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### Aparchit October 2nd Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

- Q. Which bank has launched a 'Mobile Handheld Device' to improve accessibility and convenience?
  - A) Punjab National Bank

B) State Bank of India

C) Indian Overseas Bank D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

#### Answer: B

- ✓ The State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a 'Mobile Handheld Device' as part of its financial inclusion drive in a bid to improve accessibility and convenience.
- ✓ The drive "aims to empower financial inclusion and extend essential banking services to the masses."
- ✓ In its first stage, the gadget will offer five main banking services that account for 75 percent of transactions at CSP outlets.
- ✓ This technology-driven initiative underscores SBI's commitment to deepening financial inclusion and social welfare through digitization by providing convenient and doorstep banking to our customers".
- ✓ The device will specially benefit customers facing difficulties in accessing customer service outlets, such as senior citizens.

### SBI IN NEWS 2023

- SBI has launched a 'Mobile Handheld Device' as part of its financial inclusion drive in a bid to improve accessibility and convenience.
- > The tenure of State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Khara has been extended till August 2024.
- State Bank of India has introduced a digital facility for Non-Resident Indians to effortlessly open Non-Residential External and Non-Resident Ordinary accounts through its mobile app YONO.
- State Bank of India has launched its 'Nation First Transit Card', a RuPay prepaid instrument under the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) that can be used nationwide.
- State Bank of India has launched a Customer Service Points (CSPs) functionality that allows customers to enroll for social security schemes through Aadhaar Card.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance.

- State Bank of India will set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF).
- State Bank of India (SBI), Bengaluru Circle, recently launched 'Project Kuber' to meet the banking needs of its customers.
- State Bank of India (SBI), the country's biggest lender, has raised USD 750 million through bonds to fund offshore business growth.
- State Bank of India (SBI) launched a coffee table book titled "The Banker to Every Indian" and the book celebrates 75 years of Indian independence and 200 years of SBI's history.
- > SBI to launch new current accounts and savings accounts in FY24 to attract deposits.
- ➤ The bank intends to launch two new variants of current accounts, one with a balance of ₹50,000 and another with a balance of ₹50 lakh. It also plans to introduce a new savings account called "Parivar" (family) account.
- State Bank of India (SBI) announced the completion of a \$1 billion syndicated social loan facility.
- The facility of \$1 billion was arranged through MLABs, MUFG bank and Taipei Fubon Commercial Bank Co.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with the NGO That's Eco Foundation to donate ₹48 lakh for the plantation of 32,000 tree saplings at Garden City University in Bengaluru.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 3,717 crore through its third Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance in the current financial year at coupon rate of 8.25 per cent..
- SBI reintroduces 400 days 'Amrit Kalash' retail term deposit scheme and provides an interest rate of 7.6% for senior citizens.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched its coffee table book named 'The Banker to Every Indian'.
- Commercial Indo Bank LLC (CIBL) is a joint venture in Russia between SBI (60 per cent) and Canara Bank (40 per cent).
- > SBI announces completion of \$1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility.
- Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) signed a memorandum (MoU) of understanding with State Bank of India to help farmers in getting low interest rate loans.
- According to the Indian Banks' Association (IBA)'s report titled "EASE Reforms Index for the first quarter of FY23" the State Bank of India(SBI) was adjudged as the Best Bank in adopting reforms prescribed for Public Sector Banks(PSB).

- SBI on 5 December 2022 announced that its personal banking advances excluding high value home loans have crossed the Rs 5 lakh-crore mark as on 30 November 2022.
- State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest lender, approved raising Rs 10,000 crore through infrastructure bonds during the financial year 2023 (FY23) including a greenshoe option of Rs 5,000 crore.
- ➢ STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI)
- Founded : 1 July 1955
- > Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Dinesh Kumar Khara
- Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI
- > The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.
- > Tagline of State Bank of India
  - (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
  - (2) With you all the way
  - (3) A bank of the common man
  - (4) The banker to every Indian
  - (5) The Nation banks on us.
- > It is one of the largest and oldest banks in India.

Q. The Reserve Bank of India has recently allowed tokenization on CoF services. What does F stands for in CoF?

A) Fast	B) File
C) Front	D) Factor
-	

- Answer : B
- ✓ Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed to introduce Card-on-File Tokenisation (CoFT).
- ✓ <u>About Card-on-File Tokenisation:</u>
- ✓ Tokenisation refers to replacement of actual credit and debit card details with an alternate code called the "token", which will be unique for a combination of card, token requestor and device.

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- This shall be unique for a combination of card, token requestor (i.e. the entity which accepts request from the customer for tokenisation of a card and passes it on to the card network to issue a corresponding token) and the merchant (token requestor and merchant may or may not be the same entity).
- ✓ Customers who do not have the tokenisation facility will have to key in their name, 16-digit card number, expiry date and CVV each time they order something online.
- ✓ What is Card-on-File transaction?
- ✓ It is transaction where in cardholders authorizes merchants to store their payment information securely and bill cardholders' stored accounts for future purchases.
- ✓ The device-based tokenization framework will now be applicable to Card-on-File Tokenisation (CoFT) services as well. Card-on-File (CoF) means that the Credit/Debit card details are stored by merchants for ease of payment

Q. Which of the following has launched 'SUGAM REC', a mobile app for 54EC Bonds Investors?

- A) Coal India
- C) NTPC Limited

- B) GAIL (India) Limited
- D) REC Limited

#### Answer : D

- Recently, REC Limited, the Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise launched a SUGAM REC mobile application.
- ✓ <u>About SUGAM REC App</u>:
- ✓ It is exclusively for current and future investors in REC's 54EC Capital Gain Tax Exemption Bonds.
- ✓ Investors will be able to download their e-bond certificates, apply for fresh investment, download important forms related to updating of KYC, and also connect with REC's Investor Cell via call / email / WhatsApp.
- ✓ What are 54EC bonds?
- These are also known as Capital gain bonds are fixed income instruments which provide capital gains tax exemption under section 54EC to the investors.
- ✓ These bonds allow an assessee/investor to save income tax on long-term capital gain by investing the gains.
- ✓ The investment into these bonds has to be made within 6 months from the date of long-term capital gain.
- $\checkmark$  They have a fixed lock-in period of 5 years and can be either held in Physical or Demat form.
- ✓ Key facts about REC Limited
- ✓ It is a 'Maharatna' company (under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, Government of India.

- ✓ It is registered with RBI as non-banking finance company (NBFC), Public Financial Institution (PFI) and Infrastructure Financing Company (IFC).
- ✓ It has been associated as nodal agency for Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGAYA),
   Deen Dayal Upadhaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and National Electricity Fund (NEF) Scheme.
- ✓ REC Limited, formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
- ✓ Founded : 1969
- ✓ Headquarters : New Delhi
- ✓ CMD : Vivek Kumar Dewangan.
- ✓ REC Ltd has become the 12th company to attain the Maharatna status.
- Q. Choose the incorrect option regarding the Payment Infrastructure Development Fund( PIDF) which was launched by RBI 2021?

A) To benefit the acquiring banks/non-banks and merchants by lowering overall acceptance infrastructure costs

- B) RBI has invested 250 crore in this fund.
- C) To increase the number of acceptance devices multi-fold in the country.
- D) POS will be established in tier 1 and tier 2 cities

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently extended the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme by another two years and will include beneficiaries of the PM Vishwakarma scheme.
- ✓ About Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme:
- ✓ It was first launched by the RBI in January 2021 for a period of three years.
- ✓ Objective: Increasing the number of payment acceptance devices multifold in the country.
- ✓ PIDF is a fund set up by the RBI, in consultation with major authorised card networks, to facilitate the development of payment acceptance infrastructure in tier-3 to tier-6 cities and the north-eastern states of India.
- ✓ The Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will also be given special focus.
- ✓ Beneficiaries of the PM SVANidhi Scheme in Tier-1 and 2 centres were later included in August 2021.
- ✓ <u>Funding:</u>
- $\checkmark$  The PIDF is funded by the RBI and the major authorized card networks in India.

- ✓ The scheme provides financial assistance to banks and non-bank financial companies (NBFCs) for the deployment of PoS terminals and other payment acceptance infrastructure in eligible regions.
- Merchants providing essential services (transport, hospitality, etc.), government payments, fuel pumps, PDS shops, healthcare, kirana shops, street vendors, etc., may be covered, especially in the targeted geographies.
- ✓ The PIDF will be governed through an Advisory Council and managed and administered by the RBI.
- ✓ The implementation of targets shall be monitored by the RBI with assistance from card networks, the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) and the Payments Council of India (PCI).
- ✓ The target for the PIDF scheme is -
- ✓ To increase payments acceptance infrastructure by adding 30 lakh touch points every year 10 lakh physical and 20 lakh digital payment acceptance devices.
- ✓ To increase the number of acceptance devices multi-fold in the country.
- ✓ To benefit the acquiring banks/non-banks and merchants by lowering overall acceptance infrastructure costs.
- ✓ What is PM Vishwakarma scheme?
- ✓ It is a Central Sector Scheme launched on 17th September, 2023, with a financial outlay of Rs.13,000 crore.
- ✓ Time period: Five years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28).
- ✓ <u>Aim:</u>
- ✓ This initiative supports small businesses, focusing on traditional artists and craftspeople.
- ✓ It provides small workers and craftsmen with financial help, training, improved methods, and skill mentoring.
- ✓ It also aims at improving the quality as well as the reach of the products and services of artisans and craftsmen.
- ✓ Under this scheme, the artisans and craftspeople will be provided recognition through the PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card, credit support upto 1 lakh (first tranche) and Rs.2 lakh (second tranche), with a concessional interest rate of 5%.
- ✓ Key Facts about PM SVANidhi Scheme:
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme was launched by the Government of India in June, 2020.
- ✓ Objective: To empower street vendors by not only extending loans to them but also for their holistic development and economic upliftment.

- The scheme intends to facilitate-collateral free working capital loans of up to Rs.10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately 50 lakh street vendors.
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- Q. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) clarified that addition of protein binders in milk and milk products are not permitted. FSSAI is a statutory body established under which Ministry?
  - A) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare B) Ministry of Home Affairs
  - C) Ministry of Corporate Affairs D) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

#### Answer : A

- Recently, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) clarified that addition of protein binders in milk and milk products are not permitted.
- $\checkmark \quad \underline{\text{Why in news?}}$
- This clarification came at a time when certain players are adding protein binders to offer thicker texture in dairy products such as curd.
- ✓ <u>About Protein binders:</u>
- ✓ These are biological agents have emerged as an important and required class of ingredients to manufacture a wide range of new food products, especially semi-solid or solid foods.
- ✓ These are known to affect the digestibility of the protein bound and thus can affect the biological and nutritive value of milk proteins.
- ✓ What is milk protein?
- $\checkmark$  It is a good source of essential amino acids.
- ✓ They are easily digestible and do not contain any anti-nutritional factors like many plant-based proteins.

### FSSAI IN NEWS 2023

- > FSSAI clarified that addition of protein binders in milk and milk products are not permitted.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) introduced a new provision called 'Special Category' in the FOSCOS portal.
- FSSAI has recently recognized the Mithun as a 'food animal,' opening doors for its commercial use found in Arunachal Pradesh.

- > Defence ministry, FSSAI to promote use of millets, healthy eating habits among armed forces.
- Guwahati Railway Station of the Northeast Frontier Railway has been awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI, for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the stateof-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- Varanasi Cantt Railway Station of the Indian Railways has been awarded the 5-Star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high quality nutritious food to the passengers.
- The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has awarded the food provided by the Bulandshahr prison of Uttar Pradesh a five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus'. Bulandshahr Jail is the second prison after Farrukhabad jail to get this tag from Uttar Pradesh..
- G Kamala Vardhana Rao was appointed the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- FSSAI has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which is a consolidating statue related to food safety and regulation in India.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- Founded : 2008
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Chairperson : Rajesh Bhusan
- > CEO : G Kamala Vardhana Rao

Q. Which country has been elected president of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)?

- A) China
- C) India

B) Russia D) Japan

### Answer : C

- ✓ India has been elected president of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) General Conference (GC) for the third successive term.
- ✓ About Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development:

- ✓ It was established in 1977 under the auspices of UNESCO.
- ✓ The AIBD currently has 92 member organisations from across 44 countries, including 26 government members (countries) represented by 48 broadcasting authorities and broadcasters.
- ✓ It also has 44 affiliates (organisations) represented by 28 countries and regions in Asia, Pacific, Europe, Africa, Arab States and North America.
- ✓ India is one of the founding members of this organization.
- ✓ The Prasar Bharati, India's public service broadcaster, is the representative body of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, at AIBD

### Q. Which country has successfully tested the Burevestnik missile?

A) Israel

B) Russia

**D)** North Korea

C) China

#### Answer: B

- ✓ President Vladimir V. Putin recently claimed that Russia had successfully tested the Burevestnik missile.
- ✓ About Burevestnik Missile:
- ✓ The Burevestnik, whose name translates as "storm petrel", is a ground-launched, low-flying cruise missile that is not only capable of carrying a nuclear warhead but is also nuclear-powered.
- ✓ The Burevestnik is one of six strategic weapons that the Russian President introduced in a 2018 speech.
- ✓ It is code-named 'SSC-X-9 Skyfall' by NATO.
- ✓ In theory, the nuclear energy could let it fly around the world several times before hitting its target.
- ✓ It has a range of up to 14,000 miles (22000 km).

### Q. Which of the following Museum is based on Victoria?

- A) Albert Hall Museum
- B) Ajmer Government Museum
- C) Crystal Gallery Udaipur
- D) Dolls Museum Jaipur

### Answer : A

- ✓ Maharashtra's Cultural Affairs Minister recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Victoria and Albert Museum in London to bring back Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's legendary wagh nakh (tiger claw) to the state.
- ✓ About Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj:

- ✓ He was the founder of the Maratha Empire in western India.
- ✓ He was born on February 19, 1630,to Shahaji Bhosle and Jijabai in the fort of Shivneri, near the city of Junnar in the Pune district, Maharashtra.
- ✓ With his valor and great administrative skills, Shivaji carved out an enclave from the declining Adilshahi sultanate of Bijapur. It eventually became the genesis of the Maratha Empire.
- ✓ The Victoria and Albert Museum is by far the world's best museum for art and design.
- ✓ He was known as the Father of the Indian Navy. Shivaji was the first to realise the importance of having a naval force, and therefore he strategically established a navy and forts at the coastline to defend the Konkan side of Maharashtra.
- ✓ He was called the 'Mountain Rat' and was widely known for his guerrilla warfare.
- Q. Which state government will ban the cultivation of the PUSA-44 paddy variety from next year onwards?
  - A) West Bengal
  - B) Haryana
  - C) Bihar
  - D) Punjab

#### Answer : D

- Recently, Punjab Chief Minister announced that the state will ban the cultivation of the PUSA-44 paddy variety from next year onwards.
- ✓ About PUSA-44:
- ✓ It is a paddy variety which was developed in 1993 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- ✓ By the end of 2010s, it had gained widespread popularity among farmers across the Punjab, covering approximately 70 to 80% of the area under paddy cultivation.
- ✓ Farmers claim that PUSA-44 yields nearly 85 to 100 mann (34 to 40 quintals) per acre, while other varieties' yield average is 28 to 30 quintals per acre.
- ✓ <u>Concerns</u>
- ✓ It is a long-duration variety, taking around 160 days to mature.
- ✓ This is around 35 to 40 days more than other varieties, requiring 5-6 extra cycles of irrigation.

✓ With Punjab facing severe groundwater depletion and the availability of short-duration paddy varieties, the government aims to conserve one month of irrigation water by banning the variety.

### Q. In which district of Kerala is located the famous Bekal Fort?

A) Kasaragod	B) Idukki
C) Mopa	D) Kollam

#### Answer : A

- ✓ The first public sector caravan park in Kerala to come up at Bekal fort of Kerala.
- ✓ About Bekal Fort:
- ✓ It is exquisitely designed and built with dark maroon laterite stones.
- ✓ It is the largest and best preserved Fort in the whole of Kerala.
- ✓ The fort is endowed with impressive walls and ramparts which are again interrupted by massive bastions.
- ✓ It was built in the 17th century.
- Originally constructed by the rulers of the ancient Kadampa Dynasty, the Fort changed hands over the years to the Kolathiri Rajas, the Vijayanagara Empire, Tipu Sultan and finally, the British East India Company.
- $\checkmark$  The most prominent structure inside the fort is the observation tower built by Tipu Sultan.
- Q. Central government has approved the continuation of the Central Sector National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMSS) till which of the following year?

A) 2022-23	B) 2029-30
C) 2024-25	D) 2025-26

#### Answer : D

- ✓ The Ministry of Education recently started online registration for the National Merit cum Means Scholarship Scheme for the year 2023-24.
- ✓ About National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS):
- ✓ It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in May, 2008.
- ✓ Objective: Award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their dropout at class VIII and encourage them to continue the study at secondary stage.
- ✓ The Government has approved the continuation of the Central Sector National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMSS) for 5 years i.e. from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ✓ It will have a financial outlay of Rs. 1827.00 crore with minor modifications in eligibility criteria.

- ✓ The objective of the scheme is to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections.
- ✓ Benefits:
- ✓ One lakh fresh scholarships are awarded by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to selected students every year for study in classes from IX to XII in recognized Government, Government-aided, and local body schools.
- ✓ The amount of scholarship is Rs. 12000/- per annum (Rs. 1000/- per month) per student.
- NMMSS scholarships are disbursed directly into the bank accounts of selected students by electronic transfer through the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) following DBT mode.
- ✓ <u>Eligibility criteria:</u>
- ✓ Students whose parental income from all sources is not more than Rs. 3,50,000/- per annum are eligible to avail the scholarship.
- ✓ The students must have minimum of 55 % marks or equivalent grade in Class VII examination for appearing in selection test for award of scholarship (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students).
- ✓ The students should be studying as regular student in a Government, Government-aided and local body school.
- ✓ The students studying in the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and residential schools are not eligible for the scholarships under the NMMSS.
- ✓ There is reservation as per State Government norms.
- Selection Test: Each State and UT conducts its own test to select students for awarding the National Meanscum-Merit Scholarship.
- NMMSS is boarded on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) a one stop platform for scholarship schemes given to students
- Q. The special status given to the Ganges Dolphin is that it is the National \_ of India.
  - A) river system

B) mammal

C) water animal

D) wildlife sanctuary

- Answer : C
- ✓ A recent publication by scientists and researchers has revealed that 19 Gangetic river dolphins had been rescued from the irrigation canals of the Ganga-Ghagra basin in Uttar Pradesh between 2013 and 2020.

- ✓ <u>About Gangetic river dolphin:</u>
- ✓ It is a freshwater species and one of the few river dolphins found in the world.
- Distribution: It inhabits the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of Nepal, India, and Bangladesh.
- ✓ Common Names: Blind dolphin, Ganges dolphin, Ganges susu, hihu, side-swimming dolphin, South Asian River Dolphin
- ✓ It has been recognized as India's National Aquatic Animal.
- ✓ The Ganges River Dolphin or Gangetic Dolphin is the national aquatic animal of India.
- ✓ Being a mammal, the Ganges River dolphin cannot breather in the water and must surface every 30-120 seconds. Because of the sound it produces when breathing, the animal is popularly referred to as the 'Susu'.
- ✓ Conservation status:
- ✓ IUCN: Endangered
- ✓ Wildlife (Protection) Act: Schedule-I
- ✓ CITES: Appendix I
- Q. Which space agency is set to launch a mission called APEP to study how a solar eclipse affects the upper atmosphere?
  - A) ISRO
  - C) NASA

- B) JAXA
- D) Roscomos

#### Answer : C

- ✓ NASA is set to launch a mission called APEP to study how a solar eclipse affects the upper atmosphere.
- ✓ About Atmospheric Perturbations around the Eclipse Path (APEP) mission:
- ✓ The mission will involve launching of three rockets equipped with scientific instruments.
- ✓ Objective: To know how the upper atmosphere will change during the eclipse, especially the moment when there would be a sudden reduction in light.
- ✓ During an eclipse, the sudden drop in sunlight causes changes in the ionosphere, creating waves that ripple through this atmospheric layer.
- ✓ It will measure changes in electric and magnetic fields, density, and temperature.
- ✓ This launch will take place at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, with a specific focus on the ionosphere.

- ✓ According to NASA, the ionosphere's temperature and density are projected to decrease during the eclipse, resulting in a wave-like disturbance that has the potential to disrupt GPS and other satellite communications.
- ✓ An Indian-origin scientist at NASA is helming a mission that aims to launch three rockets during the 2023 annular eclipse on October 14.
- ✓ The mission, known as Atmospheric Perturbations around the Eclipse Path or APEP, is led by Aroh Barjatya.
- Q. Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of The Reserve Bank of India recently?
  - A) Dinesh Kumar Khara B) Raj Vikash Verma

C) Alok Kumar Choudhary

D) Muneesh Kapur

#### Answer : D

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has appointed Muneesh Kapur as the Executive Director.
- Prior to being promoted as ED, Shri Kapur was Adviser-in-Charge, the Monetary Policy Department and Secretary to the Monetary Policy Committee.
- ✓ He also served as Adviser to the Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund during 2012-15.
- ✓ As Executive Director, Kapur will look after the Department of Economic and Policy Research.
- Q. Who has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re)?
  - A) Ramaswamy N B) Rupa Devi Singh
  - C) Challa Sreenivasulu Setty D) Raj Vikash Verma

Answer : A

- ✓ Ramaswamy N has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re).
- ✓ This appointment follows the decision by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- Q. Which country has won the SAFF Under-19 Championship after defeating Pakistan 3-0 at the Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in Kathmandu?

A) Maldives	B) Bangladesh	
C) Bhutan	D) India	

Answer : D

- ✓ Indian men's football team wins SAFF Under-19 Championship
- In Football, India won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-19 Championship after defeating Pakistan 3-0 in a dominating display in the finals at the Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in Kathmandu.
- ✓ Manglenthang Kipgen and Gwgwmsar Goyary scored for India.
- Q. Indian men's hockey team has won the gold medal by defeating which country in the Asian Games 2023?

A) Japan	B) China
C) Pakistan	D) Thailand

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Indian men's hockey team dished out a clinical performance to reclaim the Asian Games gold medal after a nine-year wait as they thumped Japan 5-1 in the final in Hangzhou.
- ✓ India sealed their place in next year's Paris Olympics courtesy of the win, claiming their fourth Asiad gold after 1966, 1998, and 2014.
- ✓ Indian captain Harmanpreet Singh scored twice in the final, converting two penalty corners after Manpreet Singh had given India the lead with a bullet reverse strike in the second quarter.
- ✓ India led 2-0 at half-time, and Amit Rohidas converted another penalty corner to triple India's lead.
- ✓ This victory marks the Indian men's hockey team's fourth gold medal at the Asian Games, following triumphs in 1966, 1988, and 2014 editions.
- Q. Indian Women's Kabaddi Team Clinches Gold at Asian Games 2023 after defeating which Kabaddi team?

A) Chinese Taipei	B) Thailand
B) Japan	D) South Korea
Answer: A	

- ✓ India achieved the magical figure of 100 medals at the ongoing Asian Games after the women's kabaddi team defeated Chinese Taipei 26-25 in a thrilling final to clinch gold in Hangzhou, China.
- ✓ India was held to a 34-34 draw by the same opponent in the group stage but the women in blue managed to run down the clock with a one-point lead at the end in the summit clash.

- ✓ This is the women's kabaddi team's third title triumph in the continental showpiece, doing one better than its runner-up finish in the last edition of the Games in Indonesia and fulfilling the country's expectations of touching the historic three-figure mark for the first time.
- India, the 2010 and 2014 champions, reclaimed the gold medal after a shock defeat against Iran in the 2018 final.
- Q. India's Jyothi Surekha Vennam has won the gold medal in the women's individual compound event at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China. She is related to which sport?

A) Archery

**B)** Shooting

**C)** Badminton

D) Table tennis

Answer : A

- India's Jyothi Surekha Vennam won the gold medal in the women's individual compound archery event at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.
- ✓ Jyothi defeated So Chaewon of South Korea 149-145 in the final to complete a hattrick of gold medals, having already won titles in the women's and mixed team events.
- $\checkmark$  It is India's seventh medal in archery this edition.
- Q. Athlete Shi Hailin walks 100 m on a slackline in less than two minutes and sets a world record. He is from which country?

A) Thailand	B) Japan
C) India	D) China

#### Answer : D

- ✓ An athlete from China broke the world record for the 'fastest 100 metres slackline walk'.
- ✓ Shi Hailin accomplished this feat by walking on a slackline suspended 100 metres above the ground between two hills in only 1 minute 14.198 seconds.
- ✓ With this, he surpassed the previous record of 1 minute 59.73 seconds held by Lucas Milliard of France in 2016.
- ✓ The world record took place 1,600 m above sea level at the Guanyindang camp in Mount Wugong, Pingxiang. Though Hailin walked more than 222 m in total, he was timed specifically within a marked 100 m area.

- Q. Ganga River Dolphin Day is marked on which day by the Indian government?
  - A) 6 October
  - C) 5 October

B) 7 OctoberD) 8 October

#### Answer : C

- Every Year India celebrates the 'Ganga River Dolphin Day' on October 5, as it was on this day that Ganga Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals in 2010.
- ✓ On the occasion, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), the Wildlife Institute of India and the Forest Department has launched the 'My Ganga My Dolphin' campaign, to conduct Dolphin census in 250 km stretch from Bijnor to Narora.
- ✓ A Dolphin-based ecotourism programme, including Dolphin safari has also been launched in six sites across the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.
- ✓ Under this programme, the 'Ganga Praharis', the trained volunteers from the local community working for cleanliness of Ganga, will take the tourists at these sites on boat rides to view Dolphin and another biodiversity present in the Ganga River.
- ✓ The six sites include Bijnor, Brijghat, Prayagraj and Varanasi in UP; Kahalgaon in Bihar and Bandel in West Bengal

Q.	Which day	of the year is	marked as the	Air Force Day	y in India?

A) 7 October	B) 8 October
C) 6 October	D) 5 October

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Air Force Day is observed every year on 8 October.
- The Air Force Day 2023 celebrates the 91 anniversary of the official foundation day of the force on October
   8.
- ✓ Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October 1932 by the British Empire as the Royal Indian Air Force. The name was changed to Indian Air Force in 1950.

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	C) 82	D) 91		
	A) 85	B) 88		
Q.	. In 2023, India is celebrating which edition of the Air Force Day			



#### Answer : D

- Q. Which Country has the World's Largest Airport?
  - A) China

- B) Thailand
- C) Saudi Arabia D) United States

#### Answer : C

- ✓ The largest airport in the world is the king Fahd International Airport, located in Dammam, Saudi Arabia which covers an area of about 300 sq. miles
- ✓ Here is the list of Top 5 largest airports of the world.
  - 1. king Fahd International Airport Dammam, Saudi Arabia
  - 2. Denver International Airport Denver, CO United States
  - 3. Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport Dallas, TX United States
  - 4. Orlando International Airport Orlando, FL United States
  - 5. Washington Dulles International Airport Washington D.C., United States.

### **AIRPORT IN NEWS 2023**

- The largest airport in the world is the king Fahd International Airport, located in Dammam, Saudi Arabia which covers an area of about 300 sq.
- Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia inaugurated Utkela Airport owned by the Government of Odisha.
- Guwahati's Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport became the first airport in the northeast to get 'Digi Yatra' facility.
- > Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Gujarat's first greenfield airport at Hirasar near Rajkot.
- ➢ Government of India has given 'in-principle' approval for setting up 21 new greenfield airports.
- Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has launched a new app called BLR Pulse to provide hassle-free experience to the commuters at Kempegowda International Airport.
- Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has launched a new facility called 'DigiYatra' which enables passengers to avail of its services without downloading a mobile application.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport is the first in India to offer a free reading lounge to the passengers, with a huge collection of litreature.

- Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi ranked 9th busiest airports globally in 2022, as per Airports Council International (ACI). United States-based Atlanta airport has retained its position as the world's busiest airport.
- According to the Airport Council International (ACI), Delhi International Airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27 February 2023 launched the newly built Shivamogga airport along with various development projects worth over Rs 3,600 crore in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- Bangalore's Kempegoda International Airport and Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport both ranked second and seventh in Cirium's list of the world's best-performing airports for 2022.
- > Mopa International Airport Goa named after former CM Manohar Parrikar.
- Jaipur International Airport Limited has received the Aerodrome licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for the naming of the new Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, the State Capital of Arunachal Pradesh as "Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar".

Q. Air India launched India's First Integrated Engineering Warehouse At Which Airport?

- A) Mumbai
- C) Chennai

- B) Delhi
- D) Bengaluru

#### Answer: B

- Air India, one of India's leading airlines, announced the inauguration of its state-of-the-art mega warehouse facility in Delhi.
- ✓ This facility, spanning an impressive 54,000 square feet and strategically located near Terminal 3 at Delhi Airport's cargo complex, marks a significant milestone in the airline's commitment to enhancing aircraft maintenance operations..
- ✓ Enhancing Aircraft Maintenance Efficiency :
- ✓ The primary goal of this mega warehouse facility is to streamline and optimize the maintenance and service operations of Air India's extensive fleet, including Air India Express and AIX Connect aircraft. By consolidating the storage of over 1,000,000 engineering spares, tools, and ground support equipment, this facility aims to significantly improve the turnaround time of flights operating out of Delhi.

- Q. Recently, Udangudi 'Panangkarupatti' (palm jaggery/jaggery) has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag of which state?
  - A) Kerala

**B)** Tamil Nadu

C) Karnataka

D) Telangana

#### Answer: B

- Recently, Udangudi 'Panangkarupatti' (palm jaggery/ gur) from Tamil Nadu has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ✓ About Udangudi Panangarupatti:
- The palm jaggery preparation procedure in this area is traditional till date without inclusion of any additional modern strategies.
- ✓ The karupatti prepared from the palm sap from the region around Udangudi in Tiruchendur taluk in Thoothukudi district has some uniqueness.
- $\checkmark$  This is due to the presence of red sand dune soil found in the region.

### TAMIL NADU IN NEWS 2023

- Recently, Udangudi 'Panangkarupatti' (palm jaggery/ gur) from Tamil Nadu has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Tamil Nadu government has unveiled its new tourism policy to develop the State into the most attractive experiential destination in Asia.
- > Tamil Nadu's Salem Sago gets GI tag.
- Bhaderwah Rajmash and Sulai honey of Doda and Ramban districts of Jammu and Kashmir, have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- The Matti banana variety, native to Kanniyakumari district Tamil Nadu was recently granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ➤ Taiwanese firm Foxconn Technology Group, a key supplier to Apple Inc., signed a letter of Intent with the Tamil Nadu government to invest ₹1,600 crore to establish a manufacturing facility in Kancheepuram district.
- Centre has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by the ISRO.
- Tamil Nadu's Authoor betel leaves get Geographical Indication (GI) certificate.

- > Tamil Nadu bagged the Best Performing State award 2023 in cadaver organ donation .
- Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister "Udhayanidhi Stalin" has unveiled the trophy and the 'Bomman' mascot for the prestigious Asian Champions Trophy 2023 hockey tournament to be held in Chennai.
- > Muthamizh Selvi, first Tamil Nadu woman to scale Mt Everest.
- Tamil Nadu government declared Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state..
- > Tamil Nadu becomes first state to launch its own Climate Change Mission.
- > Tamil Nadu govt to launch five-year Tamil Nadu Millet Mission.
- In a first of its kind initiative in India, the Government of Tamil Nadu announced the 'Nilgiri Tahr Project'.

Q. Consider the following statements with respect to the Veer Gatha Project

- 1. It aims to inspire school children to make them aware of the stories about the National Heroes.
- 2. It is launched by the Ministry of Defence in coordination with the Ministry of Education.
- 3. The Project will be implemented only in the schools in Tier II cities in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All Three

**D)** None of the above

#### Answer: B

- Recently over 1.36 crore school students from across the country participated in Veer Gatha Project 3.0 that aims to disseminate the acts of bravery of the Gallantry Awardees to school students.
- ✓ It aims to inspire school children to make them aware of the stories about the National Heroes and the brave hearts to disseminate their acts of bravery and life stories.
- The Students are encouraged to take part in a variety of activities such as the framing of poems, paragraphs, and essays, the painting competition.
- ✓ Project Veer Gatha was instituted under Gallantry Awards Portal (GAP) in 2021.

- ✓ 2 editions of the Veer Gatha Project (Edition-I and Edition-II) have been conducted in 2021 and 2022 respectively.
- ✓ Veer Gatha Project 3.0 is launched by the Ministry of Defence in coordination with the Ministry of Education.
- ✓ The project will be open to all schools in all States and Union Territories.
- ✓ The best project will be rewarded nationally by the Ministry of Defence on the forthcoming Republic Day.
- Q. Consider the following statements with respect to 'A to Zero ASEAN Summit'
  - 1. The summit is associated with Net Zero Targets of the ASEAN countries.
  - 2. This year the summit was hosted by India.
  - 3. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is in charge of achieving Net Zero Targets in India. How many of the statements given above are correct?
  - A) Only one B) Only two
  - C) All Three D) None of the above

#### Answer: B

- ✓ A to Zero ASEAN Summit
- ✓ The A to Zero ASEAN Summit was recently held at Malaysia to Accelerate Net Zero Pathways across Asia.
- ✓ AtoZero, or Accelerate to Net Zero, is a new series of events.
- ✓ The events brings together key decision makers and change makers to comprehensively explore pathways, policies and business opportunities that will catalyse an acceleration of net zero pathways.
- ✓ The summit was held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) was representative from India that participated in the summit.
- ✓ IREDA advocated for Research and Innovation to drive Green Hydrogen Growth.
- The Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change is responsible for achieving net zero targets in India.
- Q. Mundra Port, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?
  - A) Kerala B) Maharashtra
  - C) Karnataka D) Gujarat

#### Answer : D

- Mundra Port, the flagship facility of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, recently completed 25 years of operations.
- ✓ <u>About Mundra Port:</u>
- ✓ It is the largest private port and the largest container port in India.
- ✓ Location: It is located on the north shores of the Gulf of Kutch, near Mundra, Kutch district, Gujarat.
- ✓ It is a deep-draft, all-weather port.
- ✓ It is also a special economic zone (SEZ).
- ✓ As much as 33 per cent of India's container traffic flows through the port.
- ✓ Ownership: It is run by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ), which is India's largest commercial ports operator and accounts for nearly one-fourth of the country's cargo movement
- ✓ Handling Capacity:
- ✓ With a capacity of 260 MMT, the port handles over 155 MMT (FY 2022-23), which constitutes nearly 11% of India's maritime cargo.
- ✓ The port has 26 berths and two single-point moorings, which allow it to accommodate a wide range of vessels.
- ✓ The port handles a wide variety of cargo, including containers, dry bulk, break bulk, liquid cargo, and automobiles.

#### Q. Which Countries Signed a MoU to Boost Investment and Collaboration in Industry?

A) India and Qatar

**B) India and UAE** 

C) India and Sudan D) India and Bahrain

#### Answer: B

- ✓ India and the United Arab Emirates have taken a significant step towards strengthening their partnership in sustainable industrial development and advanced technologies.
- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was officially inked in Abu Dhabi, solidifying the commitment to collaborative efforts in areas such as supply chain resilience, clean energy technology, healthcare, space, Industry 4.0, and industrial standards
- ✓ To enhance supply chain resilience, the UAE and India will collaborate to identify opportunities for raw material supply and share best practices in industrial enablement and incentivization

- Q. Who has launched Navy's updated indigenous programme Swavalamban 2.0?
  - A) Amit Shah
  - C) J. P. Nadda

B) Nitin GadkariD) Rajnath Singh

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh launched the Navy's updated indigenous programme Swavalamban 2.0, the two-day seminar of Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO), which commenced in New Delhi on October 04, 2023.
- The main highlight was the release of the fifth Positive Indigenisation List of Department of Military Affairs (DMA) comprising 98 items.
- Highly complex systems, sensors, weapons and ammunition have been included in the list. All these items will be procured from indigenous sources as per provisions given in Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 in staggered timeline.
- ✓ Shri Rajnath Singh also launched 76 challenges for the industry under 10th Defence India Start-up Challenges (DISC 10) & DISC 10 PRIME of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and five problem statements under iDEX for Fauji.
- ✓ In addition, two INDUS X challenges under 'INDUS-X Mutual Promotion of Advanced Collaborative Technologies' (IMPACT) challenges jointly finalised by iDEX and United States Department of Defense (US DoD) were launched by the Raksha Mantri
- ✓ He also released the Indian Navy's updated Indigenisation Roadmap 'Swavlamban 2.0'. A special interactive session for the industry to explain the nuances of the roadmap is planned on Day 2 of the seminar

**B) 30%** 

D) 40%

- Q. Madhya Pradesh has announced \_\_\_\_\_reservation for women in Government Jobs.
  - A) 25%

**C)** 35%

Answer : C

- Madhya Pradesh government issued a notification for providing 35% reservation for women in recruitment, barring the forest department.
- The government has introduced an amendment to the Madhya Pradesh Civil Services (Special Provision for Appointment of Women) Rules, 1997 to provide 35% reservation for women in the state.

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32

- ✓ Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan recently announced that 35% of vacancies in police and other government jobs will be filled by women.
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh was the first state to introduce 50 per cent reservation for women in elections to panchayats and urban bodies. It also has a 30% reservation for women in the police. The state also offers concessional tariffs for registry of property in case it is in a woman's name.

#### Q. NITI Aayog has Organized first State Workshop On Women-Led Development In Which State?

A) Goa

B) Karnataka

C) Rajasthan

D) Gujarat

#### Answer : A

- ✓ The inaugural edition of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) NITI Aayog State Workshop Series on Enabling Women-led Development through Entrepreneurship was organized at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) Auditorium, Goa on 3rd October 2023.
- The workshop was held in collaboration with the Government of Goa with a focus on the western region of the country.
- ✓ A Gathering of Change-Makers : The workshop recorded over 500 participants, including women entrepreneurs, local self-help groups (SHGs) and clusters, government officials, industry representatives, incubators/accelerators, financial institutions, philanthropic foundations, and more. The primary focus was deliberating on a hub-and-spoke model aimed at extending women-led development to grassroots levels, covering the last mile.
- ✓ Goa State Vision 2047 : Dr. Pramod Sawant, Honorable Chief Minister, Government of Goa, stated that the Goa State Vision 2047 will be prepared with help from NITI Aayog
- The launch of the first two cohorts under WEP's Award to Reward (ATR) initiative. The first cohort titled WEP-Unnati is accepting applications from green entrepreneurs pan-India. The second cohort titled WeNurture would be led by Atal Incubation Centre Goa Institute of Management.

### GOA IN NEWS 2023

- ➢ Goa CM Pramod Sawant launches Griha Adhar scheme to empower Goan homemakers.
- > Goa has become the first Indian state to offer free in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment.
- ▶ GI tags for Goan mangoes and bebinca, crafts from Rajasthan and U.P.

- The products are 'Jalesar Dhatu Shilp' (a metal craft), 'Goa Mankurad Mango', 'Goan Bebinca', 'Udaipur Koftgari Metal Craft', 'Bikaner Kashidakari Craft', 'Jodhpur Bandhej Craft', and 'Bikaner Usta Kala Craft'.
- > 'India's First Village Atlas' Is Of Mayem In Goa.
- The tourism department of the Goa government is set to hold the 'Heritage Festival 2023' from April 28 to 30 at Saligao village in North Goa.
- Bharti Institute of Public Policy, a renowned think tank under the Indian School of Business (ISB), and the Government of Goa have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a knowledge partnership.
- The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, Shri Girish Chandra Murmu, holds the position of Chair of the Supreme Audit Institutions-20 (SAI20) Engagement Group during India's G20 Presidency. The SAI20 Summit is scheduled to take place in Goa from 12th to 14th June 2023.
- Union Cabinet has approved the naming of Greenfield International Airport at Goa's Mopa as Manohar International Airport after former Defence Minister and Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar.
- > Purple, First Inclusion Festival of India starts in Goa.
- > Goa Manohar International Airport wins best sustainable greenfield airport award.
- > Government of Goa has launched the Vision for All School Eye Health program.
- The first Prime Minister GatiShakti regional workshop for the Western and Central Zone was held in Goa.
- > India's second longest cable-stayed eight-lane Zuari Bridge opens in Goa.
- > 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference begins in Goa.
- > Goa Statehood Day 2023 observed on 30th May.
- > This year Goa celebrates its 36th anniversary of statehood.

Q. Nokia has launched first-of-its-kind 6G Lab in Which City in India?

A) Mumbai

B) New Delhi

C) Hyderabad

D) Bengaluru

Answer : D

- ✓ Nokia launches first-of-its-kind 6G Lab in India; research areas will include foundational 6G technologies like Network as a Sensor, Network Exposure and Automation.
- ✓ The 6G Lab is milestone for Nokia in contributing to the 'Bharat 6G Vision,' which aims to position India as a key global contributor to the design, development and implementation of 6G technology; the project also highlights Nokia's commitment to the Indian market.
- ✓ Bengaluru, India Nokia (5 October 2023) announced that it has established a 6G Lab at its Global R&D center in Bangalore, India
- ✓ Nokia's 6G lab supports the Government of India's 'Bharat 6G Vision,' introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, that envisions a key global role for India in the standardization, development, and implementation of 6G technology. The Lab will function as a platform for collaboration for industry stakeholders and facilitate the testing of innovative solutions while establishing their potential for commercialization.
- ✓ The Lab includes a setup to research 'Network as a Sensor' technology that enables the network to sense objects, people and movement without the need for on-board sensors.
- ✓ This work aims to form a common view and direction for 6G, including 6G Hexa-X and Hexa-X-II, the first and second phase of the European 6G Flagship. Nokia is also a founding member of the Next G Alliance which is helping to drive the 6G ecosystem in North America and coordinating the German Lighthouse project 6G ANNA
- ✓ Nokia
- ✓ Founded : 1865
- ✓ Founders Fredrik Idestam, Leo Mechelin & Eduard Polón
- ✓ Headquarters : Espoo, Finland
- ✓ Chairman : Sari Baldauf
- ✓ President & CEO: Pekka Lundmark
- Q. In which city of India will the 16th Agricultural Science Congress be organized?
  - A) Kochi

B) V

C) Patna

Answer : A

B) Varanasi

D) Chandigarh

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35

- ✓ Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Minister Parshottam Rupala will inaugurate the 16th Agricultural Science Congress in Kochi, Kerala on October 10.
- ✓ It should be organized by the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

#### Q. Who has been appointed by Jio Mart as its new brand ambassador?

- A) Ranveer Kapoor B) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
- C) Sachin Tendulkar D) Virat Kohli

#### Answer : B

- ✓ JioMart has recently appointed former Indian cricket team captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its brand ambassador.
- ✓ Jio Mart is continuously trying to increase its presence in the Indian e-commerce market. Along with this, the company has also started a new campaign named Jio Utsav
- Q. Which State Chief Minister has Declared 'Dolphin' As State Aquatic Animal?

A) Gujarat	B) Tamil Nadu
------------	---------------

C) Maharashtra D) Uttar Pradesh

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has declared the Gangetic Dolphin as the state aquatic animal.
- CM Yogi emphasised the need to maintain the purity of ponds and rivers. These dolphins are found in rivers like Ganga, Yamuna, Chambal, Ghaghra, Rapti, and Gerua. The estimated population of Gangetic dolphins in Uttar Pradesh is estimated at around 2000.
- ✓ Teams of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Forest Department have been recently counting dolphins with the help of GPS in Garh Ganga at Hapur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- Regarding the ongoing dolphin census in Garh Ganga, DFO Sanjay Kumar Mall said, "This is a campaign named Meri Ganga Meri Dolphin 2023 campaign.
- The DFO also said that in the old data, there were 22 dolphins counted in 2015, 30 dolphins in 2016, 32 dolphins in 2017, 33 dolphins in 2018, 35 dolphins in 2019 and 41 dolphins in 2020.

- Q. Who has inaugurated National Tribal Festival 'Aadi Mahotsav' in Jharkhand?
  - A) Arjun Munda
  - C) Ashwini Vaishnaw

B) Raghubar Das D) Pralhad Joshi

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Shri Arjun Munda inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav the National Tribal Festival at Jamshedpur, Jharkhand on 7th Oct 2023.
- ✓ The mega event is being organized by the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, from 7th – 16th October 2023.
- ✓ He appreciated the live demonstrations by women tribal artisans making their artefacts. The Minister expressed gratitude towards the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi for his vision of popularising tribal products by presenting them to visiting dignitaries during the G20 Summit.
- ✓ The festival provides an opportunity to meet the artisans, learn about their way of life and get acquainted with the tribal culture and traditions. This Aadi Mahotsav completes the feeling of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', the Minister added.
- ✓ Aadi Mahotsav, an annual celebration of tribal entrepreneurship, craft, culture, cuisine, and commerce, serves as a vital platform to display the rich and diverse heritage of tribes from across the nation. This year the festival will highlight the talents of 336 tribal artisans and artists, including Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and Van Dhan Vikas Kendra (VDVK) beneficiaries.
- ✓ This event will feature 30 artisans' stalls, around 11 VDVKs' stalls and 5 cuisine stalls from Jharkhand. The event will successfully demonstrate 68 artisans' stalls from other states including 15 cuisine stalls.

#### Q. When is World Post Day celebrated every year?

- A) 6 October
- C) 8 October

B) 7 OctoberD) 9 October

- Answer : D
- ✓ World Post Day is celebrated every year on 9 October.
- ✓ This day is celebrated as the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in the Swiss capital Bern.
- ✓ World Post Day was started by the UPU in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.

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37

✓ 'National Postal Week' is being organized in India from 9 October to 15 October.

<b>Q</b> .	World Mental Health Day is marked globally on_
------------	--

- A) 9 October B) 10 October
- C) 8 October D) 7 October

#### Answer: B

- ✓ World Mental Health Day is observed every year on 10 October globally for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma.
- ✓ It was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health, a global mental health organization.
- ✓ The theme for World Mental Health Day 2023 is "Mental health is a universal human right,"

#### Q. When is the National Postal Day celebrated in India?

A) 8 October	B) 10 October
C) 9 October	D) 11 October

#### Answer: B

- In India, the National Postal Day is celebrated annually on 10 October, as an extension of World Post Day, which is celebrated on 9 October.
- ✓ National Post Day aims to commemorate the role played by the Indian postal department for the past 150 years, which was founded in 1854 by Lord Dalhousie.
- Q. The World Post Day is marked to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). Where is the headquarter of UPU located?
  - A) Vienna, Austria
  - B) Bern, Switzerland
  - C) Rome, Italy
  - D) Paris, France

#### Answer : B

✓ October 9 was chosen as it marks the anniversary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), which was created in 1874 in Switzerland.

Q. How many years have India and Tanzania prepared a roadmap for defense cooperation?

A) 2 years

B) 3 years

C) 4 years

D) 5 years

#### Answer : D

- ✓ India and Tanzania have prepared a 5-year roadmap for defense cooperation.
- ✓ This decision was taken during talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan in New Delhi.
- ✓ This is Suluhu's first visit to India after assuming the post of President.
- ✓ This is the first visit of a President from Tanzania to India in the last 8 years.
- ✓ Tanzania is an East African country.
- ✓ Tanzania
- ✓ Capital : Dodoma
- ✓ Currency : shilling
- ✓ President : Samia Suluhu Hassan
- ✓ Prime Minister : Kassim Majaliwa

### SIGNS MoU IN NEWS 2023

- India, Italy sign defence agreement.
- India and Tanzania elevate ties to Strategic Partnership; Agree on 5 year roadmap for defence cooperation.
- > India, Tanzania to sign 15 agreements with eye on USD 10 billion trade.
- India And Saudi Arabia Tie Up For Green Hydrogen.
- > India And Saudi Arabia Sign Agreement On Cooperation In Energy Sector.
- > India, New Zealand Sign MoU To Enhance Cooperation In Civil Aviation.
- India and Trinidad and Tobago have entered a partnership by signing an MoU to share INDIA STACK.
- > India, Moldova agree to sign MoU for cooperation in agriculture
- India, UAE sign MoU on linking of India's Unified Payments Interface with Instant Payment Platform of UAE.

- > India, Panama sign MoU on electoral cooperation.
- > India and Singapore extend MoU on cooperation for 5 years.
- Israel signed an agreement with India to enhance technological advancements and sustainable practices cooperation in the fields of water and agriculture.
- > India and US To Establish Monitoring Group to Boost High-Tech Trade and Tech Partnership.
- > India and Australia Sign Agreements on Migration and Green Hydrogen Task Force.
- > India, Israel sign MoU for industrial research and development cooperation.
- > NET Zero' Innovation Virtual Centre to be jointly created by India-UK.
- > India, UK sign agreement to collaborate on science and innovation.
- > Nepal and India to Sign Agreement for Cross-Border Digital Payments.
- > India and Romania sign first Defence Cooperation Agreement to strengthen bilateral relations.
- > India, US to sign memorandum of understanding on semiconductors.
- > Australia, India agree on strengthening economic, defence ties.

#### Q. The Union Cabinet has approved the creation of which new autonomous body?

- A) 'Mera Bharat, Mera Desh'
- B) 'Mera Yuva Bharat'
- C) 'Mera Gavn, Mera Desh'
- D) 'Yuva Desh'

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Cabinet approves establishment of an autonomous body Mera Yuva Bharat
- ✓ Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) to focus on Youth led development
- ✓ The Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) will be launched on 31st October, 2023 on National Unity Day.
- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved establishment of an autonomous body Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) to serve as an overarching enabling mechanism powered by technology for youth development and youth led development and provide equitable access to youth to actualize their aspirations and build Viksit Bharat across the entire spectrum of the Government.
- ✓ Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), an autonomous body will benefit the youth in the age group of 15-29 years, in line with the definition of 'Youth' in the National Youth Policy. In case of programme components

specifically meant for the adolescents, the beneficiaries will be in the age group of 10-19 years. Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) will help in Setting the focus of the Government on Youth Led development and to make the Youth "active drivers" of development and not merely "passive recipients". The Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) will be launched on 31st October, 2023 on National Unity Day.

- ✓ The primary objective of Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) is to make it a whole of Government platform for youth development.
- ✓ India's youth are to play a critical role in defining the future of the nation -especially at the pivotal juncture of India's 75 years of independence, as we embark on a paradigm shifting development journey over the next 25 years of building an Amrit Bharat by 2047.
- Vision 2047 requires a framework that can bring rural youth, urban youth and Rurban youth under a single platform.
- Q. Who is the richest Indian according to Hurun India Rich List 2023?
  - A) Gautam Adani
  - B) Adar Poonawala
  - C) Ratan Tata
  - D) Mukesh Ambani

#### Answer : D

- ✓ According to Hurun India Rich List 2023, Mukesh Ambani has overtaken Gautam Adani to become the richest Indian. During this period, Mukesh Ambani's wealth has increased from ₹165,100 crore in 2014 to approximately ₹808,700 crore.
- ✓ Hurun India and 360 Wealth have recently released the 360 One Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2023.
- ✓ Adani is in second place with assets worth ₹474,800 crore.
- Zoho Corp. co-founder Radha Vembu has become the richest self-made Indian woman surpassing Falguni Nayar, founder and CEO of online beauty and fashion retailer Nykaa, according to a report by Hurun India.



Q. Who has been appointed as Director (Industrial Systems & Products) of BHEL?

- A) Rajat Aggarwal
- B) Bani Verma
- C) Deepak Verma
- D) Ajay Kapoor

#### Answer: B

- Public sector company Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has appointed Bani Verma as Director (Industrial Systems and Products) of the company.
- ✓ BHEL is the largest power generation equipment manufacturer in the Indian central public sector.

#### **BHEL IN NEWS 2023**

- > BHEL has appointed Bani Verma as Director (Industrial Systems and Products) of the company.
- ۶
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) said that Tajinder Gupta has taken charge as Director (Power).
- > BHEL develops India's first catalyst set to curb NOx emissions in power plants
- State-owned engineering firm Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has successfully manufactured the first set of indigenous SCR Catalysts for limiting NOx emissions from thermal power plants.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed an MoU with Greenstat Hydrogen India Pvt. Ltd. for "potential collaboration opportunities in Green Hydrogen and derivatives in the Hydrogen Value Chain.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed MoUs with Coal India Limited (CIL) and NLC India Limited (NLCIL) for setting up Coal Gasification based plants.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL):
- > It is a major Central Public Sector Enterprise in India.
- It has the distinction of being the largest manufacturer of power generation equipment under government ownership.
- BHEL works as a part of the Government of India and comes under the purview of the Ministry of Heavy Industry.
- Establishment 1956
- Headquarters New Delhi
- Q. The Government of India has started the residential education scheme 'Shreshtha' for which category of students?
  - A) Scheduled Tribe
  - **B) Scheduled Caste**
  - C) Other Backward Classes
  - D) For all categories of students

Answer : C

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43

- ✓ For the socio-economic upliftment and comprehensive development of Scheduled Caste students, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched 'Residential Education Scheme for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas' (SHRESHTA).
- ✓ This scheme will be implemented in two different ways. Around 3,000 Scheduled Caste students, whose parents' annual income falls within the range of Rs 2.5 lakh, will be selected through a national level examination conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) every year.
- ✓ What is the scheme 'SHRESHTA'?
- ✓ About:
- ✓ Its basic motive is to uplift the socio-economic status of the Scheduled Castes peoples by providing high quality education to their children in best private residential schools in the country.
- ✓ Admission will be provided in Class 9 and Class 11 of CBSE affiliated private schools.
- ✓ Objective:
- ✓ To make easy delivery of the Governmental initiatives and schemes.
- ✓ To create a conducive atmosphere for the 'Scheduled Castes' socioeconomic advancement and overall growth.
- ✓ Collaborating with volunteer groups to bridge the gap in service-deprived Scheduled Castes (SCs) dominating regions in the education sector.
- ✓ To enable bright Scheduled Caste (SC) students with high-quality education so that they can pursue future opportunities.
- ✓ Eligibility:
- ✓ The students, belonging to Scheduled Castes, studying in class 8th and 10th in the current academic year (2021-22) are eligible for availing the benefits of the scheme.
- ✓ Students from the SC community who come from a marginalized income group with an annual income of up to Rs.2.5 lakh are eligible.
- ✓ The selection will be done through a transparent mechanism which is known as National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA (NETS).
- ✓ It will be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) for admission in class 9th and 11th.

Q. How many sites have been identified by the Culture Ministry for cleanliness across the country under the Special Cleanliness Campaign 3.0?

A) 333	<b>B) 400</b>
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C) 449 D) 499

#### Answer : C

- ✓ The Ministry of Culture has identified 449 sites across the country for cleanliness under the Special Cleanliness Campaign 3.0.
- ✓ The first phase of this campaign was run from September 15 to September 30, 2023.
- ✓ The second phase of Special Cleanliness Campaign 3.0 has been started from 02 October. Under the second phase, 449 sites have been identified across the country for cleanliness.

#### Q. What code name has Israel given to its ongoing fight against Hamas?

A) Operation Gaza	<b>B) Operation Iron Man</b>
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C) Operation Iron Sword D) Operation Attack

#### Answer : C

- ✓ Israel has named the ongoing fight against Hamas as Operation Iron Sword. Hamas is a Palestinian militant group that controls some areas of the Gaza Strip.
- ✓ The Gaza Strip is a 41 km (25 mi) long and 10 km wide area between Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea.
- ✓ About 2.3 million people live here, which is one of the highest population density areas in the world.
- Q. Who is the President of Tanzania who has become the first woman to receive an honorary doctorate degree from JNU?
  - A) Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
- B) Cindy Kiro

C) Susan Dougan

D) Samia Suluhu Hasan

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan was awarded an honorary doctorate by Jawaharlal Nehru University, becoming the first woman to be honored with the honour. Samia is currently on her four-day visit to India. Tanzania is an East African country, its capital is Dodoma.
- $\checkmark$  IIT Madras to set up its first international campus in Tanzania .

- ✓ IIT Delhi to set-up their first global campus in Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- ✓ IIT Delhi is the second IIT to announce setting up an offshore campus after IIT Madras.

#### Q. Who has inaugurated the 'India NCX 2023' ceremony?

- A) Anurag Thakur B) Rahul Anand
- C) Ajay Kumar Sood D) Rajeev Sinha

#### Answer : C

- ✓ Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, inaugurated 'Bharat NCX 2023'.
- ✓ The second edition of the National Cyber Security Exercise, known as 'Bharat NCX 2023,' has commenced as a hybrid exercise over a 12-day period starting from October 9.
- ✓ This crucial program is conducted by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) in collaboration with Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and is aimed at providing training to senior management and technical personnel from government agencies, critical sector organizations, and both public and private entities.
- ✓ The exercise focuses on contemporary cyber threats, incident handling, and response strategies.
- Q. Which Indian men's doubles pair has secured the first position in the BWF rankings?

#### A) B.Sai Praneeth and Srikant Kidambi B) Satwik Sairaj and Chirag Shetty

C) Chirag Shetty and B Sai Praneeth D) Satwik Sairaj and B Sai Praneeth

#### Answer: B

- The star badminton men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty has secured the first
  position in the recently released BWF rankings.
- ✓ He has achieved this ranking after winning the gold medal in men's doubles in the Asian Games held in Hangzhou, China.
- ✓ Satwik and Chirag have collected a total of 92411 points from 18 tournaments this year.
- List of titles achieved by Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty in 2023:
- ✓ Indian duo Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the world number 1 doubles pair days after winning Asian Games 2023 gold.
- ✓ Star men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty earned India's first-ever badminton gold medal at the Asian Games 2023.

- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won their fourth men's doubles title of the year by winning the Korea Open badminton tournament.
- ✓ Indian badminton player Satwiksairaj Rankireddy created a new Guinness World Record for the fastest hit in badminton during the Korea Open 2023.
- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty created history by becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championships.
- ✓ Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023.

#### Q. In which state will the 37th National Games be organized?

A) Bihar	B) Assam
C) Uttar Pradesh	D) Goa

#### Answer : D

- ✓ This time the 37th National Games is being organized in Goa. Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant said that the state is fully prepared to organize it.
- ✓ The Mascot for 37th National Games, named MOGA was unveiled in Goa by its Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant recently. The mascot is a representation of Indian Bison. The word Moga is derived from Konkani language, meaning Love.
- This time, 43 sports competitions will be organized in the 37th National Games. It will be organized from 26 October to 9 November.
- ✓ The last National Games were organized in Gujarat in which 33 sports were included.
- ✓ Players from all 28 states and 8 union territories of India will participate in it.
- The 37th National Games will mark the debut of several new sports disciplines on the medal stage, including beach football, roll ball, golf, sepaktakraw, sqay martial arts, kalliyarapattu, and pencak silat.
- Q. With whom has car manufacturer Maruti Suzuki India signed an agreement for financial solutions related to dealers?
  - A) Axis Bank

B) State Bank of India

C) IDBI Bank

D) Punjab National Bank

Answer : C

- ✓ The country's largest car manufacturer Maruti Suzuki India has signed an agreement with IDBI Bank for financial solutions related to dealers.
- ✓ Maruti Suzuki India said in a statement that this deal will benefit more than 4,000 Maruti Suzuki sales outlets across the country.
- ✓ IDBI Bank Limited is a financial bank owned by LIC and the Government of India, it was established in 1964.

Q. In which district did UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveil the statue of freedom fighter Raja Rao?

A) Kanpur	B) Unnao
C) Varanasi	D) Moradabad

#### Answer : B

✓ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of development projects worth Rs 804 crore and also unveiled the statue of freedom fighter Raja Rao Rambaksh Singh in Unnao district of UP.

Q. ISRO's Flight Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1) is a crucial test for which mission?

A) Aditya L-1	B) Mangalyaan
C) Chandrayaan-3	D) Gaganyaan

#### Answer : D

- ✓ The Flight Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1) is a part of the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) human space mission, Gaganyaan.
- ✓ The purpose of the mission is to demonstrate the ability to launch humans into low earth orbit and safely bring them back to Earth.
- ✓ The TV-D1 is a single-stage liquid rocket that carries the Crew Module (CM) and Crew Escape Systems (CES).
- Q. Which is the second state after Bihar to conduct a caste survey?
  - A) RajasthanB) Madhya Pradesh
  - C) Uttar Pradesh D) Uttarakhand

#### Answer : A

- Rajasthan government has issued an order to conduct a caste survey in the state. It will become the second state in India to carry out such a survey, after Bihar.
- ✓ Bihar had previously unveiled the results of its caste survey on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, revealing that Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs) constituted 63 percent of the state's total population.

#### Q. When is the International Day of Girl Child observed?

A) 09 OctoberB) 12 OctoberC) 11 OctoberD) 08 October

#### Answer : C

- ✓ International Day of the Girl Child (also known as Day of Girls and the International Day of Girls) is observed annually on October 11 since 2012.
- ✓ This international observance day was declared by the United Nations to raise awareness of issues facing girls internationally surrounding education, nutrition, child marriage, legal and medical rights.
- ✓ The theme for 2022 International Day of the Girl Child is "Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being."
- ✓ Don't Confused
- ✓ National Girl Child Day : 24 January
- ✓ International Day of the Girl Child : 11 October

Q. Which of the following bank has become the first lender to offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'?

A) Axis Bank

C) HDFC Bank

#### Answer : B

✓ Yes Bank has taken a significant leap forward in the digital commerce space by introducing the ONDC Network Gift Card. This move makes YES Bank the first bank in the country to issue such a card.

**B) Yes Bank** 

**D) ICICI Bank** 

✓ In partnership with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), this initiative aims to transform the shopping experience for Indian consumers.

- ✓ The ONDC Network Gift Card is open for sponsorship and utilization by corporate and individual customers, enabling them to extend thoughtful gestures to their customers, employees, or for their loved ones. This card leverages the Rupay network and offers the flexibility to load up to Rs 10,000.
- ✓ The ONDC Network Gift Card is at the forefront of democratizing digital commerce. Unlike traditional gift cards that restrict usage to a specific brand or store, this concept empowers customers to utilize the gift card for purchasing products from any brand and any seller across a wide array of segments.
- ✓ This includes food, fashion, handicrafts, electronics, home essentials, health, and wellbeing. This groundbreaking approach eliminates the limitations that have traditionally been associated with gift cards and offers consumers unparalleled freedom of choice.

### YES BANK IN NEWS 2023

- > Yes Bank becomes first lender to offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'.
- > Yes bank partnered with fintech Zaggle for next-gen corporate credit card.
- > YES Bank goes live with UPI interoperability on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC).
- > Yes Bank Launches All-In-One 'IRIS' Mobile App.
- Reliance General Insurance becomes first insurer to accept Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) e-Rupee (e₹) in tie-up with YES Bank
- YES Bank announced the unveiling of its new logo, which forms part of its "refreshed brand identity." YES BANK launches new logo, to roll out campaign 'Life Ko Banao Rich'.
- YES Bank has collaborated with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to issue its first electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG).
- > Cashfree Payments partners with YES Bank to offer Global Collections service for exporters.
- Yes Bank is an Indian bank headquartered in Mumbai, India and was founded by Rana Kapoor and Ashok Kapoor in 2004.
- > YES BANK
- ➢ Founded : 2004
- Founder : Rana Kapoor and Ashok Kapoor
- > Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- > Chairman : Sunil Mehta
- MD & CEO : Prashant Kumar

> YES BANK launches new logo, to roll out campaign 'Life Ko Banao Rich'.

#### Q. Indian Navy and which bank have launched the 'Nav-eCash' card?

- A) Punjab National Bank
- B) State Bank of India
- C) Indian Overseas Bank D) Bank of Baroda

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Indian Navy and the State Bank of India have launched the 'Nav-eCash' card, a unique e-cash card that can work in both online and offline mode.
- ✓ India is leading the world with over 100 billion digital financial transactions being recorded annually and the number is steadily growing.
- ✓ This is a giant step as India eyes complete Self-reliance and digital transformation. The SBI Nav-eCash card will be implemented pan Navy.
- ✓ This system is ready for implementation in every domain where there are restrictions on real-time internet connectivity or internet usage or there is non-availability of internet due to being in a remote location

Q. Who is the author of the book titled "The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success"?

- A) Vivek Agnihotri
- B) Rajesh Verma
- C) Shashi Kant D) Umesh Sinha

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Vivek Agnihotri, director of The Kashmir Files, has launched his latest book, "The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success" in Lucknow.
- ✓ He also directed a medical drama film 'The Vaccine War' in 2023.
- ✓ Dr. Balram Bhargava is the writer of the book on which the movie is based.
- ✓ Bhargava's book, 'Going Viral Making of Covaxin: The Inside Story', documents his experiences.

#### **FAMOUS BOOKS AND AUTHORS IN NEWS 2033**

- > The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success : Vivek Agnihotri
- Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow : Vinod Mankara
- ▶ "Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)" : A.K. Bhattacharya
- Master Residential Real Estate : Ashwinder R Singh.

- > The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life Ruskin Bond
- Ringside Vijay Darda
- > Guts Amidst Bloodbath: The Anshuman Gaekwad Narrative Aditya Bhushan
- > "The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces" :Feroze Varun Gandhi.
- > Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise" : Amitabh Kant .
- Milk and Honey : Rupi Kaur .
- > Collective Spirit, Concrete Action : Shashi Shekhar Vempati.
- "Reflections" : Narayanan Vaghul.
- > Jaidip Mukerjea : Autobiography titled "Crosscourt".
- > 'Sachin@50'- Celebrating A Maestro : Boria Majumdar.
- "The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation": Pattabhi Ram & Sabyasachee Dash.
- > "Gandhi: Siyasat aur Sampradaiykta" : Piyush Babele.
- > "Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire" : Nandini Das.
- ➢ "War & Women" : Dr MA Hasan.
- > 'Why can't Elephants be Red?' : Vani Tripathi Tikoo.
- > Phoolange : Lekhnath Chhetri.
- > Pyre : Perumal Murugan.
- Ghulam Nabi Azad's Autobiography 'Azaad'.
- ➢ "A Matter of the Heart: Education in India" : Anurag Behar.
- > Snakes in the Ganga: Breaking India 2.0 : Shri Rajiv Malhotra and Vijaya Viswanathan.
- > "Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform" : Rachna Biswat Rawat.
- Ambedkar a Life : Shashi Tharoor.
- > "The World: A Family History of Humanity," : Simon Sebag Montefiore.
- "Revolutionaries In India's Freedom Struggle:" : Sanjeev Sanyal.
- > "India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn" : Ashwin Fernandes.
- > "The Light We Carry Overcoming In Uncertain
- > Times" : Michelle Obama.
- > Brave Hearts of Bharat, Vignettes from Indian
- History : Vikram Sampath.

- ➢ Freedom at Midnight, "City of Joy" : Dominique Lapierre.
- > Forks in the Road My Days at RBI and Beyond : Chakravarthi Rangarajan.
- ▹ 'The World: A Family History' : Simon Sebag.
- > Winning the Inner Battle : Shane Watson.
- > Nuclearization of Asia : Rene Naba.
- > From dependence to Self-Reliance : Bimal Jalan.
- > The Philosophy of Modern Song : Bob Dylan
- > India's Struggle for Independence Gandhian Era : P. Jyothimani.
- "As Good as My Word" : KM Chandrasekhar..
- 'Victory City' : Salman Rushdie
- "The Poverty of Political Economics" : Meghnad Desai

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched multiple projects worth ₹5,000 crore in which state recently?

A) Rajasthan	B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Uttar Pradesh	D) Bihar

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched multiple projects worth ₹5,000 crore in Rajasthan and asserted that they will lead to further development of the state.
- ✓ Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated multiple development projects in sectors like road, rail, aviation, health and higher education.
- ✓ The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of various projects, including a 350-bedded trauma centre and critical care hospital block at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jodhpur, and seven critical care blocks under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) to be developed across the state.
- ✓ The centre at the AIIMS will be developed at a cost of more than ₹350 crore
- ✓ The facility will bring a holistic approach in the management of trauma and emergency cases by providing multidisciplinary and comprehensive care to patients while critical care blocks across Rajasthan will augment district-level critical care infrastructure.

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53

- ✓ Modi also laid the foundation stone for the development of a state-of-the-art new terminal building at the Jodhpur airport costing Rs 480 crore and inaugurated the IIT Jodhpur campus as well.
- ✓ The new terminal building will be developed in an area of about 24,000 sqm and will be equipped to provide services to 2,500 passengers during peak hours. It will cater to 35 lakh passengers annually, improving connectivity and boosting tourism in the region.
- ✓ Among other projects, he laid the foundation stone of multiple road development projects to be built at a cumulative cost of about ₹1,475 crore and also flagged off two new train services in the state.

#### **RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched multiple projects worth ₹5,000 crore in Rajasthan and asserted that they will lead to further development of the state.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has announced the formation of three new districts in the state — Malpura, Sujangarh, and Kuchman City. Rajasthan will now have 53 districts.
- Rajasthan government has issued an order to conduct a caste survey in the state. It will become the second state in India to carry out such a survey, after Bihar.
- Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Limited, a Navratna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSE) under the Ministry of Coal, has emerged victorious in securing an 810 MW Solar PV project capacity from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited (RRVUNL).
- > Prime Minister recently offered prayers at the Sanwariya Seth Temple in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.
- NABARD has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to the Rajasthan government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24.
- Noor Shekhawat became the first transgender person in Rajasthan to be issued a birth certificate with the gender recorded as transgender.
- For the first time in India, the Rajasthan government introduced the Rajasthan Platform Based Gig Workers Bill, 2023.
- Rajasthan Assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state.
- Rajasthan government is set to take stringent measures against recruitment exam paper leaks by introducing a bill in the upcoming assembly session.

- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 11 National Highway projects worth Rs 5600 crore in Pratapgarh, Rajasthan.
- Rajasthan government has sanctioned Rs 13.48 crore to promote religious tourism at Nagaur, Jaisalmer, and Alwar regions of the state.
- PM Modi Launches Projects Worth Rs 5,500 Crore In Rajasthan, Including 114 Km Long Six-Lane Udaipur-Shamlaji Section Of NH-48.
- Lithium reserves have been discovered in Rajasthan's Degana following the recent discovery in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Jal Jan Abhiyan virtually on Abu Road in the Sirohi district of Rajasthan.

Q. Outlook Group has launched its highly anticipated retirement planning event "40After40" in association with which bank?

A) IDFC First Bank B) Bank of Baroda

C) Canara Bank

D) Indian Overseas Bank

#### Answer : A

- ✓ IDFC FIRST Bank and Outlook Group present "Outlook Money 40After40"
- ✓ Outlook Group has launched its highly anticipated retirement planning event "40After40" in association with IDFC FIRST Bank.
- The plan is to provide invaluable insights and expert guidance to individuals, helping them make informed decisions to secure a prosperous retirement.
- ✓ It's a one-stop shop for all conversations around timely retirement, panel discussions, chats, masterclasses, interactions with planners, product presentations, etc.
- Q. Which state government has announced 10 percent reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in the judicial services and state-run law colleges and universities?

A) Bihar	B) Haryana
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C) Chhattisgarh D) Rajasthan

Answer : A

✓ Bihar govt announces 10% reservation for EWS in judicial services

- ✓ Bihar government has announced 10 percent reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in the judicial services and state-run law colleges and universities.
- ✓ The announcement came just a day after the government released the first set of data from state's caste survey.
- ✓ The cabinet approved amendments in the guidelines of the State Judicial Services, 1951, allowing 10 percent reservation for EWS category in judicial services and also in state-run law institutes and universities.
- ✓ According to the data, Extremely Backward Communities (EBCs) account for 36.01% of the population, while Backward Classes comprise an additional 27.12%.
- Q. Which foundation has announced the Innovators for India initiative to provide support to highimpact incubators under its flagship program Livelihood and Entrepreneurship Accelerator Programme?

A) IDFC Foundation	<b>B) ICICI Foundation</b>
C) SBI Foundation	D) Axis Foundation

#### Answer: B

- ✓ SBI Foundation, under its flagship program, SBIF LEAP (Livelihood and Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program) has announced the Innovators for Bharat initiative to provide support to high-impact incubators.
- ✓ This initiative will offer support to startups working to address pressing development challenges in the country.
- ✓ Under this initiative, the SBI Foundation has recently partnered with Villgro, a social enterprise incubator, for a new program, 'Innovators For Bharat: Climate Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods'.
- ✓ The program, designed to provide incubation support to 15 high-potential startups, aims to create a significant impact on agricultural livelihoods, reduce agriculture's climate footprint and enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate change.

#### Q. Which state has become the fourth state to implement an E-Cabinet System in the state?

A) Nagaland

B) Meghalaya

C) Chhattisgarh

D) Tripura

#### Answer : D

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha introduced the state's e-cabinet system, positioning Tripura as the fourth Indian state and the second in the Northeast region to adopt an e-cabinet system.

- ✓ The Chief Minister also presided over the first Council of Ministers meeting, conducted entirely without paper.
- ✓ After Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, and Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura became the fourth state to adopt the E-Cabinet system. Among the 28 states, Tripura now holds the fourth position.
- ✓ In Tripura, several departments have taken the initiative to implement the e-office, ensuring seamless governance. The primary objective of E-Office and E-Cabinet is to alleviate the challenges posed by managing extensive paper records
- Q. Which of the following has secured 810 MW Solar Photo Voltaic project capacity from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited (RRVUNL)?
  - A) Reliance Industries Limited
  - B) Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited
  - C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
  - D) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Limited, a Navratna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSE) under the Ministry of Coal, has emerged victorious in securing an 810 MW Solar PV project capacity from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited (RRVUNL).
- ✓ The entire 810 MW capacity was successfully acquired by NLCIL through a tender floated by RRVUNL in December 2022.
- ✓ The project is set to be developed at RRVUNL's 2000 MW Ultra Mega Solar Park in Pugal Tehsil, Bikaner District, Rajasthan.
- ✓ The land required for the project and the power evacuation system connected to the State Transmission Utility (STU) will be provided by RVUNL, streamlining the project's development timeline.
- ✓ Notably, this is the largest renewable energy project to be undertaken by NLC India Limited. Once completed, the total power project capacity in Rajasthan will reach 1.36 GW, including 1.1 GW of green power, promoting economies of scale and optimizing fixed costs.
- Benefitting from the abundant solar radiation in Rajasthan, the project is poised to achieve a higher Capacity Utilization Factor (CUF) and generate more than 50 billion units of green power.

Q. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has announced the formation of three new districts in the state — Malpura, Sujangarh, and Kuchman City. Rajasthan will now have how many districts?

A) 50	<b>B)</b> 51
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C) 52 D) 53

#### Answer : D

- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has announced the formation of three new districts in the state Malpura, Sujangarh, and Kuchman City. Rajasthan will now have 53 districts.
- ✓ The new districts were being created to meet the public demand and in accordance with the recommendations of a high-level committee.
- ✓ The state government had formed 17 new districts earlier in August this year
- Q. Mohammadreza Shadloui Chiyaneh emerged as the costliest player in the history of the Pro Kabaddi League auction after he was bought for Rs 2.35 crore by Puneri Paltan. He is from which country?

A) Saudi Arabia	B) Iran
C) UAE	D) Qatar

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Iran's Mohammadreza Shadloui Chiyaneh emerged as the costliest player in the history of the Pro Kabaddi League auction after he was bought for Rs 2.35 crore by Puneri Paltan. This made him the league's most expensive foreign player, overtaking Fazel Atrachali's previous price of ₹1.38 crore last year with Puneri Paltan.
- ✓ While India's Maninder Singh was roped in by Bengal Warriors for Rs 2.12 crore.
- ✓ A total of 137 matches will be played in the 10th edition of PKL. As many as 132 league stage matches will be followed by the playoff comprising five matches two eliminators, two semifinals and the final
- Q. The tenure of the president of the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) has been increased to how many years of age from 67 years earlier?
  - A) 75 years

B) 69 years

C) 74 years

b) 09 years

D) 70 years

#### Answer : D

 $\checkmark~$  GST Council hikes age limit for Appellate Tribunals' president

- ✓ The tenure of the president of the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) has been increased to 70 years of age from 67 years earlier, revealed the GST Council in its 52nd meeting.
- ✓ The Council also added that the members can hold their post till they attain the age of 67 years as opposed to 65 years earlier.
- ✓ The minimum age for the president and members has been set to 50 years by the Council. Finance Minister Niramala Sitharaman pointed out that the advocates should have a minimum experience of 10 years to become judicial members.
- ✓ The Council also provided a GST exemption on flour containing 70% of millet. The Council also decided to reduce the GST levied on molasses to 5% from 18% earlier. The Council also provided an exemption on alcohol for human consumption.

# Q. Which of the following has commissioned a mega warehouse facility in Delhi for storing over 1,000,000 engineering spares for aircraft maintenance?

- A) Akasha
- **B)** SpiceJet
- C) Air India
- D) IndiGo

#### Answer : C

- ✓ Air India has commissioned a mega warehouse facility in Delhi for storing over 1,000,000 engineering spares for aircraft maintenance.
- ✓ Spread across 54,000 square feet and located near Terminal 3, at Delhi Airport's cargo complex, the centralized warehousing facility will improve the turnaround time of flights operating out of Delhi.
- ✓ The facility will offer a one-stop solution for storing aircraft spares, tools, and ground support equipment ranging from hardware to sophisticated and complex avionics, hydraulics, structural, pneumatic, and mechanical components.
- This facility will not only boost Air India's fleet and operational efficiency but will also strengthen India's aviation ecosystem.
- ✓ The warehouse will offer us more proximate access to and better control over our aircraft spares enabling us to meet any engineering requirement promptly leading to improved punctuality of flights

# Q. Which country has launched USD 1 billion plan to coordinate the controlled descent of International Space Station (ISS) back to Earth?

A) Russia	B) China

C) USA D) India

#### Answer : C

- ✓ NASA has recently unveiled an ambitious USD 1 billion plan to coordinate the controlled descent of the International Space Station (ISS) back to Earth.
- ✓ It will be undertaken with a specialized spacecraft, known as the US Deorbit Vehicle (USDV). NASA has invited companies to develop the specialised vehicle.
- Q. R21/Matrix-M, which was recently approved, is the vaccine against which disease?

A) COVID-19	B) Malaria
C) Tuberculosis	D) Influenza

#### Answer: B

- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended a new vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, for the prevention of malaria in children. It was jointly developed by University of Oxford and Serum Institute of India (SII).
- ✓ The R21 vaccine is the second malaria vaccine recommended by WHO, following the RTS,S/AS01 vaccine, which received a WHO recommendation in 2021. Both vaccines are shown to be safe and effective in preventing malaria in children.

**B) World Bank** 

Q. Which institution releases the compilation of Statistical Performance Indicators (SPI)?

A) IMF

C) WEF

#### Answer: B

✓ The World Bank's compilation of Statistical Performance Indicators (SPI) has ranked India 67 among 174 countries in 2019.

D) ADB

The SPI framework focuses on five key pillars of a country's statistical performance: (i) data use, (ii) data services, (iii) data products, (iv) data sources, and (v) data infrastructure. It replaced the Statistical Capacity Indicator (SCI) that the World Bank was publishing since 2004.

- Q. The Union Cabinet has approved setting up of Central Tribal University in which state?
  - A) Telangana
  - C) Madhya Pradesh

B) Tripura

**D)** Jharkhand

- Answer : A
- ✓ Recently, the Union Cabinet gave its nod to establish a Central Tribal University in Telangana through an amendment to the Central Universities Act, 2009.
- ✓ The Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University at Mulugu District in Telangana, will be established with a funding of Rs. 889.07 crore.
- Q. What is the name given to the operation launched to bring back Indians stranded in Israel?
  - A) 'Operation Vijay' B) 'Operation Samrat
  - C) 'Operation Ganga' D) 'Operation Ajay'

#### Answer : D

- Under Operation 'Ajay', the Government of India has launched a campaign to bring Indian citizens trapped in Israel safely to India.
- ✓ 212 Indians have been brought safely from Israel in the first flight.
- ✓ It is noteworthy that many Indians are stranded there amid the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas.

#### **IMPORTANT OPERATION & CODE NAME IN NEWS 2023**

- OPERATION AJAY. India has launched 'Operation Ajay' to facilitate the return from Israel of those Indians who wish to come back home.
- > OPERATION IRON SWORD

Israel has named the ongoing fight against Hamas as Operation Iron Sword. Hamas is a Palestinian militant group that controls some areas of the Gaza Strip.

OPERATION SAJAG

Indian Coast Guard conducted 'Operation Sajag,' a comprehensive drill along the west coast, aimed at enhancing coastal security.

> OPERATION BROADER SWORD.

India and the USA, jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to stop the illegal shipment of drugs through the International Mail System.

- OPERATION KARUNA India launched "Operation Karuna" to provide humanitarian assistance for people in Myanmar, which is affected by Cyclone Mocha.
- > OPERATION KAVERI

India launches Operation Kaveri to evacuate Indian citizens stranded in Sudan

OPERATION DOST

Due to the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria, India has launched a campaign named 'Operation Dost' to help the affected people.

> OPERATION GARUDA

Central Bureau of Investigation has launched a multi-phase 'Operation Garuda' against illicit drug trafficking network.

> OPERATION YATRI SURAKSHA

To give assurance of the safety to the passengers, the Indian railways with the coordination of Railway Protection Force has launched a pan India drive under the code name Operation Yatri Suraksha.

> OPERATION "NARCOS"

Railway Protection Force (RPF) recently recovered narcotic products worth Rs 7.40 crore under "Operation Narcos".

> OPERATION SANKALP

Indian Navy's stealth Frigate, INS Talwar is presently deployed for Op-Sankalp commemorating the 3rd continuous year of Indian Navy's presence in the Gulf.

> OPERATION SATARK

Railway Protection Force (RPF) has recently started "Operation Satark" taking action against illicit liquor, fake currency circulation, etc.

OPERATION GANGA
 India launches mission named Operation Ganga to evacuate Indian nationals from Ukraine

Q. Fintech firm Fibe has partnered with which bank to launch India's first numberless credit card?

- A) Yes Bank
- C) ICICI Bank

B) HDFC Bank

**D)** Axis Bank

- Answer : D
- ✓ Axis Bank and Fibe Partner to launch India's First Numberless Credit Card.
- ✓ To reduce the risk of identity theft and unauthorised access, private lender Axis Bank and fintech firm Fibe have launched India's first numberless credit card.
- ✓ The card will not display any card number, expiry date, or CVV number. These details will be available on the Fibe app.
- ✓ The Fibe Axis Bank Credit Card is powered by RuPay and allows customers to link their credit card to the United Payments Interface (UPI). It also offers a tap-and-pay feature for all offline retail stores across the country.

### AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2023

- Axis Bank and Fibe Partner to launch India's First Numberless Credit Card.
- > Axis Bank Launched 'NEO For Business' Banking Platform For MSMEs.
- > Axis Bank Introduces 'Infinity Savings Account' with Zero Domestic Transaction Fees.
- > Axis Bank partners with RBI Innovation Hub to launch Kisan Credit cards.
- > Axis Bank Partners with Kiwi to Bolster 'Credit on UPI' on RuPay Credit Cards.
- Axis Bank has launched the 'one-view' feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts.
- Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as non-executive chairman.
- > Axis Bank launches Digital Onboarding platform 'Sarathi' for POS Terminals.
- Axis Bank and India Shelter Finance Corporation ltd announce strategic partnership under the colending model.
- Axis Bank completes deal to buy Citibank's India consumer business.
- Axis Bank Partners with OPEN to Launch a Fully Digital Current Account.
- > AXIS BANK
- ➢ Founded : 1993

- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO : Amitabh Chaudhary
- Tagline : Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

# Q.Who is the only Indian PSU company included in the Forbes' World Best Employers 2023 list?A) BHELB) NTPCC) ONGCD) HC1

#### Answer: B

- ✓ India's largest integrated energy conglomerate, NTPC Limited, has been recognized as one of the "World's Best Employers 2023" in the Forbes World's Best Employers list 2023 released on 10th Oct 2023. It ranked 261st out of top 700 companies in the World ranking and is the only Indian PSU to figure in the list. This is a testimony that the people practices at NTPC are at par with the top companies in the world.
- ✓ Every year Forbes publishes the World's Best Employers List through independent market research to identify top 700 companies which offer exciting working and a positive environment, opportunities for training and career advancement, employee benefits, employee centric and workplace diversity. Forbes partnered with market research firm Statista to create the seventh annual list of the World's Best Employers this year.

#### **NTPC IN NEWS 2023**

- > NTPC shines as the only Indian PSU to feature in Forbes "World's Best Employers 2023" List.
- > The central government has received about Rs 1,487 crore from NTPC as a dividend tranche.
- NTPC has been honoured with the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023.
- > NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List.
- NTPC Kanti launches Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GeM)-2023.
- NTPC Group's total installed capacity reaches 72,304 MW with first overseas capacity addition in Bangladesh.
- Country's largest power generation company NTPC Limited has been conferred with 'ATD Best Awards 2023' by Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA.

- > NTPC and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) sign agreement for joint development of nuclear power plants.
- > India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- > NTPC hosts an international seminar on 'Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage' (CCUS) at First Energy Transitions Working Group meeting in Bengaluru.
- > NTPC Limited announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Energy Vault Holdings ("Energy Vault).
- > NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC REL) signs MoU with Government of Tripura for cooperation in renewable energy development.
- > NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd has signed an MoU with the Indian Army for setting up Green Hydrogen Projects in its establishments on Build, Own and Operate (BOO) model.
- ➢ About NTPC
- > The NTPC which was earlier known as National Thermal Power Corporation of India is owned by the Government of India. It was set up in 1975.
- > The Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh, with an installed capacity of 4,760MW, is currently the biggest thermal power plant in India.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman and Managing Director: Gurdeep Singh

Who has taken charge as the National President of Indo-American Chamber of Commerce? 0.

A) Anil Sinha

**B)** Pankaj Bohra

C) Rajeev Awasthi

D) Deepak Kumar

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Pankaj Bohra, a chartered accountant from Ahmedabad, has assumed the charge of National President of Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC).
- ✓ IACC has 27 partner organizations in the US, including 14 offices in India, which help promote bilateral trade and investment between India and the US.
- The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce was established in 1968.

- Q. Who has inaugurated the 8th BRICS Competition Conference 2023?
  - A) Anurag Thakur
  - C) Ajay Sinha

B) Rahul Johri

D) Ashok Bhushan

Sinha

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Chairperson, National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Justice Ashok Bhushan, inaugurated the 8 th BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) 2023, in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Competition Commission of India (CCI) will be hosting the 8th BRICS International Competition Conference (BRICS ICC) 2023, themed 'New Issues in Competition Law and Policy – Dimensions, Perspectives, Challenges'.
- ✓ The Conference, being held in New Delhi from 11th-13th October, would witness participation of more than 600 delegates from the competition authorities of BRICS and non-BRICS nations, competition law experts, non-government advisors and domestic invitees.

# Q. In which state, 7 bridge projects worth Rs 118.50 crore have been approved under the Setu Bandhan Scheme?

A) Uttar Pradesh	B) Bihar
C) Arunachal Pradesh	D) Uttarakhand

#### Answer : C

- ✓ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari in a post said in Arunachal Pradesh under the Setu Bandhan Scheme approval has been granted for 7 bridge projects with a cumulative cost of ₹118.50 Crores, in the fiscal year 2023-24.
- ✓ The approved bridges are as follows:
- ✓ RCC bridge over Pacha River at Lachang, connecting Laimoya, Nerewa & Sorrowa villages in East Kameng District.
- RCC bridge from Goang to Donigaon village over Pacha river at Goang, on the way to Donigaon in East Kameng District.
- ✓ 3 bridges on NH-313, spanning from Roing-Anini road to New Chidu village via NHPC colony in Lower Dibang District.
- ✓ Double Lane steel composite bridge with RCC Decking at Kharsa, Dirang in West Kameng District.

- RCC bridge at Pikte Point across the river Sigen to connect Tabiripo Saku village on Koyu-Goye road in Lower Siang District.
- ✓ RCC bridge over Ngopok River on Mebo-Dholla road in East Siang District.
- ✓ Steel Composite bridge over river Panyor to connect Chullyu & Kebi village near Yazali Agri-Farm in Lower Subansiri District.

Q. Who has been nominated by World Athletics for this year's Athlete of the Year?

- A) Neeraj Chopra B) Seema Punia
- C) Hima Das D) Murali Srishankar

#### Answer : A

- ✓ World Athletics has nominated Neeraj Chopra for the Male Athlete of the Year award 2023.
- ✓ World Athletics has announced this by issuing a statement. Along with this, the voting process for the World Athletics Award 2023 has also started.
- ✓ Neeraj Chopra is an Olympic and World Championship gold medal winner

Q. S. Sachidananda Murthy has passed away, he was a famous personality of which field?

A) Science

**C)** Agriculture

- \_
- D) Journalism

**B)** Politics

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Well-known journalist and former resident editor of 'Malayala Manorama' Sachchidanand Murthy has passed away.
- ✓ Sachchidananda Murthy was an expert in national and international politics.
- ✓ He also served as the General Secretary of the 'Editors Guild of India' and a member of the 'Press Council'.
- Q. Who has created a new national record of 100 meters in the National Open Championship?
  - A) Aakriti Sinha
    - B) Dutee Chand dhar D) Ajay Kumar
  - C) Manikanta H Hoblidhar

#### Answer : C

✓ India's young runner Manikanta H Hoblidhar has created a new national record of 100 meters in the National Open Championship.

✓ Manikanta took 10.23 seconds in the 100 meter race, which is a new national record. Earlier, Amiya Kumar Malik had created a national record of 10.26 seconds in 100 meters.

#### Q. Which player has made the record of most sixes in international cricket?

- A) Rohit Sharma B) David Warner
- C) Mohammad Rizwan D) Virat Kohli

#### Answer : A

- ✓ In the World Cup 2023 match played against Afghanistan at Arun Jaitley Stadium in Delhi, Rohit broke the record of most sixes in international cricket.
- ✓ Along with this, he also made the record of most centuries in ODI World Cup history.
- ✓ Rohit has also become the joint fastest batsman to score 1,000 runs in the ODI World Cup
- Q. Which institution has released the 'Trade and Development Report 2023'?

A) WEF	B) IMF
C) NITI Aayog	D) UNCTAD

#### Answer : D

- According to the latest Trade and Development Report 2023, global economic growth is expected to reach 2.4 percent.
- ✓ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which published this annual report, has characterized this growth as stalled speed. A global recession is typically defined as occurring when the growth rate falls to 2.5 percent or lower.
- Q. Which state hosts the 'Sammakka Saralamma Jatara' tribal festival?
  - A) Jharkhand

**B)** Madhya Pradesh

C) Telangana

D) Bihar

#### Answer : C

- Telangana hosts a biennial festival known as the Sammakka Saralamma Jatara, which is renowned as one of the world's largest gatherings of tribal people.
- This event commemorates the 13th-century resistance by a mother-daughter duo against the local rulers who had imposed taxes on the Koya people.

- ✓ The Jatara, or pilgrimage features rituals conducted by Koya priests in adherence to their customs and traditions
- Q. Project Kuiper to provide fast, affordable broadband internet service belongs to which company?

A) SpaceX	B) Amazon
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C) BlueOrigin D) Google

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Project Kuiper is a subsidiary of Amazon that was established in 2019.
- ✓ The goal is to provide fast, affordable broadband to underserved communities.
- ✓ Amazon recently broke ground on a \$120 million pre-launch processing facility in Florida.
- ✓ It also launched the first pair of test satellites for its planned internet service
- Q. NABARD listed 'Social Bonds' on Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and the funds raised would be used to refinance which scheme?

A) PMAY

**B) PM SVANIDHI** 

C) Jal Jeevan Mission

#### D) PMGSY

#### Answer : C

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) announced the listing of its 'Social Bonds' on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).
- ✓ The bank had raised ₹1,040 crore through this offering. The funds would be used to refinance the Jal Jeevan Mission (the Union government's drinking water project) in Telangana.
- ✓ About Jal Jeevan Mission
- ✓ It is a flagship programme of the Government of India which was announced from the ramparts of Red Fort by the Prime Minister on August 15, 2019.
- ✓ The objective of the mission is to supply potable tap water in adequate quantity, prescribed quality and on a regular and long-term basis to every rural household of the country by 2024.
- ✓ It is implemented by the Government of India in partnership with the States/Union Territories.
- ✓ This mission comes under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ✓ Funding Pattern :

- ✓ The fund sharing pattern between the Center and the states under the mission is 90:10 for Himalayan and North-Eastern states and 50:50 for other states.
- $\checkmark$  In the case of Union Territories, 100% contribution is made by the Centre

#### Q. Which Indian state has recently banned the Conocarpus plant?

A) GujaratB) Madhya PradeshC) Uttar PradeshD) Haryana

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Gujarat has recently banned the Conocarpus plant because of its environmental and health hazards.
- ✓ This fast-growing exotic mangrove species, locally called as Saptaparni, has become a popular choice for increasing green cover in the state over the past few years.
- Q. Cashew of which of the following states has recently been provided GI tag?

A) Arunachal Pradesh	B) Jammu and Kashmir
C) Uttarakhand	D) Goa

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Goan cashew (Fruit and Nut) was recently granted the geographical indication (GI) tag.
- ✓ Goan cashew derived from the Portuguese name 'caju' or 'kaju' in Konkani.
- ✓ Evolution of Cashews in Goa
- ✓ Originally, it was native to northeast Brazil in Latin America.
- $\checkmark$  It was introduced by the Portuguese in the 16th century (1570).
- ✓ Initially, it was known mainly as a crop for afforestation and soil conservation.
- ✓ According to research, the 1st cashew factory in Goa started operations in 1926.
- ✓ By 1961, the cashew processing industry accounted for about 60% of industrial production in Goa, a bulk of which was exported.

#### GI TAG IN NEWS 2023

- Goan cashew (Fruit and Nut) was recently granted the geographical indication (GI) tag.
- Basohli Pashmina, a more than 100-year-old traditional craft from Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, has got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

- ➢ Tamil Nadu's Salem Sago gets GI tag.
- Bhaderwah Rajmash and Sulai honey of Doda and Ramban districts of Jammu and Kashmir, have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- > Chokuwa rice of Assam recently earned a GI (Geographical Indication) tag for its exquisiteness.
- The Matti banana variety, native to Kanniyakumari district was recently granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Mushkbudji rice, which was granted the GI tag along with eight other products from Jammu and Kashmir.
- > Tamil Nadu's Authoor betel leaves get Geographical Indication (GI) certificate.
- Geographical Indications Registry, in June 2023, accorded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the Kari Ishad mango predominantly grown in Ankola taluk of Uttara Kannada in Karnataka.
- Mircha rice variety from West Champaran district of Bihar has recently been granted the GI tag.
- The products included are Tandur red gram of Telangana, gamocha of Assam, Alibag white onion of Maharashtra, and Raktsey Karpo apricot of Ladakh among others.
- After getting GI tag for three more One District One Product (ODOP) crafts, Uttar Pradesh has now come second in the country in terms of maximum number of items with Geographical Indication tag.
- The ODOP crafts which have got GI tag include Mainpuri Tarkashi, Mahoba Gaura Stone Craft and Sambhal Horn Craft.
- Ladakh wood carvings, also known as 'Ladakh Shingskos', have been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The GI tag was granted to Tamil Nadu's famous Cumbum Paneer Thirachai, also known as Cumbum Grapes.
- > Gond paintings from Madhya Pradesh have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Banarasi paan has been awarded the GI tag, which signifies its unique identity and origin. Three other foods from the Varanasi region, including Banarasi Langda Mango, Ramnagar Bhanta (Brinjal), and Adamchini rice, have also received the GI tag.
- > Chhattisgarh's Nagri Dubraj rice variety gets geographical indication tag.
- Gamocha', a symbol of the culture and identity of Assam, has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

- European Commission (EC) has recently granted Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, aunique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh in India.
- > The Central Government has granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana, Bihar.
- > GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS (GI) :-
- GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act,1999. This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- > Darjeeling Tea was the first Indian product to get the geographical indication tag in 2004.
- The second GI tag in India was given to Aranmula Kannadi (Handicraft) which is a mirror and made in Kerala.
- > A GI is registered for an initial period of ten years, which must be renewed after 10 years.
- Kerala has topped among Indian states for having most number of products securing the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in financial year 2022-23.
- ➢ What is GI tag?
- A GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.
- Q. With reference to 'Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme', consider the following statements

Statement 1- Its objective is to increase the number of payment acceptance devices in tier-3 to tier-6 cities.

Statement 2- Successful implementation of PIDF would promote financial inclusion in the country.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

C) Statement-I is correct but statement II is incorrect

D) Statement -I is incorrect but Statement -II is correct

### Answer : A

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently extended the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme by another two years and will include beneficiaries of the PM Vishwakarma scheme.
- ✓ About Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme:
- ✓ It was first launched by the RBI in January 2021 for a period of three years.
- ✓ Objective: Increasing the number of payment acceptance devices multifold in the country.
- ✓ PIDF is a fund set up by the RBI, in consultation with major authorised card networks, to facilitate the development of payment acceptance infrastructure in tier-3 to tier-6 cities and the north-eastern states of India.
- ✓ The Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will also be given special focus.
- ✓ Beneficiaries of the PM SVANidhi Scheme in Tier-1 and 2 centres were later included in August 2021.
- ✓ Funding:
- ✓ The PIDF is funded by the RBI and the major authorized card networks in India.
- ✓ The scheme provides financial assistance to banks and non-bank financial companies (NBFCs) for the deployment of PoS terminals and other payment acceptance infrastructure in eligible regions.
- ✓ The PIDF will be governed through an Advisory Council and managed and administered by the RBI.
- ✓ The implementation of targets shall be monitored by the RBI with assistance from card networks, the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) and the Payments Council of India (PCI).
- ✓ What is PM Vishwakarma scheme?
- ✓ It is a Central Sector Scheme launched on 17th September, 2023, with a financial outlay of Rs.13,000 crore.
- ✓ Time period: Five years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28).
- ✓ Aim:
- ✓ This initiative supports small businesses, focusing on traditional artists and craftspeople.
- ✓ It provides small workers and craftsmen with financial help, training, improved methods, and skill mentoring.
- ✓ It also aims at improving the quality as well as the reach of the products and services of artisans and craftsmen.
- ✓ Under this scheme, the artisans and craftspeople will be provided recognition through the PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card, credit support upto 1 lakh (first tranche) and Rs.2 lakh (second tranche), with a concessional interest rate of 5%

- Q. Which state government has approved the 'Lek Ladki Yojana' (Dear Daughter Scheme) for families with annual income up to Rs one lakh?
  - A) Gujarat
  - C) Rajasthan

B) Maharashtra

D) Uttar Pradesh

### Answer : A

- ✓ Maharashtra state cabinet has approved the 'Lek Ladki Yojana' (Dear Daughter Scheme) for families with annual income up to Rs one lakh.
- ✓ The Yojana was announced in the budget session of March 2023.
- ✓ As per the decision, a family with a yellow and saffron ration card will receive Rs 5000 after the birth of a girl child, Rs 6000 after she is enrolled in standard first, Rs 7000 after the sixth standard, Rs 8000 after standard 11 and Rs 75,000 after completing 18 years of age.
- ✓ The girl child will be benefited from Rs 1.01 lakh in total after completion of 18 years," said the official who attended the cabinet meeting. The scheme will be applicable for the child born after April 1, 2023.
- The scheme is meant to promote the birth of a girl child, and her education and to stop child marriage and malnutrition

### MAHARASHTRA IN NEWS 2023

- Maharashtra state cabinet has approved the 'Lek Ladki Yojana' (Dear Daughter Scheme) for families with annual income up to Rs one lakh.
- Maharashtra clinched the title of champions in the 5th National Wheelchair Rugby Championship 2023 by securing a convincing victory over Karnataka.
- Maharashtra Government recently proposed to develop Gilbert Hill into a tourist spot on the lines of Burj Khalifa in Dubai.
- > Maharashtra signs MoU with Germany's professional association football.
- Maharashtra government has launched the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Road Scheme which aims to enhance road connectivity in tribal areas of the 17 districts of the state.
- Maharashtra Industries Minister Uday Samant will present the first 'Udyog Ratna' award to veteran industrialist and Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata.
- Maharashtra topped the list with the highest number of missing women in 2021, with a reported count of 56,498.

- Maharashtra's Economy will become a trillion dollar by 2028, said N Chandrashekhar, president of the State Economy Development Council.
- Maharashtra Prisons Department has launched a "video call" facility for foreign nationals lodged in different jails across the state.
- > NCP leader Ajit Pawar has been sworn in as the new Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- > Maharashtra Government launched Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana.
- > Maharashtra becomes the first state in the country to approve Good Governance Regulations.
- > Uttar Pradesh surpasses Maharashtra in sugar production this season.
- > A new initiative called 'beggar-free city' started in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister, is scheduled to present the 'Maharashtra Bhushan' Award to Dattatreya Narayan Dharmadhikari, also known as Appasaheb Dharmadhikari, on April 16 for his notable work as a social worker and reformer.
- > Maharashtra Government has introduced a 4% quota for employees with disabilities in promotions.
- > Bank of Maharashtra inaugurated its first dedicated Branch for Start-ups in Pune.
- > Ramesh Bais Appointed as the New Governor of Maharashtra.
- > Maharashtra became the first state in the country to pass the Lokayukta Bill.
- > Recently a rare low altitude basalt plateau has been discovered in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra..
- > Nilesh Sambre conferred with 'Maratha Udyog Ratna 2023' by Maharashtra State.
- Talon Grikspoor of the Netherlands won the singles title at the Maharashtra Open tennis tournament in Pune.

### Q. Consider the following statements

1. Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 aims to enhance immunization coverage for all vaccines provided under the Universal Immunization Programme by using U-WIN platform.

2. U-WIN platform is a one stop digital platform which will maintain an electronic registry of vaccinations and immunisation programs.

Choose the correct statement(s)

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

<b>C)</b>	Both	1	and 2	
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D) Neither 1 nor 2

### Answer: B

- ✓ Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI 5.0), the flagship routine immunization campaign of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will conclude all 3 rounds on 14th October 2023. IMI 5.0 ensures that routine immunization services reach the missed-out and dropped out children and pregnant women across the country. This year, for the first time the campaign is being conducted across all the districts in the country and includes children up to 5 years of age (Previous campaigns included children up to 2 years of age).
- ✓ IMI 5.0 campaign aims to enhance immunization coverage for all vaccines provided under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) as per the National Immunization Schedule (NIS). Special focus is on improvement of Measles and Rubella vaccination coverage with the aim of Measles & Rubella elimination by 2023 and use of U-WIN digital platform for Routine Immunization in pilot mode across all districts in the country.
- ✓ IMI 5.0 is being conducted in three rounds i.e., 7 -12 August, 11-16 September, and 9-14 October 2023 i.e., 6 days in a month with the inclusion of a Routine Immunization Day. All States/UTs except Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Punjab would conclude all the three rounds of IMI 5.0 campaign by 14th October 2023. These four states could not start the IMI 5.0 campaign in August due to some inevitable circumstances. These states have concluded 1st round and are currently conducting the 2nd round. They plan to conduct the 3rd round of IMI 5.0 campaign in the month of November 2023.
- ✓ As on 30th September 2023, over 34,69,705 children and 6,55,480 pregnant women were administered vaccine doses during the first 2 rounds of IMI 5.0 campaign across the country.
- Q. Resilient and Inclusive Supply-chain Enhancement (RISE) initiative, recently seen in news is a joint initiative of?
  - A) G7 and ASEAN
  - **B) USA and India**
  - C) World Bank and Japan
  - D) USA and Australia

#### Answer : C

✓ The World Bank and Japan, have launched the Resilient and Inclusive Supply-chain Enhancement (RISE) initiative in Morocco.

- ✓ This initiative is designed to tackle the dual challenges of job creation and climate change by aiding emerging markets and developing countries in expanding their clean-energy product manufacturing and increasing their participation in the minerals industry.
- ✓ The initiative aims to stimulate economic growth and generate local employment opportunities, ultimately contributing to poverty reduction.
- ✓ This collaborative effort emphasizes the importance of international cooperation in promoting economic growth in these countries while strengthening clean energy and critical minerals supply chains.

### WORLD BANK IN NEWS 2023

- World Bank and Japan, have launched the Resilient and Inclusive Supply-chain Enhancement (RISE) initiative in Morocco.
- World Bank has approved \$1.5 billion in financing to accelerate India's development of low-carbon energy.
- > World Bank has approved a substantial funding package of 700 million dollars for Sri Lanka.
- World Bank has approved \$391 million in financing to improve access to high-quality healthcare services and to economic opportunities for people in Assam and Tripura.
- > World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme.
- World Bank has granted its approval for a USD 255.5 million loan aimed at enhancing the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India.
- > World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme.
- World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- > Indian origin Ajay Banga confirmed as the 14th President of World Bank.
- Ministry of Education and the World Bank held a unique workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program.
- The Cabinet approved the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project in October 2020.
- World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 363 million for the supply of clean drinking water from taps to 2 million rural households in Karnataka.

- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- According to the World Bank's (WB) annual report 'State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023' released on May 23, 2023, revenues collected from carbon taxes and Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) globally have reached a record high, about US\$95 billion in 2022.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- India and the World Bank have signed aloan agreement for the construction of the Green National Highway Corridors Project (GNHCP) in four States.
- > These four states are-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- India will be the first country in the world to receive \$100 billion from remittances during 2022, the World Bank.
- WORLD BANK
- ➢ Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc
- 14th President : Ajay Banga
- MD&CFO : Anshula Kant
- > Chief Economist : Carman Reinhart
- Executive Director : Rajesh Khullar
- Member Countries :189
- > World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID).
- All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
- World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- > India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

### Q. Consider the following statements about One CGIAR Global Initiative.

1. It aims to build a unified approach to transforming food, land, and water systems to address the challenges posed by the climate crisis.

2. One CGIAR Global Initiative is a joint initiative of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and United Nations Environment Programme

Choose the correct statement(s)

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer : A

- Recently, the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) joined the One Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) global initiative.
- ✓ About One CGIAR global initiative:
- ✓ It aims to build a unified approach to transforming food, land, and water systems to address the challenges posed by climate crisis.
- ✓ This initiative involves the CGIAR System Organisation and 12 One CGIAR research centres.
- The CGIAR is a publicly-funded network of agrifood systems research centres, works for transforming food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis. It is working in over 80 countries.
- ✓ Key facts about ICRISAT
- ✓ It is a non-profit, non-political public international research organisation that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia & sub-Saharan Africa.
- ✓ It has been awarded 2021 Africa Food Prize for the Tropical Legumes Project that has improved food security across 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.
- ✓ It is headquartered in Hyderabad, Telangana State, in India, with two regional hubs (Nairobi, Kenya and Bamako, Mali).
- Q. 'A-HELP' program, recently seen in news is an intiative of which of the following ministry?
  - A) Ministry of Women and Child Development
  - B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
  - C) Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries
  - D) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

#### Answer : C

- ✓ The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, introduced the 'A-HELP' (Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production) program in the state of Jharkhand.
- ✓ This program aims to empower women by engaging them as Accredited Agents who play a vital role in disease control, animal tagging, and livestock insurance.
- The 'A-HELP' initiative is being implemented in various Indian states and union territories, including Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Jharkhand, through an MoU between the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and the National Rural Livelihoods Mission.
- ✓ Highlights of the 'A-HELP' program
- ✓ The 'A-HELP' program focuses on empowering women by training them as agents who contribute to disease control, artificial insemination, animal tagging, and livestock insurance.
- ✓ The 'A-HELP' program exemplifies the integration of women's power in the livestock sector. It aligns with the vision of the Prime Minister for socio-economic progress and empowers women while advancing the livestock sector.
- Q. Consider the following statements about Mera Yuva Bharat

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports that provides an overarching platform for youth development.

2. It will benefit the youth in the age group of 15-29 years.

Choose the correct statements:

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Recently, the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister of India has approved the establishment of an autonomous body Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)..
- ✓ About Mera Yuva Bharat:

- ✓ It is an autonomous body will benefit the youth in the age group of 15-29 years, in line with the definition of 'Youth' in the National Youth Policy.
- ✓ In case of programme components specifically meant for the adolescents, the beneficiaries will be in the age group of 10-19 years.
- ✓ It will help in Setting the focus of the Government on Youth Led development and to make the Youth "active drivers" of development and not merely "passive recipients".
- ✓ It will be launched on 31st October, 2023 on National Unity Day.
- ✓ The primary objective of Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) is to make it a whole of Government platform for youth development.
- ✓ Under the new arrangement, with access to resources & connection to opportunities, youth would become community change agents and nation builders allowing them to act as the Yuva Setu between the Government and the citizens.
- Mera Yuva Bharat supported by a technology platform would help to increase the Youth outreach efforts of the Department of Youth Affairs.
- Q. Consider the following statements about Intelligent Grievance Monitoring System (IGMS) 2.0

1. The IGMS 2.0 is a major upgradation of Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System portal with artificial intelligence and machine learning capabilities.

2. Intelligent Grievance Monitoring System (IGMS) 2.0 is implemented by IIT Kanpur.

Choose the incorrect statements:

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : D

✓ Adoption of AI/ Emerging Technologies for Effective Grievance Redressal: Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions launched the IGMS 2.0 Public Grievance portal and Automated Analysis in Tree Dashboard portal on 29 September, 2023.

- ✓ The Intelligent Grievance Monitoring System (IGMS) 2.0 Dashboard has been implemented by IIT Kanpur following an MoU with DARPG for upgrading CPGRAMS with Artificial Intelligence capabilities. The Dashboard provides instant tabular analysis of Grievances Filed & Disposed, State-wise & District-wise Grievances Filed & Ministry-wise data. Besides, the Dashboard will also help the officials identify the root cause of the grievance.
- ✓ Adoption of Bharat GPT in CPGRAMS: DARPG signed the non-disclosure agreement with the Bharat GPT team led by IIT Mumbai for working on India Specific Large Language Models (LLM) powered by Bhashini to give a demonstrable large language model for CPGRAMS to further simplify redressal of citizen grievances in CPGRAMS in the near future

### Q. Consider the following statements about Chilika Lake

1. It is located at the mouth of the Salandi River, flowing into the Bay of Bengal.

2. It is the largest coastal lagoon in India.

3. The Nalaban Island within the lake is notified as a Bird Sanctuary under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one	B) Only two
C) All three	D) None of the above

### Answer: B

- ✓ Migratory birds have started their annual journey to Chilika —India's largest waterbird habitat in Odisha — ahead of winter this year. is climate change to blame.
- ✓ Wildlife officials in the state reported the sighting of approximately 50 migratory birds, including ducks and wigeon species, within the Nalabana bird sanctuary area inside the Blue Lagoon on October 7, 2023.
- ✓ <u>Chilka Lake</u>
- ✓ It is a brackish water lake and a shallow lagoon with estuarine character spread across Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts in Odisha. at the mouth of the Daya River, covering an area of over 1,100 km2
- In 1981, Chilika Lake was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.
- ✓ It has been listed as a tentative UNESCO World Heritage site.
- ✓ Nalabana Island (Nalabana Bird Sanctuary):

- ✓ Nalabana was declared a bird sanctuary in 1973 under the Wildlife Protection Act
- Q. Consider the following statements about Lakhpati Didi Initiative

1. It aimed at training women in self-help groups (SHGs) to earn sustainable income of at least Rs 1 lakh per annum per household.

2. The programme is implemented by Ministry of Women and Child Development.

3. After completing the training, the group will be provided with a credit of Rs. 20 lakh to start microenterprises within their villages.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one B) Only two

C) All three D) None of the above

### Answer : A

- Prime Minister recently chaired a high-level meeting to review the progress made in realising his dream of making 2 crore 'Lakhpati Didis' in India.
- ✓ About Lakhpati Didi Initiative:
- ✓ It was announced by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech on August 15, 2023.
- ✓ Objective: To encourage women to start micro-enterprises within their villages.
- ✓ Under the Lakhpati Didi Initiative, the government aims to train two crore women.
- ✓ The programme is aimed at training women in self-help groups (SHGs) so that they can earn a sustainable income of at least Rs 1 lakh per annum per household.
- The initiative has been initiated by DAY-NRLM, wherein each SHG household is encouraged to take up multiple livelihood activities coupled with value chain interventions, resulting in a sustainable income of Rs 1 lakh or more per year..
- ✓ Under this scheme, women will be trained in various skills, such as plumbing, LED bulb making, drone operation and repair, and tailoring and weaving.
- ✓ After completing the training, women will be provided with opportunities to earn income using their skills.
- ✓ The ministry of rural development is adopting a whole-of-government approach for maximum impact through convergence to transform the rural economy with the enabling of 'Lakhpati Didis'.
- ✓ What is Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)?

- ✓ It is a flagship poverty alleviation program implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- ✓ Aim: To reduce poverty by enabling the poor household to access gainful self-employment and skilled-wage employment opportunities, resulting in sustainable and diversified livelihood options for the poor.
- ✓ DAY-NRLM adopts a demand-driven approach, enabling the States to formulate their own State-specific poverty reduction action plans.
- Q. Consider the following statements about Baiga Tribe
  - 1. The Baiga Tribe is one of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of Chhattisgarh.
  - 2. They practice a form of shifting cultivation called, "Bewar."

Choose the incorrect statement(s)

A) 1 only	B) 2 only
C) Both 1 and 2	D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer : D

- ✓ The Baiga Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) became the second pvtg to get habitat rights in Chhattisgarh, after the Kamar PVTG.
- ✓ <u>About Baiga</u>
- The Baiga are an ethnic group in central India. They are one of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- The Baiga live in the following states:Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal.
- ✓ They have sub-castes Bijhwar, Narotia, Bharotiya, Nahar, Rai Bhaina, and Kadh Bhaina.
- ✓ Traditionally, the Baiga lived a semi-nomadic life and practised slash-and-burn cultivation.
- ✓ Now, they are mainly dependent on minor forest produce for their livelihood.
- ✓ They practice a form of shifting cultivation called, "Bewar."
- ✓ What is a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)?
- ✓ PVTGs are most vulnerable among the tribal groups.Due to this factor, more developed and assertive tribal groups take a major chunk of the tribal development funds, because of which PVTGs need more funds directed for their development.

- ✓ In this context, in 1975, the Government of India declared 52 tribal groups as PVTGs on the recommendation of Dhebar commission.
- ✓ Currently, there are 75 PVTGs out of 705 Scheduled Tribes.
- ✓ The PVTGs are spread over 18 states and one UT, in the country (2011 census).
- ✓ Odisha has the highest number (more than 2.5 lakh) of PVTGs.
- ✓ Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements a scheme in the name of 'Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)'.
- ✓ It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme having a provision of 100% Central assistance to 18 states and Union territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- ✓ The Bharia PVTG in Madhya Pradesh was the first, followed by the Kamar tribe and now the Baiga tribe in Chhattisgarh.
- Q. Consider the following statements about Multimodal Artificial Intelligence (AI)

1. It refers to the integration of multiple modes of information or sensory data to facilitate humanlike reasoning and decision-making.

2. Gemini is a multimodal large language model being developed by OpenAI.

Choose the correct statement(s)

A) 1 only	B) 2 only
C) Both 1 and 2	D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Multimodal artificial intelligence (AI) is gaining prominence as the next frontier in AI development.
- ✓ Multimodal AI systems allow users to interact with AI through various means, such as images, sounds, videos, and text. This approach is important because it aligns more closely with how humans understand and interpret information from diverse sources.
- ✓ <u>Key points regarding multimodal AI:</u>
- ✓ Leading AI companies like OpenAI and Google are actively pursuing multimodal AI systems. OpenAI, known for GPT-3 and GPT-4, has enabled its models to understand and analyze images, and its mobile apps are being equipped with speech synthesis for more interactive conversations with chatbots.
- ✓ Working of Multimodal Artificial Intelligence:

- ✓ It involves combining different modalities such as text and images or text and audio during training. This enables AI systems to understand and generate content across various modalities. For example, OpenAI's DALL.E model connects text and images to generate visual content based on text prompts, while GPT's voice processing capabilities are rooted in Whisper, its speech-to-text translation model.
- ✓ Multimodal AI has practical applications, such as automatic image caption generation, detecting hate speech in memes, predicting dialogue in videos, and even potential uses in fields like medicine, autonomous driving, and robotics.
- ✓ In medicine, multimodal AI is useful for processing complex datasets from sources like CT scans

### Q. Red-rumped Hawklet, a new dragonfly species has been discovered in wheih of the following region?

- A) Western Ghats
- B) The Terai region of Bihar
- C) Indo-Myanmar border region of Arunachal Pradesh
- D) Eastern Ghats

### Answer : A

- A new dragonfly species named Red-rumped Hawklet (Epithemis wayanadensis) has been discovered in Wayanad, located in the Western Ghats.
- ✓ DNA analysis was conducted to validate the discovery.
- ✓ A significant 12% genetic difference was observed, confirming the distinctiveness of this species. This is the first instance of an Indian dragonfly being documented with genetic evidence supporting morphological differences.
- ✓ The Red-rumped Hawklet was found in shrubs along a shaded streamside marsh in Wayanad's forested terrain, as well as parts of the Nilgiri Coorg landscapes within the Western Ghats
- Q. Consider the following with respect to 'International Telecommunication Union (ITU)'

1. It is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies.

2. It was established in 1947 as International Telegraph Union.

ITU's membership includes Member States, companies, universities, and international and regional organizations.

Select the correct statement(s)

A) 1 and 2 only

C) 1 and 3 only

B) 2 and 3onlyD) All the above

#### Answer : C

- ✓ The Elon Musk vs Mukesh Ambani battle on whether to auction or allocate satellite spectrum has attracted intervention from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- ✓ About Satellite Spectrum:
- The Satellite or orbit spectrum is a segment of radio spectrum made available when satellites are placed into orbit.
- ✓ This spectrum is part of the broader radio frequency spectrum, which encompasses all electromagnetic frequencies used for various wireless communications and broadcasting purposes.
- This spectrum is a limited resource for every country, utilised by firms to implement satellite broadcasting, communication satellites, and weather satellite services.
- This spectrum is divided into many different frequency bands. The choice of bands depends on many factors, including the specific applications.
- ✓ Satellites generally transmit on a frequency between 1.5 and 51.5 gigahertz (a gigahertz, or GHz, equals one billion hertz). High-speed broadband operates at the higher end of the spectrum.
- ✓ The International Telecommunication Union, or ITU, is the United Nations institution that coordinates the allocation of frequencies globally.
- The ITU has allocated parts of this spectrum range to specific categories of services, and has identified those frequencies best suited for transmissions via satellite.
- ✓ Key Facts about International Telecommunication Union (ITU):
- ✓ It is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies.
- ✓ It is an intergovernmental organization that coordinates between governments and private sector bodies with respect to global telecommunication and information communication technology (ICT) services.
- ✓ It was established in 1865 as International Telegraph Union.
- ✓ In 1947 the ITU became a specialized agency of the United Nations.
- ✓ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- ✓ Membership: It has a membership of 193 countries
- ✓ India and ITU: India has been an active member of the ITU since 1869 and has been a regular member of the ITU Council since 1952.

- Q. With reference to 'International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)', consider the following statements
  - 1. Statement 1- It was launched by India, for the conservation of seven big cats.
  - 2. Statement 2- It is open for all member countries in the United Nations.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

A) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

B) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

C) Statement-I is correct but statement II is incorrect

D) Statement -I is incorrect but Statement -II is correct

#### Answer : C

- Tanzanian President recently conveyed approval to join flagship Indian programs like the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).
- ✓ About International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA):
- ✓ It was launched by India on April 9, 2023, for the conservation of seven big cats, namely Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma harbouring our planet.
- ✓ Membership: It is open to 97 'range' countries, which contain the natural habitat of these big cats, as well as other interested nations, international organizations, etc.
- ✓ It will provide a platform for the member nations to share knowledge and expertise and extend support to recovery efforts in potential habitats.
- ✓ Its major activities will include advocacy, partnership, knowledge e-portal, capacity building, eco-tourism, partnerships between expert groups, and finance tapping.
- ✓ Funding: After the first five years, which will be supported by India's 'total grant assistance' of \$100 million, the IBCA is expected to sustain itself through membership fees and contributions from bilateral and multilateral institutions and the private sector.

Q. With reference to 'Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)' consider the following statements

1. The goal is to unite researchers and climate information users to make informed decisions for shortterm improvement.

2. It was established during the COP 21 held in Paris

Select the INCORRECT statement(s)

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer : C

- ✓ India is embarking on a major programme to launch its maiden national-level framework towards providing climate services and information.
- ✓ The National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS) is spearheaded by the India Meteorological Department (IMD).
- ✓ NFCS is based on the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).
- ✓ It envisions to bring a seamless working platform for users of climate information and services, and help decide and mitigate climate risks for key sectors agriculture, energy, disaster management, health and water.
- ✓ The announcement to establish a GFCS was made during the third World Climate Conference held in Geneva in 2009.
- This framework is led by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) in their respective nations.
- Q. Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP)' passes through which of the following protected area
  - A) Kanha Tiger reserve
- B) Panna Tiger reserve
- C) Satpura National Park
- D) Palpur Kuno Wildlife santuary

#### Answer: B

✓ The Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the river interlinking project that aims to transfer surplus water from the Ken River in Madhya Pradesh (MP) to Betwa in Uttar Pradesh (UP) to irrigate the drought-prone Bundelkhand region.

- ✓ The region spread across the districts of two states mainly Jhansi, Banda, Lalitpur and Mahoba districts of UP and Tikamgarh, Panna and Chhatarpur districts of MP.
- ✓ The project involves building a 77-metre tall and a 2-km wide Dhaudhan dam (to be built within Panna Tiger Reserve) and a 230-km canal.
- ✓ Ken-Betwa is one of the 30 river interlinking projects conceived across the country.
- Q. With reference to 'Atmospheric Perturbations around the Eclipse Path (APEP) mission' consider the following statements

1. It is a mission launched by European Space Agency (ESA).

2. Its objective is to study the upper atmosphere during the eclipse, when there would be a sudden reduction in light.

Select the INCORRECT statement(s)

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

### Answer : A

- ✓ NASA is set to launch a mission called APEP to study how a solar eclipse affects the upper atmosphere.
- ✓ About Atmospheric Perturbations around the Eclipse Path (APEP) mission:
- ✓ The mission will involve launching of three rockets equipped with scientific instruments.
- Objective: To know how the upper atmosphere will change during the eclipse, especially the moment when there would be a sudden reduction in light.
- During an eclipse, the sudden drop in sunlight causes changes in the ionosphere, creating waves that ripple through this atmospheric layer.
- ✓ It will measure changes in electric and magnetic fields, density, and temperature.
- ✓ This launch will take place at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, with a specific focus on the ionosphere.
- ✓ According to NASA, the ionosphere's temperature and density are projected to decrease during the eclipse, resulting in a wave-like disturbance that has the potential to disrupt GPS and other satellite communications



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CONTRACT OF A CO

NAME - PRIYADARSHINI KALIYAMOORTHY ROLL NO - 2120036944 SELECTED IN - RRB PO SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK STATE - TAMILNADU



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY ROLL NO - <u>2603003298</u> SELECTED IN - ARYAVART GRAMIN BANK CLERK STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - ISHITA GARG ROLL NO - <u>2283004123</u> STATE - PUNJAB BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

NAME - NIPUN ROLL NO - <u>1533002831</u> SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK STATE - HARYANA



STUDENT GOUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - PRAVEEN ROLL NO - <u>1801005776</u> SELECTED IN - RRB PO KARNATAKA GRAMMENA BANK STATE - KARNATAKA



lame: Bathina Maneesha Rollno: 2543024278 Selected in : RRB clerk State : Telangana

WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - BATHINA MANEESHA ROLL NO - 2543024278 SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK STATE - TELAGANA



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - NISHU SHARMA ROLL NO - <u>1523008901</u> SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK STATE - HARYANA



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

NAME - GURIYA KUMARI ROLL NO -<u>1373006773</u> SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN BANK



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - GURPREET KAUR ROLL NO - <u>2283002821</u> BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK STATE - FROM PUNJAB



WY PAID GROUP STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN IBPS RRB CLERK GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - MANU VARGHESE ROLL NO - <u>2110710970</u> BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN BANK CLERK