacecraft, part of a joint mission with ESA and ASI, recently unveiled a vast ocean beneath the icy surface of Saturn's moon Mimas. Launched in 1997, Cassini orbited Saturn from 2004 to 2017, contributing vital insights about the planet and its moons. Weighing 2,125 kg, it mapped Titan's surface with radar and studied Saturn's magnetic field. Cassini's Huygens probe, weighing 349 kg, landed on Titan, discovered six moons.**

3. Archaeologists recently discovered an eighth-century 'Kotravai sculpture' in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Gujarat
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Kerala



- ✓ **Archaeologists unearthed an eighth-century Kotravai sculpture, dating back to the Pallava period, near Ulundurpet, Tamil Nadu. The Pallava Dynasty, a prominent South Indian power from the 3rd to 9th centuries, ruled northern Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. Known for supporting Buddhism, Jainism, and Brahminical faith, the Pallavas were patrons of music, painting, and literature. Their origins trace back to the Andhra Satavahanas, gaining autonomy and establishing Kanchipuram as their capital in the 4th century CE.**

4. Where was the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan Vehicle launched?

- A. Kerala
- B. Karnataka
- C. Delhi NCR ☒
- D. Bihar



- ✓ The Social Justice & Empowerment Ministry, in collaboration with Brahma Kumaris, unveiled the NMBA Vehicle in Delhi-NCR on Feb 14, aimed at raising drug abuse awareness. Part of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan, the initiative focuses on educating youth about substance abuse's harmful effects. The mobile platform facilitates NMBA awareness activities, extending the campaign's reach and impact throughout Delhi-NCR.

5. Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code primarily deals with which one of the following?

- A. Promoting hatred among classes
- B. Maintenance of wives, children and parents ☒
- C. Culpable homicide
- D. Juvenile Justice



- ✓ The Supreme Court is set to examine whether divorced Muslim women can seek maintenance under Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC). Section 125 covers maintenance for wives, children, and parents, allowing financial support claims if certain conditions are met. These include neglect or refusal, dependency on the respondent, sufficient means of the person liable to pay, and the court determining the quantum based on various factors.

6. Where was the first-ever Digital India Future Skills Summit held?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Indore
- C. Chennai
- D. Guwahati ☒



- ✓ The first-ever Digital India FutureSkills Summit was held in Guwahati, Assam on February 15, 2024. The summit was organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) through the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT).
- ✓ The summit is a platform for discussions, insights, and collaborations to promote digital literacy in line with the needs of the new-age industry. The summit will feature more than 20 strategic collaborations, 1,000 attendees, and 30 exhibitions.

7. Who has been honored with the prestigious Vishisht Seva Medal for developing multipurpose Octocopter?

- A. Pawan Kumar Yadav
- B. Varinder Singh ☒
- C. Ishar Singh
- D. Amandeep Jakhar



- ✓ Havildar Varinder Singh, a member of the Sikh Regiment in the Indian Army, received the Vishisht Seva Medal from President Droupadi Murmu for his exceptional contributions to military technology. Singh's innovative creation, the Multipurpose Octocopter, showcases groundbreaking advancements in drone technology, offering unparalleled versatility beyond conventional surveillance.

8. Recently, India's first Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) is launched in which state?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Uttarakhand ☒
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ India is set to introduce its inaugural Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) in Uttarakhand, as announced by Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. The HEMS, based at AIIMS in Rishikesh, aims to swiftly airlift accident victims within a 150 km radius for timely critical care. This initiative aligns with the government's commitment to extend medical outreach and trauma care services, prioritizing timely transportation for patients in hilly terrains to access vital care at AIIMS within the crucial 'golden hour' post-accident.

9. What is 'SUFALAM'?

- A. Promoting entrepreneurship in rural areas
- B. Implementing cybersecurity measures for government agencies
- C. Start-up conclave for food processing entrepreneurs ☒
- D. Developing software solutions for startups



- ✓ The two-day event, 'Start Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors (SUFALAM) – 2024' held on 13th and 14th Feb., 2024 at New Delhi was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Food Processing Industries, Pashupati Kumar Paras. During the knowledge session on Start-up - overview and benefits, the participants were apprised about the role of Startup India, different programmes for mentorship and innovations under Startup India and how the initiative is helping to foster the start-up ecosystem in India.

10. Which day is celebrated as World Hippo Day?

- A. 15 February ☒
- B. 16 February
- C. 17 February
- D. 18 February



- ✓ **World Hippo Day, observed annually on February 15, aims to raise awareness about the endangered status of hippos, with a population estimated between 115,000 and 130,000. Threats include poaching, water loss, mechanized farming, and urbanization. The day serves as a platform to highlight these challenges and advocate for conservation initiatives to safeguard the future of these vulnerable creatures.**

11. United World Wrestling lifted suspension on the Wrestling Federation of which country?

- A. Australia
- B. China
- C. India ☒
- D. Vietnam



- ✓ **The United World Wrestling (UWW) lifted the suspension on the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). The WFI was placed under a provisional suspension on August 23, 2023, after failing to hold an election within a reasonable time frame. The suspension lift means that Indian wrestlers can now compete in upcoming tournaments under their country's flag.**

12. Barsingsar Solar Power Plant is located in which state?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Rajasthan ☒
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Odisha



- ✓ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the 300 MW Barsingsar Solar Power Plant in Rajasthan's Bikaner district, advancing India's renewable energy goals.**
- ✓ **NLC India Limited, a Navratna CPSE, is implementing the project under the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy's CPSE Scheme. The initiative, aligned with the Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative, uses cutting-edge technology, aims to produce 750 million units of green power annually, and marks NLCIL as the first CPSE to achieve a 1 GW Solar capacity milestone in India.**

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1. Where was the 16th World Social Forum 2024 meeting held?

- A. Bhutan
- B. New Delhi
- C. Kathmandu ☒
- D. Bangladesh



- ✓ The 16th World Social Forum (WSF) conference in 2024 started in Kathmandu in February 2024. The conference is a 5-day event that aims to promote exchange among civil society organizations, social movements, trade unions, and individuals who oppose neoliberal globalization. The theme of the conference is "Another World is Possible".

2. Recently, which bank has clinched the title of 'Best Technology Bank of the Year Award'?

- A. State Bank of India
- B. South Indian Bank ☒
- C. HDFC Bank
- D. Regional Rural Banks



- ✓ South Indian Bank has been honored as the Best Technology Bank of the Year at the 19th IBA Annual Banking Technology Conference. The bank received six awards, including three wins, one runner-up position, and two special mentions. T Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, presented the accolades to PR Seshadri, MD & CEO of South Indian Bank, at the Mumbai venue organized by the Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

3. Recently, which country is launching the 'Dream of the Desert' train in the Middle East?

- A. Saudi Arabia ☒
- B. Iraq
- C. Iran
- D. Oman



- ✓ Saudi Arabia is launching the "Dream of the Desert" train service in late 2025. The 800-mile trip will start in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's capital city, and travel northwest toward the border with Jordan. The route will pass through long stretches of scenic deserts and UNESCO World Heritage archeological sites.

4. Recently, which institute has created an anti-drone system that relies on sound technology?

- A. IIT Roorkee
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Jammu ☒
- D. IIT Kanpur



- ✓ Professor Karan Nathwani of IIT-Jammu developed an innovative anti-drone system using sound technology, priced at around Rs 4 lakh. This cost-effective solution outperforms traditional anti-drone technologies and detects drones, aircraft, and birds within a 300-meter range. With production costs between Rs 25,000 and Rs 40,000, it ensures accessibility for a diverse user base, showcasing versatility and effectiveness in various scenarios.

5. Recently, which state government launched 'Van Mitra' Scheme to boost green cover?

- A. Haryana ☒
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Gujarat
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the 'Van Mitra' scheme, focusing on community-driven afforestation in non-forest areas.
- ✓ The initiative aims to involve local communities in expanding the state's green cover, increasing survival rates of newly planted trees, and promoting tree planting beyond conventional forest zones. The scheme emphasizes environmental conservation and underscores the importance of community engagement in fostering sustainable afforestation efforts across Haryana.

6. Diphtheria is caused by which one of the following agents?

- A. Bacteria ☒
- B. Virus
- C. Fungi
- D. Protozoa



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) recently released guidelines on managing diphtheria, a contagious bacterial infection of the nose and throat caused by Corynebacterium diphtheriae. Transmission occurs through respiratory droplets or touching infected sores. While treatable with medications, advanced cases can damage the heart, kidneys, and nervous system. Symptoms include a gray throat membrane, sore throat, swollen glands, and difficulty breathing.

7. Young Scientist Programme (YUVIKA) is conducted by which one of the following?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. ISRO ☒
- D. Ministry of Science & Technology



- ✓ ISRO is organizing the 'Young Scientist Programme' (YUVIKA) for school children, aimed at imparting basic knowledge on Space Technology and Science.

- ✓ Intended to create awareness and inspire STEM interest, the two-week residential program offers talks, lab visits, and discussions with experts. Eligible students, finishing class 8 and currently in class 9, can apply, with special consideration for rural students. Three participants from each state/UT are selected based on academic performance and extracurricular activities.

8. Which one of the following banks signed a pact for UPI-NPI linkage?

- A. Reserve Bank of India & Nepal Rastra Bank ☒
- B. Reserve Bank of India & Nepal Investment Mega Bank
- C. State Bank of India & Nepal Rastra Bank
- D. State Bank of India & Nabil Bank



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Nepal Rastra Bank have partnered to integrate India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Nepal's National Payments Interface (NPI). The collaboration aims to establish infrastructure for seamless cross-border transactions, facilitating efficient remittances. The formalized agreement signifies a concerted effort to interlink UPI and NPI, enhancing the speed and ease of cross-border payments between the two countries.

9. Sikkim's INSPIRES programme is assisted by which multinational institutions?

- A. International Monetary Fund
- B. World Bank ☒
- C. Global Environment Facility
- D. Asian Development Bank



THE WORLD BANK

- ✓ Sikkim's Chief Minister, Prem Singh Tamang, introduced Sikkim INSPIRES, a groundbreaking collaboration between the state government and the World Bank. With a \$100 million allocation, the program spans five years, engaging nine government departments to foster economic growth and inclusion. The initiative prioritizes collaboration and capacity-building across sectors, aiming to strengthen the state system for inclusive growth, employment for women and youth, and enhanced delivery of enabling services.

10. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of IRCTC?

- A. Sanjay Kumar Jain ☒
- B. Neeraj Sharma
- C. KK Mishra
- D. Ajit Kumar



- ✓ Sanjay Kumar Jain is the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC). Jain is an IRTS Officer from the 1990 batch and a qualified chartered accountant (CA). The Government of India's Ministry of Railways has approved Jain's appointment until his superannuation on December 31, 2026, or until further orders.

11. Which country's instant payment platform AANI was linked with India's UPI?

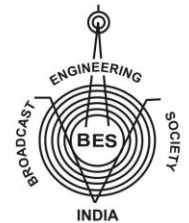
- A. Qatar
- B. Nepal
- C. UAE ☒
- D. Myanmar



- ✓ India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced that they would link their instant payment platforms, UPI (India) and AANI (UAE). The agreement will allow for seamless cross-border transactions between the two countries. AANI is an instant payment platform that allows users to transfer and settle funds in less than 10 seconds. The agreement is part of a number of pacts signed between the two countries in February 2024, including BIT and IGA on IMEC.

12. Which organisation has recently conducted the BSE EXPO-2024?

- A. Broadcast Engineering Society ☒
- B. SEBI
- C. Ministry of Economic Affairs
- D. Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



- ✓ The Broadcast Engineering Society (India) hosted the BSE EXPO-2024, the 28th International Conference and Exhibition on Broadcast and Media Technology in New Delhi. Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur will be the chief guest, along with his deputy Dr L Murugan.

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1. Pandaram land is located in which state/UT?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Lakshadweep ☒
- C. Puducherry
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ A dispute in Lakshadweep has arisen over the administration's assertion of government ownership of Pandaram lands, leading to tension with locals. The conflict escalated as the administrator claimed Pandaram properties belonged to the government, contradicting traditional ownership. Locals allege the administration is violating a High Court stay on numbering coconut trees on Pandaram lands, suggesting potential felling. Despite officials refusing to comment on record, a senior official dismissed concerns as presumptions.

2. Researchers have recently discovered a new species of marine amphipod in which lake of Odisha?

- A. Tampara lake
- B. Kanjia lake
- C. Chilika lake ☒
- D. Sar lake



- ✓ Researchers at Odisha's Berhampur University discovered a new marine amphipod species, a shrimp-like crustacean, in Chilika lagoon. Belonging to the genus Parhyale, which has 15 global species in marine and brackish water environments, this brown crustacean is around eight mm long with 13 pairs of legs.

3. Where was the 11th International Puppet Festival inaugurated?

- A. Tirunelveli
- B. Chandigarh ☒
- C. Bhopal
- D. Chennai



- ✓ The 11th International Puppet Festival was inaugurated at Tagore Theatre in Chandigarh on February 17, 2024. The festival's inauguration was presided over by the Governor of Punjab and Administrator UT Chandigarh, Banwarilal Purohit, along with Rajeew Verma, Adviser to the Administrator. The festival runs from February 17–21, 2024 and includes special morning shows for students and evening shows for the general public. The festival also features a puppet exhibition that includes live demonstrations of puppet making.

4. India signed a Memorandum of Understanding with which country for sharing open-sourced digital public infrastructure?

- A. Colombia ☒
- B. Chile
- C. Brazil
- D. Guyana



- ✓ India and Colombia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to share India's open-sourced digital public infrastructure (DPI). The MoU is for cooperation in digital transformation, including sharing successful digital solutions that have been implemented at population scale. India has developed some of the world's best digital public goods infrastructure, including delivering services to the public during the COVID pandemic.

5. Which day is celebrated as Global Tourism Resilience Day?

- A. 17 February ☒
- B. 18 February
- C. 19 February
- D. 20 February



- ✓ Global Tourism Resilience Day (GTRD) is celebrated on February 17th every year. The day was designated by the United Nations in 2023 to highlight the need for tourism development to be more resilient to shocks and emergencies. The initiative focuses on bolstering the tourism sector against various challenges, supporting sustainable development, and promoting economic stability, particularly in developing nations.

6. Where was the 12th edition of MILAN naval exercise held?

- A. Kutch
- B. Kochi
- C. Jaisalmer
- D. Visakhapatnam ☒



- ✓ The 12th edition of the MILAN naval exercise took place in Visakhapatnam from February 19–27, 2024. The exercise, which has the theme "Forging Naval Alliances for a Secure Maritime Future," aims to strengthen collaboration between participating navies.

7. Recently, which country has overtaken Japan as the world's third largest economy?

- A. India
- B. Germany ☒
- C. France
- D. Canada



- ✓ As of February 2024, Germany is the world's third largest economy, surpassing Japan. Japan's economy was contracted by 0.4% in the fourth quarter of 2023, pushing the country into recession. This is due to weak domestic consumption, a weak yen, and a shrinking population. The IMF's latest projections estimate Germany's nominal GDP at \$4.4 trillion this year, compared with \$4.2 trillion for Japan.

8. Who became the second Indian bowler to take 500 wickets in test matches?

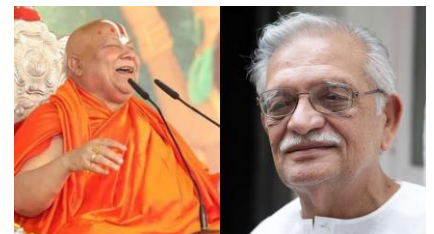
- A. Ravindra Jadeja
- B. Jasprit Bumrah
- C. Ravichandran Ashwin ☒
- D. Md Siraj



- ✓ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi praised spinner Ravichandran Ashwin for reaching 500 Test wickets, making him the second Indian bowler to achieve this after Anil Kumble.
- ✓ Ashwin joins an exclusive group of off-spinners with only Muttiah Muralidaran and Nathan Lyon surpassing 500 wickets. Notably, Ashwin is the third off-spinner in history to achieve this milestone. The historic moment occurred on the second day of the ongoing Test against England, dismissing Zak Crawley.

9. Which of the following litterateurs have been named the recipients of the 58th Jnanpith Award?

- A. Kiran Desai and Arvind Adiga
- B. Kedarnath Singh and Vikram Seth
- C. Gulzar and Jagadguru Rambhadracharya ☒
- D. Vikram Seth and Arvind Adiga



- ✓ Renowned Urdu poet Gulzar and Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya have been announced as the recipients of the 58th Jnanpith Award by the Jnanpith selection committee.
- ✓ This prestigious award is recognition of their significant contributions to literature. In 2022, the award was conferred upon Goan writer Damodar Mauzo, adding to the distinguished list of laureates. The Jnanpith Award, established in 1961, is one of the highest literary honors in India, celebrating outstanding writers in various Indian languages.

10. What is the primary objective of 'Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti'?

- A. Promotion of Indian languages in education ☒
- B. Promotion of Foreign Languages
- C. Promotion of Science and Technology
- D. Promotion of Arts and Science



- ✓ The Chairman of Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti recently advocated for promoting Indian languages in education, announcing that textbooks will soon be available in Indian languages on digital platforms. Established by the Ministry of Education in 2021, the committee's mandate, under the National Education Policy 2020, involves recommending pathways for holistic growth of Indian languages, advising the Ministry on language revitalization, and organizing events to emphasize language promotion.

11. Scientists recently detected water molecules on the surface of two asteroids for the first time ever by using which telescope?

- A. SOFIA ☒
- B. HEAO 3
- C. HETE 2
- D. CHIPS



- ✓ NASA's SOFIA airborne observatory, a telescope mounted on a Boeing 747 SP aircraft, recently discovered water molecules on the surfaces of two asteroids, marking the first such detection. Operating for 12 years until its premature end in 2022, SOFIA, jointly operated by NASA and the German space agency, studied infrared light, allowing astronomers to observe the universe from 38,000-45,000 feet, above most of Earth's infrared-blocking atmosphere. It was the world's largest airborne astronomical observatory.

12. Recently, NASA and which country's space agency have joined to launch the world's first wooden satellite?

- A. Japan ☒
- B. Russia
- C. India
- D. UK



- ✓ NASA and Japan's space agency, JAXA, are planning to launch the world's first wooden satellite, LignoSat, in 2024. The satellite is designed to reduce space debris and is made of biodegradable magnolia wood, known as Hoonoki in Japanese. The satellite is being developed by scientists at Kyoto University.

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1. Where was the first 'Child-Friendly Police Station' inaugurated?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra ☒
- C. Puducherry
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ **A child-friendly police station has been inaugurated in Maharashtra's Dhule district at Azadnagar Police Station. Conceived by District Collector Abhinav Goyal and Women and Child Development Officer Rajendra Birari, the initiative aims to create a safe and enjoyable space for children.**

2. The Chars are riverine areas associated with which river?

- A. River Ganga
- B. River Brahmaputra ☒
- C. River Kaveri
- D. River Godavari



- ✓ **The Chief Minister of Assam has announced a mission to reclaim chars, riverine islands in the Brahmaputra, to preserve ecological integrity. Chars face constant migration, with erosion upstream and deposition downstream during floods, impacting their geometry.**
- ✓ **Char areas encounter challenges like poor communication, mobility, and infrastructure, hindering development. Issues include isolation, flood threats, and difficulties implementing schemes for roads, irrigation, power, and education in these unique, flood-prone regions.**

3. Which ministry released the 'Sagar Aankalan' guidelines for Indian Port Performance Index?

- A. Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways ☒
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Corporate Affairs



- ✓ **Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal launched 'Sagar Aankalan' guidelines to improve Indian ports' performance, focusing on mapping, benchmarking, and aligning standards globally. Stemming from the success of GMIS 2023, a major maritime summit, the initiative aims to boost the maritime sector, evidenced by a ₹10 lakh crore investment commitment.**

4. Nagi Bird Festival is associated with which state?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Bihar ☒
- D. Odisha



- ✓ The Nagi Bird Festival is associated with the state of Bihar. The Bihar government's Forest and Environment department hosts the three-day festival in Jamui, the district's Nagi bird sanctuary. The festival's primary objective is to educate people on migratory birds and their habitats, and to promote bird conservation.

5. What is 'ANUVADINI'?

- A. Satellite
- B. Tribal Language
- C. AI tool ☒
- D. Tribal Festival



- ✓ 'Anuvadini' is an AI-driven multilingual translation app designed in-house, enabling rapid conversion of English content into various languages via machine learning, supplemented by expert reviews. In the last two years, it has translated numerous textbooks for Ekumbh, an online platform. The initiative also offers 12 regional language choices for national entrance exams.

6. Which among the following best describes about Rhodamine B?

- A. Toxic and carcinogenic chemical used in various industries for dyeing and coloring ☒
- B. Protein found in the flower Rhododendron, used in treating in joint pain
- C. Recently developed vaccine against arthritis
- D. Water molecules on the surface of asteroids



- ✓ Tamil Nadu has banned the sale and production of cotton candy due to the presence of Rhodamine B, a chemical used in various industries for dyeing and coloring. Despite appearing green in powdered form, it turns pink when added to water. Rhodamine B, also used in incense and match sticks, is highly toxic and carcinogenic even in small quantities. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has prohibited its usage in food products.

7. PM Vishwakarma Yojana is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of MSME ☒
- D. Ministry of Tourism



- ✓ The 'PM Vishwakarma Yojana' by the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises offers artisans and craftsmen affordable loans, skill training, modern equipment, and promotes digital transactions. With a budget of Rs 13,000 crore, the scheme covers 18 businesses and is set to run for five years until the financial year 2027-28, aiming to boost the growth and development of the micro, small, and medium enterprises sector.

8. Recently, which country's women's team clinched the gold medal in the Badminton Asia Team Championship?

- A. Thailand
B. India ☒
C. Malaysia
D. China



- ✓ India's women's badminton team won their first-ever gold medal at the Badminton Asia Team Championships in Shah Alam, Malaysia. The team defeated Thailand 3-2 in the final match.

9. Recently, who has been elected as the new president of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)?

- A. Nawaf Salam ☒
B. Dalveer Bhandari
C. Joan Donoghue
D. Ronny Abraham



- ✓ Nawaf Salam, the first Lebanese and second Arab, succeeded US Judge Joan Donoghue as the President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague. He serves a three-year term, starting in 2024. As the highest global judicial authority, ICJ resolves legal disputes between states and offers advisory opinions on UN-related legal matters.

10. Where was the 60th Munich Security Conference held?

- A. Germany ☒
B. Russia
C. China
D. France



- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar is attending the 60th Munich Security Conference in Germany, engaging in discussions with global leaders to address bilateral cooperation and global concerns. The three-day conference serves as a platform for high-level debates on pressing security challenges, fostering international dialogue and cooperation.

11. Ponmudi hills is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala ☒
- C. Gujarat
- D. Maharashtra



- ✓ Researchers have identified a new damselfly species, named Cliffside Bambootail (*Phylloneura rupestris*), in Kerala's Ponmudi hills. Ponmudi, part of the Western Ghats, sits at an altitude of 1100 meters. This discovery is significant as the genus *Phylloneura* was considered monotypic for 160 years, with only the Myristica Bambootail known.

12. Recently, which state has secured ₹740 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) Scheme?

- A. Uttar Pradesh ☒
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Uttar Pradesh secures ₹740 crore, the highest in India, under the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) Scheme, a revamped version of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). The centrally sponsored scheme, under the Ministry of Education, aims to enhance the quality of state higher educational institutions in line with the National Education Policy 2020. PM-USHA emphasizes conformity to prescribed norms, standards, and accreditation for quality assurance in higher education.

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1. Which country hosted the 3rd meeting of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)?

- A. Indonesia
- B. India ☒
- C. Myanmar
- D. Malaysia



- ✓ The ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee met in New Delhi from February 16-19, 2024, marking its 3rd meeting since the agreement's signing in 2009. Initiated in September 2022 for a comprehensive review, eight sub-committees were established to enhance the agreement's trade facilitation and mutual benefits.

2. What are Iris and Massalia?

- A. Asteroids ☒
- B. Black holes
- C. Glacial lakes
- D. Patrol vessels



- ✓ Iris and Massalia are asteroids that have similar orbits and are potentially the first asteroids in our solar system to have confirmed water. Iris is 124 miles in diameter, making it larger than 99% of asteroids in our solar system. It orbits between Mars and Jupiter and is the fourth brightest object in the asteroid belt. Massalia is 84 miles in diameter and is similar in size to Iris. Scientists using SOFIA's infrared telescope discovered molecular water on the asteroids.

3. Recently, which organization released the report titled 'Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024'?

- A. UNESCO
- B. UNESCAP ☒
- C. UNDP
- D. IMF



- ✓ The UNESCAP's 'Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024' reveals that the region is 32 years behind the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals target. Established in 1947 as ECAFE, it became ESCAP in 1974, one of the UN's five regional commissions. With 53 member states (including India) and 9 associate members, UNESCAP is headquartered in Bangkok, Thailand. Its objective is to foster cooperation among members to address sustainable development challenges.

4. Archaeologists recently discovered a Harappan-era fortified settlement named Morodharo in which state?

- A. Gujarat ☒
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Archaeologists recently uncovered Morodharo, a Harappan-era fortified settlement in Kutch District, Gujarat. Dating from 2,600 to 1,300 BCE, the settlement spans the mature to late Harappan period. The fortification, measuring 102m east to west and 58m north to south, boasts a 3.3m thick wall. Features include a 10x10m platform, a well, burial cairns, and Harappan pottery with perforated jar sherds.

5. What is the theme of the 'World Day of Social Justice 2024'?

- A. Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances ☒
- B. Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment
- C. Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice
- D. Workers on the Move: The Quest for Social Justice



- ✓ Annually on February 20th, the World Day of Social Justice unites the global community to address worldwide inequality and injustice. Emphasizing decent work and fair globalization, the 2024 theme, "Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances," underscores the significance of collaboration in confronting global challenges.

6. Which district of Madhya Pradesh recently organized a 'Banana Festival'?

- A. Burhanpur ☒
- B. Ujjain
- C. Balaghat
- D. Rewa



- ✓ Burhanpur in Madhya Pradesh, known as the banana city, is hosting its annual Banana Festival in collaboration with the district administration. The two-day event, under the One-District One-Product programme, highlights Burhanpur's agricultural strength with 23,650 hectares of banana cultivation involving 18,325 farmers.
- ✓ The region yields an impressive 16 lakh metric tonnes of bananas, contributing to a significant sales turnover of 1,700 crore rupees. The festival aims to attract investment by showcasing Burhanpur's agricultural prowess to companies, experts, and scientists nationwide.

7. Where was the 'Neem Summit & Global Neem Trade Fair' held?

- A. Chennai
- B. Madurai
- C. New Delhi ☒
- D. Thiruvananthapuram



- ✓ **The Neem Summit & Global Neem Trade Fair, hosted in New Delhi on 19-20 February 2024, is a collaborative initiative led by ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute, Jhansi. With diverse stakeholders, the event highlights neem's versatile applications in agriculture, healthcare, and environmental sustainability. Embracing the theme "Neem for Sustainable Agriculture, Health, and Environment," the summit aims to spotlight neem's multifaceted benefits and promote its role in fostering sustainability across various sectors.**

8. What is the rank of India in the Henley Passport Index 2024?

- A. 84th
- B. 85th ☒
- C. 86th
- D. 87th



- ✓ **France leads the Henley Passport Index 2024 with visa-free access to 194 countries. European nations like Germany, Italy, and Spain, benefiting from EU influence, also rank high. India, now at 85th place, improved visa-free access to 62 countries but dropped one position. Maldives, India's maritime neighbor, stands at 58th place with visa-free access to 96 countries.**

9. What is the primary focus of INDUS-X initiative?

- A. Protection of historical monuments
- B. Advancing of high-tech cooperation in the defense sector ☒
- C. Advancing of cyber security measures
- D. Developing software solutions for startups



- ✓ **The 'INDUS-X' summit in Delhi is a major milestone in the U.S.-India Defense Accelerator Ecosystem, launched in June 2023. Its objective is to enhance technology partnerships and defense cooperation between India and the US, focusing on joint research, development, and production in the defense sector. IDEX and OSD, US, lead the initiative.**

10. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Shri Kalki Dham Temple in which district of Uttar Pradesh?

- A. Ayodhya
- B. Saharanpur
- C. Varanasi
- D. Sambhal ☒



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Shri Kalki Dham Temple in Sambhal district, Uttar Pradesh. Constructed by Shri Kalki Dham Nirman Trust, chaired by Acharya Pramod Krishnam, the temple's unique feature is its ten garbh grihas, representing all ten avatars of the Lord, including the human form. The Prime Minister highlighted the intricate architecture, emphasizing the embodiment of various divine forms in the scriptures.

11. Which state government recently launched the 'Swayam scheme' to empower its youth with interest free loans?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha ☒
- D. Maharashtra



- ✓ The Odisha government recently launched the 'Swayam' scheme to provide interest-free loans to the state's youth. The scheme aims to support young entrepreneurs by providing loans of up to Rs 1 lakh to help them start small businesses and contribute to the state's business environment.

12. Recently, which organization has launched the 'Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH)'?

- A. World Health Organization (WHO) ☒
- B. UNICEF
- C. United Nations
- D. European Union



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) launched the Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH) as part of India's G20 presidency. The initiative aims to democratize digital health technologies. Union Health Minister Mandaviya highlighted its role in creating an institutional framework for digital health. WHO Director-General Dr Tedros emphasized GIDH's support in promoting global digital health standards.

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1. Which state has become the first north-eastern state in India to achieve 100% saturation of Har Ghar Jal under Jal Jeevan Mission?

- A. Assam
- B. Manipur
- C. Arunachal Pradesh ☒
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ **Arunachal Pradesh has achieved a significant milestone, becoming the first state in North-East India and the 10th in the country to attain 100% saturation of Har Ghar Jal under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Chief Minister Pema Khandu credited Team Arunachal's dedication, expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for guidance and support. The mission, launched on August 15, 2019, aims to provide assured tap water supply to every rural household in India by 2024, promoting an improved quality of life.**

2. Where was the multinational military exercise 'Shanti Prayas IV' organised?

- A. Visakhapatnam
- B. Dhaka
- C. Kathmandu ☒
- D. Myanmar



- ✓ **Kathmandu recently hosted the multinational military exercise 'Shanti Prayas IV,' becoming a hub for global peacekeeping efforts. The event involved army representatives from 19 nations engaged in UN Peacekeeping missions, emphasizing collaborative dedication to global peace and security. Co-hosted by the Nepali Army and the US Indo-Pacific Command, the exercise highlighted the robust military cooperation between Nepal and the United States.**

3. Recently, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited collaborated with which organization for the upgrade of Sukhoi Fighter Jet Fleet?

- A. DRDO ☒
- B. ISRO
- C. UNESCO
- D. CSIR



- ✓ **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, in partnership with DRDO, launches a Rs 60,000 crore project to upgrade the Su-30MKI fighter jet fleet. The initiative focuses on enhancing capabilities by integrating advanced technologies and indigenous systems.**

4. Who has been bestowed with the prestigious 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur', France's highest civilian honour?

- A. Rajnath Singh
- B. Shashi Tharoor ☒
- C. Neeraj Chopra
- D. LK Advani



- ✓ Shashi Tharoor, a diplomat, author, and politician, has been awarded the prestigious 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur,' France's highest civilian honor, for his lifelong commitment to global understanding and substantial service to India and the world. The Legion of Honour, established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte, symbolizes French recognition for exceptional contributions, transcending nationality.

5. Faiz Fazal is associated with which sports?

- A. Wrestling
- B. Badminton
- C. Football
- D. Cricket ☒



- ✓ Vidarbha cricketer Faiz Fazal, aged 38, has announced his retirement from all forms of the game, marking the end of a remarkable career. Fazal leaves behind a significant legacy with immense contributions to Vidarbha cricket, celebrated for generations. The Vidarbha cricket team, representing eastern Maharashtra, participates in India's domestic tournaments, including the Ranji Trophy, Vijay Hazare Trophy, and Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.

6. Ministry of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship recently inaugurated the country's first Skill India Centre (SIC) in which state?

- A. Odisha ☒
- B. Bihar
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Kerala



- ✓ Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated India's first Skill India Centre in Sambalpur, Odisha. The initiative aims to upgrade skills in demand-driven industries, empowering over 1200 students. The Centre offers low-cost courses to democratize access to quality education.

7. Which day is celebrated as International Mother Language Day?

- A. 21 February ☒
- B. 22 February
- C. 23 February
- D. 25 February



- ✓ On February 21, 2024, International Mother Language Day is celebrated globally, acknowledging linguistic diversity. Originating in Bangladesh, the day emphasizes the historical movement for linguistic rights. In 2024, the theme is "Multilingual education – a pillar of learning and intergenerational learning," underscoring the importance of linguistic education.

8. Where has been 'World's highest frozen lake marathon' organized?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Ladakh ☒



- ✓ The "world's highest frozen lake marathon," Pangong Lake marathon in Ladakh, hosted 120 runners from seven countries in its second edition. Organized by the Adventure Sports Foundation of Ladakh, supported by the Administration Union Territory of Ladakh and the 14 Corps of the Indian Army, the event aimed to raise awareness about melting Himalayan glaciers and their environmental impact.

9. Khajuraho Dance Festival is associated with which state?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh ☒
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ The 50th Khajuraho Dance Festival, 2024, commenced on February 20, inaugurated by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav. Scheduled until the 26th, the festival features diverse classical dance styles performed by over 1500 Kathak artistes. Originating in 1975, the festival is aiming to boost tourism in Madhya Pradesh.

10. Recently, how much amount of the development assistance loan has Japan committed to India?

- A. 232.2 billion Japanese Yen ☒
- B. 225.2 billion Japanese Yen
- C. 230.3 billion Japanese Yen
- D. 239.3 billion Japanese Yen



- ✓ Japan has pledged JPY 232 billion for nine projects in India, as confirmed by the exchange of notes on February 20, 2024, between Vikas Sheel of the Indian Ministry of Finance and Suzuki Hiroshi, the Japanese Ambassador.
- ✓ The committed ODA loan assistance covers various initiatives, including the Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge, NH 127B (Phulbari-Goeragre section), start-up promotion in Telangana, Chennai Peripheral Ring Road (Phase 2), sustainable horticulture in Haryana, climate change response in Rajasthan, medical facilities in Nagaland, urban water supply in Uttarakhand, and the Dedicated Freight Corridor Project.

11. TN Godavarman Thirumalpad vs Union of India Case is associated with which one of the following?

- A. Reservation
- B. Forest conservation ☒
- C. LGBTQ rights
- D. Privacy and Data protection



- ✓ The Supreme Court of India recently directed governments to adopt a 'broad' definition of forests, emphasizing the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Enacted to safeguard forests and resources, the Act's Section 2 defines 'forest land' broadly, encompassing reserved, protected, or government-recorded areas. The landmark TN Godavarman Thirumalpad vs Union of India (1996) case reinforced this, interpreting 'forest' in line with its dictionary meaning.

12. Recently, which country has become the 119th country to join the International Solar Alliance?

- A. Malta ☒
- B. Egypt
- C. Vietnam
- D. Ukraine



- ✓ Malta has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA), becoming its 119th member. Christopher Cutajar, Permanent Secretary of Malta's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, signed the ISA Framework Agreement in New Delhi. Established in 2015 with headquarters in Gurugram, India, ISA aims to promote solar energy globally. India warmly welcomed Malta's participation in this alliance, strengthening international cooperation for sustainable solar development.

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1. Where was the 9th edition of Raisina Dialogue inaugurated?

- A. New Delhi ☒
- B. Greece
- C. Switzerland
- D. Paris



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 9th Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi, with Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis as the Chief Guest. Mitsotakis highlighted India's role in the G20 and climate change. Mitsotakis urged deeper ties, emphasizing shared values and the strength of the partnership.

2. Where was the Maritime Technical Exposition MTEX-24 inaugurated?

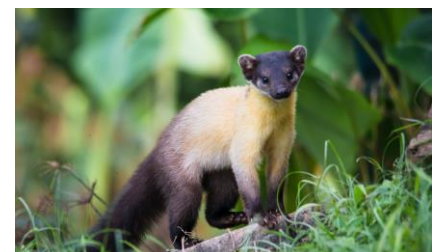
- A. Visakhapatnam ☒
- B. Dhaka
- C. Kathmandu
- D. Myanmar



- ✓ The Maritime Technical Exposition MTEX-24 is a key feature of MILAN 2024 in Visakhapatnam, showcasing India's strides in naval technology. Inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, MTEX-24 spans three days and emphasizes self-reliance in defence. It highlights advancements in shipbuilding, communication, cybersecurity, and sustainable energy solutions. MTEX-24 aims to propel India's maritime industry towards a secure and prosperous future.

3. The Nilgiri marten is endemic to which one of the following regions in India?

- A. Western Ghats ☒
- B. Eastern ghats
- C. Wetlands
- D. Grasslands



- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Government has launched the "TN Endangered Species Conservation Fund" to protect lesser-known species like the Nilgiri Marten. This rare carnivore, scientifically named *Martes gwatkinsii*, is exclusive to the Western Ghats in India, spanning Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. Found in Shola ecosystems, it boasts chocolate-colored fur and a canary yellow throat, resembling a civet or mongoose.

4. Which north-eastern state recently signed an MoU with NTCA to establish the state's first Special Tiger Protection Force?

- A. Manipur
- B. Assam
- C. Arunachal Pradesh ☒
- D. Mizoram



- ✓ The Arunachal Pradesh government has partnered with the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) to create its inaugural Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF). Home to three tiger reserves – Namdapha, Kamlang, and Pakke – the state lacked a dedicated protection force. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) outlines the deployment of a specialized force comprising 336 personnel to enhance tiger conservation efforts in these reserves, addressing the previous gap in protection measures.

5. Recently, which cricketer made fastest 10000 runs in T20?

- A. Rohit Sharma
- B. Babar Azam ☒
- C. Travis Head
- D. Rishabh Pant



- ✓ Babar Azam, former Pakistan captain, set a historic record as the fastest batter to score 10,000 runs in T20 cricket during a Karachi Kings vs. Peshawar Zalmi match in PSL 2024. This remarkable feat makes him the 13th player to achieve this milestone.

6. AIIMS Jammu was recently established under which government scheme?

- A. Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana ☒
- B. Central Government Health Scheme
- C. Ayushman Bharat Yojana
- D. Universal Health Insurance Scheme



- ✓ AIIMS Vijaypur in Jammu is founded under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, addressing regional healthcare imbalances. The scheme aims to enhance affordable tertiary healthcare services and improve medical education facilities across India. This initiative reflects a commitment to ensuring accessible and quality healthcare infrastructure.

7. How many gold medals did India win in the Asian Indoor Athletics Championships?

- A. Three ☒
- B. Four
- C. Five
- D. One



- ✓ India has won three gold medals and one silver medal at the 2024 Asian Indoor Athletics Championships in Tehran, Iran. On the opening day of the championships, the following athletes won gold medals: Tajinderpal Singh Toor: Ace shot putter Jyothi Yarraji: 100m hurdler Harmilan Bains: 1500m

8. Indian Air Force recently signed an agreement with which agency for the purpose of integration of future weapons and sensors for Tejas?

- A. Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) ☒
- B. Defence Cyber Agency
- C. Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency
- D. Aviation Research Centre



- ✓ The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) has signed an MoU with the Indian Air Force (IAF) to enhance the Light Combat Aircraft 'Tejas'. The collaboration aims to integrate future weapons and sensors, crucial for modernizing in the current war scenario. The technology transfer for weapons and sensors integration has begun, enhancing Tejas' operational capabilities.

9. Recently, which Indian private aerospace manufacturer has launched the Kalpana fellowship for women interested in space tech?

- A. Skyroot Aerospace ☒
- B. Dhruva Space
- C. Bellatrix Aerospace
- D. Digantara



- ✓ Skyroot Aerospace, an Indian aerospace manufacturer, introduces the Kalpana Fellowship, India's inaugural program empowering women in space tech. Named after astronaut Kalpana Chawla, the initiative targets final-year students and recent graduates in relevant engineering disciplines, marking a significant step in promoting gender diversity in the space industry.

10. Where was the 28th Meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) held?

- A. Chennai
- B. New Delhi ☒
- C. Lucknow
- D. Bengaluru



- ✓ Union Finance Minister chaired the 28th meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) in New Delhi. FSDC, established in 2010, is a non-statutory apex body under the Ministry of Finance. Proposed by the Raghuram Rajan Committee in 2008, it includes key financial institutions like RBI, IRDA, SEBI, and PFRDA, with members including the Finance Secretary, Chief Economic Advisor, and Secretary of the Department of Financial Services.

11. What is theme of the 'World Thinking Day 2024'?

- A. Stand Together for Peace
B. Our World, Our Thriving Future ☒
C. Our Planet, Our Peaceful Future
D. Living Threads



- ✓ World Thinking Day, celebrated on February 22, strengthens the bonds of friendship and sisterhood among young girls globally. It focuses on empowering young women, recognizing their immense potential. The day aims to break barriers and elevate the status of women through friendship and empowerment. This year's theme is "Our World, Our Thriving Future," emphasizing the need for a supportive global community. Funds raised on this day contribute to the empowerment and development of around 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide.

12. Recently, which Indian food brand became the first to win an International Taste Award?

- A. Parle
B. Haldiram
C. Amul
D. Prasuma ☒



- ✓ Prasuma, an Indian frozen food brand, became the first and only Indian food brand to win an International Taste Award in February 2024. The judging criteria for the award focuses on parameters like first impression, vision, olfaction, taste, and texture.

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1. Which of the following countries participated in 'Exercise Dosti'?

- A. India, Sri Lanka & Maldives ☒
- B. Myanmar, Sri Lanka & Nepal
- C. India, Bangladesh & Myanmar
- D. Bhutan, Nepal & Myanmar



- ✓ **Indian and Sri Lankan coast guard ships recently joined the Maldives for Exercise Dosti 16, a trilateral coast guard exercise held every two years since 1991. Sri Lanka joined in 2012, and the 16th edition involves the Coast Guards of India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives, with observers from Bangladesh. The exercise focuses on mutual operational capability, interoperability, and cooperation in scenarios like sea accidents and pollution.**

2. Ancient Badami Chalukya temples were recently discovered in Mudimanikyam village along the banks of which river?

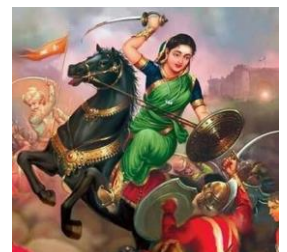
- A. River Godavari
- B. River Kaveri
- C. River Krishna ☒
- D. River Tapi



- ✓ **Two Badami Chalukya temples, aged 1,300-1,500 years, and a 1,200-year-old label inscription were discovered in Mudimanikyam village, Telangana near the Krishna River. The Chalukyas ruled the Deccan from the 6th to 12th centuries, comprising the Badami Chalukyas and the sibling dynasties of the Western and Eastern Chalukyas. Pulikesi-I founded the dynasty in 550, making Badami the capital. Pulakesi II expanded the empire, defeating Harsha and Vishnukundins, but later lost Vatapi to Pallava Narasimhavarman.**

3. Rani Chennamma is related to which one of the following events?

- A. Moplah Rebellion
- B. Ahom Revolt
- C. Kittur Rebellion ☒
- D. Sanyasi Revolt



- ✓ **Social groups nationwide recently organized the Naanoo Rani Chennamma campaign, marking 200 years since Rani Chennamma's rebellion against the British East India Company. Born in Kakati, Karnataka, she became Kitturu's queen after marrying Raja Mallasarja. Post his death, the British refused to recognize Shivalingappa as the successor, leading to the Kittur Rebellion. British forces initially suffered losses, but eventually captured Kittur Fort in 1824. Rani Chennamma and family were imprisoned; she passed away in 1829 at the Bailhongal fort.**

4. Uttar Pradesh government will establish its first 'Turtle Conservation Reserve' in which river?

- A. River Sarju ☒
- B. River Sharda
- C. River Gomti
- D. River Belan



- ✓ The Gonda Forest Department in Uttar Pradesh is partnering with Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation India to create a turtle conservation reserve in the Sarju River. Home to approximately 5,000 river turtles, recent studies show that the Sarju River hosts around half of this population. The collaboration aims to protect and preserve the rich turtle diversity in the region, emphasizing the importance of conservation efforts for these endangered species.

5. Recently, who has been appointed as Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?

- A. Suresh N Patel
- B. A S Rajeev ☒
- C. Praveen Kumar Srivastava
- D. Arvinda Kumar



- ✓ A S Rajeev, former MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra, is appointed as Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) by President Droupadi Murmu. CVC, established under CVC Act, is now a three-member body with Praveen Kumar Srivastava as Central Vigilance Commissioner since May 2023 and Arvinda Kumar as Vigilance Commissioner since August 2022.

6. Which country is hosting the 5th edition of the International Gita Mahotsav (IGM) 2024?

- A. India
- B. Myanmar
- C. Sri Lanka ☒
- D. Nepal



- ✓ The International Gita Mahotsav (IGM), rooted in India's spiritual and cultural heritage, expands to Sri Lanka for its fifth edition from March 1 to 3. With past editions in Mauritius, London, Canada, and Australia, the Mahotsav's global appeal is evident. The event aims to unite devotees worldwide, showcasing the universal significance of the Bhagavad Gita.

7. Which two ministries have recently collaborated to launch an initiative focused on the health of tribal students?

- A. Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health
- B. Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Tribal Affairs ☒
- C. Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture



जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
TRIBAL AFFAIRS

- ✓ **The Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Tribal Affairs collaborate to enhance public health for over 20,000 tribal students. The joint effort emphasizes Ayurvedic interventions to tackle health issues, including malnutrition, iron deficiency anemia & sickle cell diseases. The initiative aims to study tribal health needs and provide targeted public healthcare services for improved well-being.**

8. Government has recently launched Rashtriya Udyamita Vikas Pariyojana for which one of the following?

- A. AB PM-JAY beneficiaries
- B. PM SVANidhi beneficiaries ☒
- C. PM Suraksha Bima Yojana beneficiaries
- D. PM Vishwakarma Yojana beneficiaries



- ✓ **The Rashtriya Udyamita Vikas Pariyojana is a National Entrepreneurship Development Project that aims to provide entrepreneurship training. The program is part of the Skill India Mission and is specifically tailored to beneficiaries of the PM SVANidhi scheme.**

9. What is theme of the 8th Asia Economic Dialogue 2024?

- A. Asia and the Emerging World Order
- B. Global Trade and Finance Dynamics
- C. Geo-economic Challenges in an Era of Flux ☒
- D. Sustainable Economic Development



- ✓ **The theme of the 8th Asia Economic Dialogue (AED) 2024 is "Geo-economic Challenges in an Era of Flux". The conference will be held in Pune from February 29 to March 2, 2024. The AED is an annual geo-economics conference that will feature 46 speakers from 11 countries participating in 12 sessions over three days. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Pune International Centre are jointly hosting the event.**

10. DURGA 2, a laser weapon, recently developed by which one of the following?

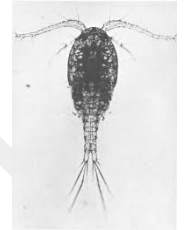
- A. DRDO ☒
- B. ISRO
- C. IIT Madras
- D. NTRO



- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is developing a laser weapon called DURGA-2 (Directionally Unrestricted Ray-Gun Array). DURGA-2 is a 100-kilowatt, lightweight, directed-energy weapon (DEW). It can be used for land, naval, and air use. DURGA-2 can neutralise drone or ballistic missile attacks from the skies or even at the originating location. It can travel at the speed of light.

11. Guinea worm disease is caused by which one of the following agents?

- A. Bacteria
B. Virus
C. Parasite ☒
D. Fungi



- ✓ The world is on the verge of eradicating Guinea worm disease, a neglected tropical disease caused by the *Dracunculus medinensis* parasite. According to the World Health Organization, cases dropped to 14 in 2021, 13 in 2022, and just 6 in 2023. The disease is contracted by consuming water contaminated with Guinea worm larvae, leading to painful blisters. Currently, there is no drug treatment or vaccine for Guinea worm disease.

12. What is the revised Fair and Remunerative Price of sugarcane for the Sugar Season 2024-25?

- A. Rs 340 per quintal ☒
B. Rs 320 per quintal
C. Rs 310 per quintal
D. Rs 360 per quintal



- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for Sugar Season 2024-25 at ₹ 340/quintal at sugar recovery rate of 10.25%. This is historic price of sugarcane which is about 8% higher than FRP of sugarcane for current season 2023-24. The revised FRP will be applicable w.e.f. 01 Oct 2024.

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1. Statue of Unity is located on the banks of which river?

- A. River Narmada ☒
- B. River Tapi
- C. River Sabarmati
- D. River Luni



- ✓ The 182-meter-tall statue, dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, stands on Sadhu Bet Island, Gujarat, by the Narmada Dam. Constructed by Larsen & Toubro and designed by Ram V Sutar, the statue honors India's 'Iron Man'. The Gujarat government funded the INR 3,050-crore project, covering 20,000 square meters with a surrounding artificial lake of 12 square kilometers.

2. India's first 'Gati Shakti Research Chair' has been established at which institute?

- A. IIM Ahmedabad
- B. IIM Shillong ☒
- C. IIT Kanpur
- D. IIT Bombay



- ✓ The Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) and IIM Shillong have joined forces to establish India's inaugural 'Gati Shakti Research Chair.' This collaborative effort aims to boost academic research in multimodal logistics, with a specific focus on the North-East region. The initiative aims to empower students in logistics-related fields by fostering skill development and creating career opportunities.

3. What was India's ranking in the global cybercrime report for 2023?

- A. 79th
- B. 80th ☒
- C. 85th
- D. 84th



- ✓ According to a 2023 report, India is the 80th most targeted country worldwide for cybercrime. The report states that 34% of Indian users were targeted by local threats in 2023, totaling 74 million incidents. In 2023, India has a national cybercrime rate of 129 per hundred thousand citizens.

4. Recently, where was the 11th bilateral Consular Dialogue between India and the US held?

- A. New Delhi ☒
- B. California
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai



- ✓ The 11th bilateral Consular Dialogue between India and the US took place in New Delhi. The Indian delegation, led by Dr KJ Srinivasa, is hosting the US delegation led by Ambassador Rena Bitter. The dialogue is intended to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries on consular issues.

5. Mobile World Congress 2024 is recently hosted by which country?

- A. India
B. Spain ☒
C. Italy
D. France



- ✓ The Mobile World Congress (MWC) annually unites the mobile industry for networking and collaboration. In 2024, GSMA, the global association for mobile network operators, will host the event in Barcelona, Spain. This gathering provides a platform for industry professionals to connect and collaborate, showcasing the latest advancements in mobile technology and fostering global cooperation within the dynamic mobile ecosystem.

6. Which day is celebrated as Central Excise Day in India?

- A. 23rd February
B. 24th February
C. 25th February ☒
D. 26th February



- ✓ February 24th marks India's Central Excise Day, commemorating the 1944 enactment of the Central Excise and Salt Act. First celebrated in 1944, it honors CBIC's contribution to the nation. The day underscores tax obligations for citizens, vital for national development. In 2024, the government focuses on modernizing India's tax system.

7. Recently, which country became the first Asian country to ratify ILO convention to end workplace violence and harassment?

- A. Myanmar
B. Philippines ☒
C. Indonesia
D. Laos



- ✓ The Philippines has made history as the first Asian country to ratify the Violence and Harassment Convention 2019 (No. 190) by the International Labor Organization. This significant step addresses workplace violence globally, underlining the nation's commitment to fostering safe and respectful work environments. With this ratification, the Philippines joins 37 other nations in standing against workplace violence and harassment.

8. What is Agasthyagama beddomii?

- A. Wolf Spider
- B. Kangaroo lizard ☒
- C. Frog
- D. Invasive weed



- ✓ **A team of Indian scientists discovered a new species, Agasthyagama Edge, a northern kangaroo lizard, in Kerala's Idukki district. Differentiated by scale characters and genetics, it's part of the Agasthyagama genus, previously known for Agasthyagama beddomii. Named for Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered, it's small to medium-sized, residing in India's Western Ghats. Known for bipedal movement, it has a distinctive gait, resembling a kangaroo.**
-

9. Shahpur Kandi Dam Project is located on which river?

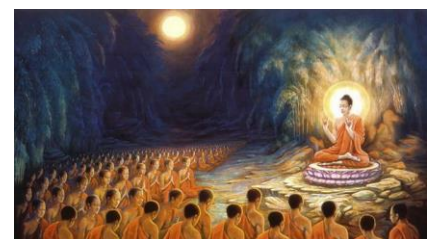
- A. Ravi ☒
- B. Beas
- C. Tapi
- D. Krishna



- ✓ **The completion of Shahpur Kandi barrage on the Punjab-Jammu and Kashmir border has stopped water flow from the River Ravi to Pakistan. Located downstream from the Ranjit Sagar Dam, the Shahpur Kandi Dam Project aims at power generation & irrigation in Punjab and J&K. Constructed by the Punjab government's irrigation department with a total output capacity of 206 MW.**
-

10. Makha Bucha ceremony is associated with which one of the following?

- A. Vaishnavism
- B. Jainism
- C. Buddhism ☒
- D. Shaivism



- ✓ **The sacred MakhaBucha ceremony, a revered event for Buddhists in Thailand, was led by esteemed Somdet and senior monks. MakhaBucha Day marks Lord Buddha's teachings, celebrated on the full moon of the third lunar month. "Makha" refers to the month, and "bucha" means "to worship" in Pali language. The day aims to purify the mind with good deeds. Celebrations include offering food to monks and candlelight processions. It's the first significant Buddhist festival, observed in Theravada Buddhism practicing nations like Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia.**
-

11. Which country's first fifth-generation aircraft, the KAAN, completed its maiden flight?

- A. Turkey ☒
- B. Iran
- C. Iraq
- D. Malaysia



- ✓ Turkey's first fifth-generation aircraft, the KAAN, completed its maiden flight at the Akinci air base near Ankara. The 13-minute flight reached an altitude of 8,000 feet. The KAAN, also known as TF and MMU, is a twin-engine, all-weather fighter jet being developed by Turkish Aerospace Industries and BAE Systems. It's designed to replace the Turkish Air Force's F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft and will be sold to other countries.

12. As per the recent report, what was the percentage increase in India's mineral production in December 2023?

- A. 5.1% ☒
- B. 5.2%
- C. 5.3%
- D. 5.4%



- ✓ According to the Indian government, India's mineral production increased by 5.1% in December 2023 compared to the same month in 2022. The index of mineral production for the mining and quarrying sector in December 2023 is 139.4, which is 5.1% higher than the same month in 2022.

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1. 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' exercise is conducted between which two countries?

- A. India & Japan ☒
- B. India & Sri Lanka
- C. India & Egypt
- D. India & Australia



- ✓ The 5th edition of Joint Military Exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' between the Indian Army and the Japan Ground Self Defence Force commenced today at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. The Exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 25th Feb to 9th March 2024. Exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' is an annual exercise and conducted alternatively in India and Japan.
- ✓ The Exercise will also facilitate developing inter-operability, bonhomie and camaraderie between troops of both the sides. This will enhance the level of defence cooperation, further fostering bilateral relations between the two friendly nations.

2. Attukal Pongal festival is celebrated in which state?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Kerala ☒
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ Attukal Pongal, the world's largest women's congregation festival, extends globally with devotees observing rituals in the US and the UK. It is celebrated annually at Kerala's Attukal Bhagavathy Temple, the event spans 10 days, starting on the Karthigai star of the Malayalam month of Makaram or Kumbham. On the 9th day, the Attukal Pongala Mahotsavam occurs, featuring the ritualistic preparation and offering of a sweet payasam to the Goddess Bhagavathy.

3. Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) has successfully commissioned India's largest Battery Energy Storage System in which state?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Chhattisgarh ☒
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ SECI has successfully commissioned India's largest Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Chhattisgarh, funded by the World Bank and Clean Technology Fund. The project utilizes battery storage to store solar energy for peak demand in the evening. It incorporates bifacial solar panels which increases electricity generation. It is estimated to save tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

4. Recently, which state established a special fund to save Purple Frog in the Western Ghats?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Odisha
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ Tamil Nadu has established a special fund to conserve the Purple Frog, considered a 'living fossil' coexisting with dinosaurs. Acknowledged globally as one of the rarest frogs, it belongs to the Sooglossidae family and spends most of its life underground, emerging only during the monsoon for mating. With a distinct appearance, short hind legs, and preference for specific Western Ghats habitats, the Purple Frog is listed as Near Threatened by IUCN and under Schedule I of WPA, highlighting its conservation significance.

5. IIT Madras recently collaborated with which institution to develop 'Garbhini-GA2' AI model?

- A. Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) ☒
- B. IIM Ahmedabad
- C. IISc Bangalore
- D. IIT Bombay



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) and the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) in Faridabad recently developed an AI model called "Garbhini-GA2". The model can accurately determine the age of a fetus in pregnant women during the second and third trimesters. The model was developed as part of the GARBH-Ini program, a collaboration between the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) and THSTI. The model reduces error by almost three times compared to other methods.

6. Recently, where was the 13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) held?

- A. New Delhi
- B. California
- C. Abu Dhabi ☒
- D. Paris



- ✓ The 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) started at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates from February 26 to 29, 2024. The conference will bring together trade ministers from around the world to review the multilateral trading system and chart the WTO's future course. Priority items on the agenda include reforming the WTO's dispute settlement function and new disciplines to eliminate fisheries subsidies that encourage overfishing.

7. 'Sudarshan Setu', the nation's longest cable-stayed bridge, recently inaugurated in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Gujarat ☒
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Goa



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's longest cable-stayed bridge, Sudarshan Setu, in Gujarat's Dwarka, connecting Okha and Beyt Dwarka island. This ₹979 crore infrastructure project spans 2.32 km, symbolizing India's dedication to progress and connectivity.

8. Where was the largest-ever global textile event 'Bharat Tex 2024' organized?

- A. Madurai
- B. New Delhi ☒
- C. Jaipur
- D. Bhopal



- ✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Bharat Tex 2024, a significant global textile event in New Delhi. The event, held at Bharat Mandapam and Yasho Bhoomi, featured over 3000 exhibitors from 100 countries and attracted 40,000 visitors. Modi emphasized Bharat Tex's role in connecting Indian tradition with modernity, blending technology with heritage. The event symbolized Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, showcasing diverse textile traditions and highlighting India's rich textile heritage in terms of depth, longevity, and capability.

9. 'Savera', a program for early breast cancer detection, recently launched by which state?

- A. Bihar
- B. Kerala
- C. Haryana ☒
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched the "Savera" program, a pioneering initiative for early detection and prevention of breast cancer in women. Developed with the Medanta Foundation and Health Department, Savera utilizes visually impaired women's heightened tactile sensitivity for breast cancer screenings, enabling earlier detection of abnormalities and improving treatment outcomes.

10. Beyt Island is located in which state?

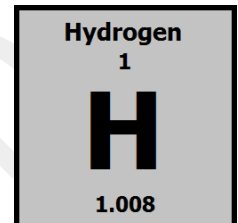
- A. Gujarat ☒
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Goa
- D. Kerala



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Sudarshan Setu,' India's longest cable-stayed bridge, spanning 2.32 km over the Arabian Sea. Connecting Beyt Dwarka to mainland Okha in Gujarat, it features a unique design with a Bhagavad Gita-adorned footpath and Lord Krishna images. The bridge incorporates solar panels generating one megawatt of electricity and cost Rs 979 crore. Beyt Dwarka, believed to be Lord Krishna's residence, is a small island with temples, white sand beaches, and coral reefs at the Gulf of Kutch mouth.

11. Recently, which country aims to produce 1-5 lakh tonnes of hydrogen a year by 2030?

- A. Iran
B. Malaysia
C. Vietnam ☒
D. Iraq



- ✓ Vietnam targets annual hydrogen production of 100,000-500,000 metric tonnes by 2030, a key element in its energy transition. The nation plans to scale up output to 10-20 million tonnes by 2050, incorporating green hydrogen, showcasing a strong commitment to sustainable energy initiatives and contributing to global decarbonization efforts.

12. NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd recently inaugurated its first solar project in which state?

- A. Gujarat
B. Rajasthan ☒
C. Odisha
D. Bihar



- ✓ NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd. (NTPC-REL) inaugurated its first solar project in Rajasthan. The 70 MW project is designed to produce 370 million units annually and is part of NTPC's renewable energy expansion strategy. NTPC is also developing India's largest floating solar power plant in Telangana.

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1. What is the name of the payload by which Aditya L1 satellite detected solar wind impact of Coronal Mass Ejections?

- A. Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC)
- B. Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA) ☒
- C. Solar Ultra-violet Imaging Telescope (SUIT)
- D. Aditya Solar wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX)



- ✓ **The Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA) payload on the Aditya-L1 satellite detected the impact of coronal mass ejections (CMEs) on solar wind. The PAPA payload is an energy and mass analyzer that measures solar wind electrons and ions. It contains two sensors, the Solar Wind Electron Energy Probe (SWEEP) and the Solar Wind Ion Composition Analyser (SWICAR).**

2. Prime Minister of India recently inaugurated National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN) named 'Nisarg Gram' in which city?

- A. Pune ☒
- B. Bhopal
- C. Madurai
- D. Tenkasi



- ✓ **Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN) called 'Nisarg Gram' in Pune, Maharashtra. Named after Mahatma Gandhi's Nature Cure campaign, the campus includes a hospital, multidisciplinary research center, extension service center, and a Naturopathy Medical College. The institute is a significant step towards promoting natural healing methods and holistic healthcare.**

3. Recently, Indian Gharial, a critically endangered crocodile species, has been sighted in which National Park?

- A. Namdapha National Park
- B. Kaziranga National Park ☒
- C. Manas National Park
- D. Nokrek National Park



- ✓ **The Indian Gharial, or *Gavialis gangeticus*, is a critically endangered crocodile species that has been sighted in Kaziranga National Park. The first evidence of the endangered gharial was recorded in Dibru-Saikhowa National Park (DSNP) in 2022. The Gharial is one of the largest river-dwelling crocodile species in the world and is on the verge of extinction. The Gharial can be found in tributaries of the Ganges River system, including the Girwa, Son, Ramganga, Gandak, Chambal, and Mahanadi rivers.**

4. Which one of the following recently introduced a 5-year multiple entry visa for Indian tourists to enhance travel and economic ties?

- A. Oman
- B. Dubai ☒
- C. Paris
- D. Iraq



- ✓ Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism introduces a five-year multiple-entry visa to boost travel between India and the UAE. In response to a surge in Indian visitors, India is the leading source market for tourists in the region. The visa, processed in 2-5 days, allows a 90-day stay, extendable for another 90 days, totaling a maximum of 180 days within a year. This initiative aims to facilitate and encourage increased tourism between the two countries.

5. What is the purpose of the 'Purple Fest' recently inaugurated by President of India?

- A. To promote women entrepreneurship
- B. To empower the persons with disabilities ☒
- C. To showcase ancient culture
- D. To celebrate lavender festival



- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated 'Purple Fest' at Amrit Udyaan in Rashtrapati Bhawan. Organized by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, the event follows the success of the 'International Purple Fest, 2024' in Goa. Over ten thousand Divyangjan, along with their escorts, gathered for inclusive and interactive stalls focusing on accessibility, inclusion, and disability rights. Key activities include Amrit Udyaan visits, 'Know your Disabilities,' Purple Cafe, Purple Kaleidoscope, Purple Live Experience Zone, and Purple Sports.

6. What is 'Homosep Atom'?

- A. Ancient irrigation technique
- B. Septic tank/manhole cleaning robot ☒
- C. Nuclear ballistic submarine
- D. Ancient medicinal practice



- ✓ Solinas, a startup incubated at IIT Madras, developed India's first septic tank cleaning robot, Homosep Atom, addressing manual scavenging issues. Solinas technologies, like Endobot and Swasth AI, serve as diagnostic tools, identifying and mitigating water contamination, blockages, and sewer overflows, contributing to societal development and environmental sustainability.

7. What is the theme of 'World NGO Day 2024'?

- A. Building a Sustainable Future: The Role of NGOs in Achieving the SDGs ☒
- B. Building a More Equitable World
- C. Empowering Communities for Sustainable Development
- D. Celebrating Community Heroes



- ✓ **World NGO Day, celebrated annually on February 27, acknowledges the vital role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The day promotes active engagement in NGOs, advocates for collaboration between NGOs and public-private sectors, and raises awareness among the needy about the impactful work of NGOs. The 2024 theme, "Building a Sustainable Future: The Role of NGOs in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals," emphasizes their crucial contribution to global sustainability.**

8. What is the name of the Sikkim's first railway station, recently inaugurated by Prime Minister of India?

- A. Gangtok Railway Station
- B. Rangpo Railway Station ☒
- C. Namchi Railway Station
- D. Pelling Railway Station



- ✓ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Sikkim's first railway station in Rangpo, celebrating a historic moment for the state. The station's design, inspired by local culture and the Himalayan landscape, pays homage to Sikkim's rich traditions. This initiative is part of a nationwide effort, with over 2,000 rail infrastructure projects worth Rs 41,000 crore, aiming to transform transportation networks, promote connectivity, and drive economic development across the country.**

9. Who has become the first woman Chief Minister of West Punjab in Pakistan?

- A. Maryam Nawaz ☒
- B. Mahira Khan
- C. Fatima Bhutto
- D. Muniba Mazari



- ✓ **Maryam Nawaz made history by becoming the first woman Chief Minister of Pakistan's Punjab province on February 26, 2024. Sworn in at the Punjab Governor House, she took the oath in the presence of her father, Nawaz Sharif, and uncle, Shahbaz Sharif. Maryam's achievement marks a significant milestone, as she is the first woman to hold such a position in any Pakistani state. She is also the senior vice president of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party.**

10. Mission Utkarsh is associated with which one of the following disease?

- A. Typhoid
- B. Cholera
- C. Anaemia ☒
- D. Japanese Encephalitis



- ✓ The Mission Utkarsh initiative, collaboration between the Ministries of Ayush and Women and Child Development, aims to combat anaemia. Launched in five aspirational districts initially, it focuses on elevating districts below national averages. The pilot phase targets improving anaemic status in adolescent girls (14-18 years) across states like Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.

11. What is 'INDRA RV25: 240N'?

- A. Micro turbojet engine ☒
- B. Satellite
- C. Asteroid
- D. Exoplanet



- ✓ Hyderabad-based Raghu Vamsi Machine Tools Private Limited unveiled its indigenous Micro Turbojet Engine, "INDRA RV25: 240N." Developed with support from IIT Hyderabad, this micro turbojet is designed for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), air taxis, jetpacks, and power generation. The engine, operating on the principle of accelerating air to produce thrust, offers applications in various sectors. The fully indigenous technology marks a significant milestone in India's aerospace capabilities.

12. Which ministry has recently inaugurated the Upper Yamuna River Board building at Noida?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Jal Shakti ☒
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Defence



जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
JAL SHAKTI

- ✓ The Union Minister of Jal Shakti inaugurated the Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) building in Noida. Established through a 1994 MoU among Chief Ministers of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Delhi, UYRB oversees the Yamuna stretch from its origin to the Okhla Barrage in Delhi.
- ✓ As a subordinate office under the Ministry of Jal Shakti's Department of Water Resources, UYRB plays a crucial role in water management and collaboration among the mentioned states.

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