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Aparchit 31,1&2 December English Super Current Affairs MCQ with Facts 2023
By Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q.1. Who has been appointed by the Central Government as the first woman Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)?

- A) Archana Ramasundaram
- B) Nina Singh
- C) Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay
- D) Anjali Bansal

Answer : B

- ✓ The central government has appointed Nina Singh as the first woman Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).
- ✓ The 1989-batch IPS officer of the Rajasthan cadre is currently working as the Special DG of the CISF.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Rahul Rasgotra, the Special Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB), was appointed as the new Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). He is also a 1989-batch IPS officer but from the Manipur cadre.
- ✓ The current ITBP chief, Anish Dayal Singh, was appointed as the Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). He worked for the country's internal security and counter-intelligence agency, IB, for a long time.
- ✓ Dayal is currently investigating the Parliament security breach incident that happened on December 11.
- ✓ Furthermore, the Centre has appointed Vivek Srivastava, a 1989-batch IPS officer of the Gujarat cadre, as the Director General of the Fire Service, Civil Defence and Home Guards. Currently, he is a special director at the Intelligence Bureau.
- ✓ Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
- ✓ Founded : 1969
- ✓ HQ : New Delhi
- ✓ Motto : Protection and Security
- ✓ Director General : Nina Singh



FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2023

- Nina Singh becomes first woman to be appointed as DG of CISF.
- Captain Fatima Wasim has become the first woman medical officer to be posted at the operational post of Siachen Glacier.
- Captain Geetika Kaul of Snow Leopard Brigade had become the first woman medical officer to be deployed in Siachen.
- Sue Redfern became the first woman to stand as an umpire in a men's first-class cricket match in England and Wales.
- Jaya Varma Sinha has been appointed as the new Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Railway Board (Ministry of Railways) w.e.f Sept 01, 2023. She has replaced AK Lahoti.
- She is the first woman to be appointed to this Apex post of Indian Railways.
- Geetika Srivastava is first woman to head Indian mission in Pakistan.
- Phangnon Konyak became the first woman to chair the Rajya Sabha from Nagaland.
- Tenzing Yangki has become the first female IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Lisa Franchetti becomes 1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history.
- Nusrat Chowdhary will become the first Muslim woman federal judge in US history.
- Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- Shalini Singh from Lucknow has become the first woman NCC cadet in India to complete a mountaineering course in the Himalayan region of Uttarakhand.
- Parminder Chopra becomes first woman Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation.
- Amy Pope of the United States has been selected as the first female Director-General of the United Nations Migration Agency.
- Lieutenant Shivangi Singh is the first woman Rafale pilot to take part in Orion Exercise 2023.
- Wing Commander Deepika Mishra has become the first woman Air Force officer to receive the Gallantry Medal.
- New Zealand-born Kim Cotton has become the first female umpire to officiate in a Men's T20 International (T20I) cricket match involving two ICC full-member nations.
- Sheenu Jhawar becomes first woman president of TiE Rajasthan.



- American Space Agency, NASA has selected the first woman astronaut, Christina Koch for its Artemis II mission.
 - Surekha Yadav, Asia's 1st woman loco pilot who now operates Vande Bharat, From Solapur to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (CSMT) in Maharashtra.
 - Shalija Dhami becomes first woman officer to command a fighter unit in Indian Air Force (IAF).
 - Colonel Geeta Rana became the first woman officer to command a field workshop.
 - Captain Shiva Chauhan becomes the first women officer to be operationally deployed in the highest battleground in Kumar Post on the Siachen glacier.
 - The first woman officer to be posted on foreign assignment in the Border Roads Organization (BRO) - Captain Surabhi Jakhmola.
 - Rae Bareli's hockey stadium is named after hockey star Rani Rampal, first woman player from India to achieve this feat.
 - Hekani Jakhalu became the first female MLA of Nagaland Assembly.
 - Equatorial Guinea appoints Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM.
 - Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh sworn in as 1st female Sikh judge of USA.
 - Santhi Kumari Appointed as First Woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.
 - Saudi Arabia's Rayna Barnawi first female astronaut is set to go into space this year .
 - Dina Boluarte became Peru's first female president.
 - FIFA has announced that Stephanie Frappart of France will be the first woman to referee a men's' World Cup match.
 - PT Usha Become First Women President of Indian Olympic Association.

Q.2. Who among the following athletes has topped the Forbes list of highest-paid women athletes 2023?

Answer : A

- ✓ Badminton star PV Sindhu has made it into the list of 2023's highest-paid women athletes by Forbes where she finished at the 16th spot alongside gymnast Simone Biles with her \$7.1 million earnings.



- ✓ Last year Sindhu was placed 12th with her \$7.1 million earnings in a list which was led by Japanese tennis star Naomi Osaka. Sindhu had broken into the top 10 in the 2018 list with \$8.5 million which placed her at 7th.
- ✓ Polish tennis star Iga Swiatek who is valued at \$23.9 million at first spot. She won the French Open and ended the year as the No.1 ranked player in the world.
- ✓ She is followed by freestyle skiing star Eileen Gu from China whose value is \$22.1 million.
- ✓ Tennis player Coco Gauff comes in at 3rd with \$21.7 million while the same sports' UK's Emma Raducanu (\$15.2 million) Japan's Naomi Osaka (\$15 million), Belarus's Aryna Sabalenka (\$14.7 million), US's Jessica Pegula (\$12.5 million), US's Venus Williams (\$12.2 million), Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina (\$9.5 million) and Canada's Leylah Fernandez (\$8.8 million) close out the top 10.

Q.3. HDFC Bank board has recommended to RBI the reappointment of Atanu Chakraborty as part-time non-executive chairman and independent director for how many years?

- A) 2 years
- B) 3 years
- C) 4 years
- D) 5 years

Answer : B

- ✓ HDFC Bank approves re-appointment of Atanu Chakraborty as chairman for 3 years
- ✓ Private lender HDFC Bank board has recommended the reappointment of Atanu Chakraborty as the part-time non-executive chairman and independent director, subject to further approval.
- ✓ The matter is with the Reserve Bank of India for a second term of three years from May 5, 2024, to May 4, 2027 approval.
- ✓ Chakraborty, a 1985 batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre, retired as Secretary of Department of Economic Affairs in April 2020.
- ✓ Chakraborty mainly worked in areas of Finance & Economic Policy, Infrastructure, Petroleum & Natural Gas. In the Union Government, he held various posts such as Secretary to Government of India in the Ministry of Finance- Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) during FY 2019-20.



HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023

- HDFC Bank approves re-appointment of Atanu Chakraborty as chairman for 3 years.
- HDFC Bank has recently raised Rs 7,425 crore through infrastructure bond issue.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved the reappointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan as HDFC Bank MD & CEO for a period of three years.
- HDFC Bank Launches India's First Co-Branded Hotel Credit Card named 'Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card' in partnership with Marriott International.
- HDFC Bank's Sashidhar Jagdishan is highest paid bank CEO in FY23 with Rs 10.55 crore pay.
- HDFC Bank overtakes SBI in CRISIL's corporate banking ranking for 2023.
- Food delivery platform Swiggy has joined hands with HDFC Bank to launch a co-branded credit card.
- HDFC Bank, India's largest private lender, has achieved a significant milestone by entering the \$100 billion market-capitalization club as world's 7th largest lender.
- HDFC emerges as fourth largest bank in the world after merger.
- According to Bloomberg, with a valuation of \$172 billion, the merger will place HDFC in the fourth position in equity market capitalisation behind JP Morgan Chase & Co., Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd. and Bank of America Corp.
- Deepak Parekh has announced his decision to step down as HDFC chairperson after serving as the chairman for 46 years.
- HDFC Bank introduced a new credit card named 'Millennia Credit card' which offers cashback over e-commerce platforms and multiple benefits.
- SEBI has granted approval for a change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company (HDFC AMC) due to the amalgamation of HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank Ltd.
- As part of the amalgamation, existing shareholders of HDFC Ltd will hold a 41% stake in HDFC Bank.
- HDFC Bank has launched a retail banking initiative called 'Vishesh' aimed at customers in semi-urban and rural areas.
- HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline.
- SEBI has granted approval for a change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company (HDFC AMC) due to the amalgamation of HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank Ltd.



- HDFC Bank has signed a “Master Inter Bank Credit Agreement” with Export-Import Bank of Korea for a USD 300 million line of credit.
- HDFC Bank recommends re-appointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan MD, CEO for 3 yrs.
- HDFC Bank’s Sashidhar Jagdishan is ‘BS Banker of the Year 2022’.
- HDFC Bank, IRCTC launch India’s most rewarding co-branded travel credit card.
- HDFC Bank, Lulu Exchange ink deal to enhance cross-border payments between India-Gulf region.
- HDFC Bank collaborates with Microsoft as part of its digital transformation.
- Reserve Bank of India said SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank remain domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs). .
- India’s first Electronic Bank Guarantee issued by HDFC Bank.
- HDFC BANK
- Founded : 1994
- Founder : Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline : We understand your world

Q.4. The Union Cabinet has approved the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for copra for the 2024 season. The MSP for fair average quality of milling copra has been fixed at __ for the 2024 season.

- A) Rs 11,160 per quintal B) Rs 12,000 per quintal
C) Rs 11,260 per quintal D) Rs 15,260 per quintal

Answer : A

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for copra for the 2024 season.
- ✓ The MSP for fair average quality of milling copra and ball copra has been fixed at Rs 11,160 per quintal and Rs 12,000 per quintal for the 2024 season, respectively.
- ✓ The MSP for the 2024 season had been hiked by Rs 300 per quintal for milling copra and Rs 250 per quintal for ball copra over the previous season.
- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given its approval for the MSPs for copra for the 2024 season.



- ✓ The central government had announced in the Union Budget of 2018-19, that MSPs of all the mandated crops will be fixed at a level of at least 1.5 times of all India weighted cost of production.
 - ✓ Kerala and Tamil Nadu are the major producers of milling copra, whereas ball copra is produced predominantly in Karnataka.
 - ✓ In the last ten years, the government has increased the MSP for milling copra and ball copra from Rs 5,250 per quintal and Rs 5,500 per quintal in 2014-15 to Rs 11,160 per quintal and Rs 12,000 per quintal in 2024-25, recording a rise of 113 percent and 118 percent, respectively.
 - ✓ Ball/edible copra is used as a dry fruit and employed for religious purposes, whereas milling copra is used to extract oil.

O.5. Reliance Jio Infocomm has joined hands with which IIT to launch 'Bharat GPT'?

- A) IIT Madras** **B) IIT Kanpur**
C) IIT Guwahati **D) IIT Bombay**

Answer : D

- ✓ Reliance Jio Infocomm, India's largest telecom service provider, is working with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay to launch 'Bharat GPT', a large language model specifically tailor for India's needs.
 - ✓ The company is also "comprehensively thinking" to launch an operating system for smart televisions.
 - ✓ Ambani said that the next 10 years will be defined by large-language models and generative AI.

IIT IN NEWS 2023

- Reliance Jio Infocomm, India's largest telecom service provider, is working with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay to launch 'Bharat GPT', a large language model specifically tailor for India's needs.
 - IIT Guwahati recently developed an indigenous river model, BRAHMA-2D.
 - IIT Kanpur, Indian Navy join forces to drive innovation through research partnership.
 - SAMRIDHI conclave, a deeptech startup acceleration drive launched at IIT Ropar.
 - The First Australia India Education and Skill Council (AIESC) meeting was held at IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
 - IIT Kanpur and Airbus to collaborate to boost aerospace talent base in India.
 - IIT Kanpur has signed an MoU with private lender ICICI Bank to support the startup ecosystem in the institute.



- IIT Guwahati have developed pharmaceutical and food products from tea factory waste.
- IIT Jodhpur scientists develop 'CODE' device for good air quality.
- IIT Madras-incubated space tech startup GalaxEye Space on 29 August 2023 launched their drone-based synthetic aperture radar (SAR) system, Ahead of their planned satellite launch in 2024.
- IIT Bombay has received a donation of \$18.6 million from an alumnus towards the establishment of a Green Energy and Sustainability Research Hub.
- IIT Guwahati has signed MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy.
- IIT Guwahati researchers develop AI-based model for knee X-ray.
- Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani donated ₹315 crores to IIT Bombay.
- IIT-Madras generates hydrogen from seawater using solar energy.
- India, Israel to jointly develop Center of Water Technology at IIT Madras.
- IIT Madras researchers partner for development of materials and micro-device processing techniques.
- IIT Kanpur's C3iHub, a cybersecurity Technology Innovation Hub, has launched a Cybersecurity Skilling Programme .
- IIT Madras to set up its first international campus in Tanzania.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras will be provided a grant of Rs 242 crore over a period of five years to carry out research on Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD).
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has been ranked 1st in India and 47th globally in engineering and technology by the QS World University Rankings for 2023.
- IIT Indore, in partnership with NASA-Caltech and the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, has designed an inexpensive camera setup.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Researchers have developed a three-dimensional (3D) paper-based portable device that can detect adulteration in milk within 30 seconds.
- IIT Kanpur to Host Youth20 Consultation under G20 Presidency of India.
- IIT Bombay's SHUNYA secures second place in 'Solar Decathlon' Build Challenge in US.
- Students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore won an award of AED (Emirates Dirham) 1 million along with a gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- IIT Indore Students Awarded with Global Best M-GOV Awards by Egyptian President.



- Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur has entered into a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreement with Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited.
 - DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad.
 - IIT Madras-incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system called BharOS.
 - IIT Madras Centre of Excellence working with DRDO on Advanced Defence Technologies including Combat Vehicle Technologies.
 - IIT Madras researchers develop machine learning tool to detect tumour in brain, spinal cord.
 - ISRO plans to develop astronaut training module with IIT Madras.
 - IIT-Bombay and Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) join hands to develop touchless biometric system.
 - IIT Delhi has been ranked among the top 50 engineering institutions in the QS World University Rankings by Subject .
 - An IIT Madras incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system 'Bharos' that can benefit India's 100 crore mobile phone users.

Q.6. Consider the following statements regarding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA):

1. It was established following the 1967 Arab-Israeli Six-Day War to carry out direct relief and work programmes for Palestine refugees.
 2. It is funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions from UN Member States.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ India recently announced that it has provided US \$ 2.5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East or the UNRWA for the welfare of Palestinian refugees.
 - ✓ About United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA):
 - ✓ It is a UN agency that supports the relief and human development of Palestinian refugees.
 - ✓ Establishment:



- ✓ Following the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, UNRWA was established by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December, 1949, to carry out direct relief and work programmes for Palestine refugees.
 - ✓ Fields of operations: It provides services in its five fields of operations: Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including the East of Jerusalem.
 - ✓ It reports only to the UNGA.
 - ✓ Headquarters: It was originally headquartered in Beirut, Lebanon, but was moved to Vienna, Austria, in 1978. In 1996, the General Assembly moved the agency to the Gaza Strip to demonstrate the Assembly's commitment to the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Q.7. Consider the following statements regarding the Salton Sea, recently seen in the news:

1. It is a shallow, saline lake located in Africa.
 2. It is located below sea level and its salinity exceeds that of seawater.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The U.S. Department of Energy recently discovered the world's largest Lithium reserve beneath California's Salton Sea.
 - ✓ About Salton Sea:
 - ✓ It is a shallow, saline lake located in the lower Colorado Desert, southern California, USA.
 - ✓ It is a geological depression tucked between mountain ranges and lying below sea level.
 - ✓ Formation:
 - ✓ The area that is now the lake was formerly a salt-covered sink or depression (a remnant of prehistoric Lake Cahuilla) about 280 feet (85 metres) below sea level until 1905–06, when diversion controls on the Colorado River broke a few miles below the California-Mexico border and floodwaters rushed northward, filling the depression.
 - ✓ The Salton Sea is an important stopping point for migratory waterfowl and serves as critical habitat for birds moving south to Mexico and Central America



Q.8. Consider the following statements regarding the Maulana Azad National Fellowship:

1. It is a five year fellowship given in the form of financial assistance.
 2. The University Grants Commission is the implementing agency of this fellowship.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Researchers and doctoral students from about 30 universities across the country have written separate letters to the Union Minority Affairs Minister to increase the scholarships under Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF).
 - ✓ Objective: The objective of the Maulana Azad Fellowship Scheme (MANF) is to provide five year fellowships in the form of financial assistance.
 - ✓ It is given to students from six notified minority communities viz. Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh, notified by the Central Government, to pursue M. Phil and Ph.D.
 - ✓ This will enable them to be eligible for employment to the posts with M.Phil and Ph.D as pre-requisites, including the posts of Assistant Professors in various academic institutions.
 - ✓ Implementing Agency: UGC will be the nodal agency for implementing this fellowship

Q.9. With reference to the Srimukhalingam temple, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Kalinga architectural style temple.
 2. It is built by the Pala King Dharmapala.
 3. It is located on the banks of the River Vamsadhara.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A) Only one**
 - B) Only two**
 - C) All three**
 - D) None**

Answer : B

- ✓ Archaeological Survey of India assured to send a note to UNESCO over inclusion of Srimukhalingam temple in Andhra Pradesh in world heritage structures' list.
 - ✓ It is located in the State of Andhra Pradesh.



- ✓ This temple is built in the Kalinga architectural style.
 - ✓ It is located on the banks of Vamsadhara River and is dedicated to lord Srimukha Lingeshwara (a form of Shiva).
 - ✓ The Shivalinga here has a mukha or facial representation of Lord Shiva.
 - ✓ It was constructed in the 9th century CE by kings of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty
 - ✓ It was built by Kamarnava II, ruler from the family line of Eastern Ganga.
 - ✓ Hence only statements 1 and 2 are correct.

Q.10. Consider the following statements regarding the Green deposit:

1. It is a fixed-term deposit for those who want to invest in environmentally friendly projects.
 2. It is not covered by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it is not mandatory for banks and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) to raise green deposits.
 - ✓ In general terms, a green deposit is a fixed-term deposit for those who want to invest in environmentally friendly projects.
 - ✓ Just like a regular Fixed Deposit scheme, the green deposit pays interest to its investors and has a fixed term.
 - ✓ The proceeds that a bank gets from deposit holders get earmarked for allocation to green finance.
 - ✓ A green fixed deposit, also known as an environmentally friendly fixed deposit, is a financial instrument that encourages sustainable development by channelling funds towards projects focused on renewable energy, clean technology, or other environmentally beneficial initiatives.
 - ✓ The green activities/projects financed under the framework can be classified under priority sector if they meet the requirements laid down in Priority Sector Lending (PSL) guidelines of RBI.
 - ✓ The current framework permits green deposits to be denominated in Indian Rupees only.
 - ✓ The deposits raised under the framework are covered by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) in accordance with the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961 and the regulations framed there under, as amended from time to time.



- ✓ On maturity, the green deposits would be renewed or withdrawn at the option of the depositor.

Q.11. Consider the following statements regarding the Warli Painting:

1. It is a tribal art from the North Sahyadri Range in Maharashtra.
 2. One of the central aspects depicted in this painting is the tarpa dance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently, an exhibition by the Inherited Arts Forum, traces the artistic journey of the celebrated Mashe family and their effort in reviving the Warli painting.
 - ✓ It is a style of tribal art created by the tribal people from the North Sahyadri Range in Maharashtra.
 - ✓ This art form can be traced back to 10th century AD but was first discovered and appreciated for its distinctive style only in the early 1970s.
 - ✓ It was traditionally practised by women of the Warli tribe called Suvasinis, who decorated the Lagn Chowk or the wedding square.

Q.12. Consider the following statements regarding the National Transit Pass System:

1. It facilitates the seamless transit of timber, bamboo and other forest produce across the country.
 2. It allows users to self-generate No Objection Certificates for exempted tree species.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently, the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the National Transit Pass System (NTPS) pan-India.
 - ✓ It is to facilitate the seamless transit of timber, bamboo, and other forest produce across the country.
 - ✓ Currently, the transit permits are issued for transport of timber and forest produce based on state specific transit rules.



- ✓ The NTPS is envisioned as a "One Nation-One Pass" regime, which will enable seamless transit across the country.
 - ✓ Currently, the transit permits are issued for transport of timber and forest produce based on state specific transit rules.
 - ✓ The NTPS is envisioned as a "One Nation-One Pass" regime, which will enable seamless transit across the country.
 - ✓ This initiative will streamline the issuance of timber transit permits by providing a unified, online mode for tree growers and farmers involved in agroforestry across the country, contributing to the ease of doing business.
 - ✓ The QR coded transit permits generated under NTPS will allow check gates across various states to verify the validity of the permits and allow seamless transit.
 - ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Q.13. Consider the following statements regarding the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) Project:

1. It connects Mumbai with Navi Mumbai.
 2. It is being financed by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Answer : C

- ✓ The Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) project, which is expected to be inaugurated early next year, has seen a cost escalation of Rs 2,192 crore or 14.9 per cent, according to information obtained through a Right to Information (RTI) query recently.
 - ✓ About Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) Project:
 - ✓ MTHL is a 21.8-kilometer, Road Bridge connecting the Indian city of Mumbai with Navi Mumbai, its satellite city.
 - ✓ It is the longest sea bridge in India. The total length of MTHL Bridge is 21.8 km, of the length on the sea is 16.50 km and the land portion is 5.5 km.
 - ✓ The bridge begins in Sewri, South Mumbai, and crosses Thane Creek north of Elephant Island, and will terminate at Chirle village, near Nhava Sheva.



- ✓ The foundation stone for the MTHL project was laid in December 2016.
 - ✓ 85% of the MTHL project's construction is being financed by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
 - ✓ The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) manages the MTHL construction.
 - ✓ Project Benefits:
 - ✓ The MTHL Bridge gives faster connectivity with the proposed Navi Mumbai International Airport, JNPT Port, Mumbai–Pune Expressway, and Mumbai–Goa Highway.
 - ✓ This concrete bridge will feature a 4 km steel span section in the middle to allow for ships to pass underneath.
 - ✓ It also incorporates seven orthotropic steel deck (OSD) spans, ranging from 90m to 180m, a first-of-its-kind application in India.
 - ✓ MTHL will feature an intelligence transport system (ITS) and the other amenities required for a marine bridge.

Q.14. With reference to the Know India Programme (KIP), consider the following statements:

1. It is a flagship programme of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
 2. Its participants are promoted to visit places of historical and cultural significance.
 3. It is open to all Indian citizens in the age group of 18-30 years.

How many of the above statements are correct?

Answer : A

- ✓ Secretary (CPV & OIA) recently addressed the Valedictory Session of the 70th edition of the Know India Programme (KIP) at a function held at Ministry of External Affairs.
 - ✓ About Know India Programme (KIP):
 - ✓ KIP is a flagship programme of the Ministry of External Affairs for engagement with Indian origin youth (between 18 and 30 years old).
 - ✓ It is a three-week orientation programme for diaspora youth conducted with a view to promoting awareness of different facets of life in contemporary India.
 - ✓ The programme has been in existence since 2003.
 - ✓ Features of KIP:



- ✓ As a part of the programme, the applicants finalized through the selection process visit India for a 21-day schedule.
- ✓ 90% of the cost of international airfare for KIP participants visiting India is borne by the Ministry, while the remaining 10% is borne by the applicants themselves.
- ✓ During the period of their stay in India, the Ministry provides for their accommodation, meals, and domestic transportation by road/air.
- ✓ Eligibility Criteria:
- ✓ The programme is open to youth of Indian origin (excluding non-resident Indians) in the age group of 18-30 years, with preference given to those from Girmitya countries (Mauritius, Fiji, Suriname, Guyana, T&T, Jamaica, etc.).

Q.15. The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to open a Consulate General of India in which city of New Zealand?

- A) Auckland
- B) Greymouth
- C) Hamilton
- D) Wellington

Answer : A

- ✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has approved the proposal to open a Consulate General of India in Auckland, New Zealand.
- ✓ Opening of Consulate General of India in Auckland would help in increasing India's diplomatic footprint and strengthen India's diplomatic representation in view of India's increasing global engagement.
- ✓ This will also help promote India's strategic and commercial interests and better serve the welfare of the Indian community in Auckland.
- ✓ The Consulate is likely to be opened and fully operationalized within a time frame of 12 months.
- ✓ New Zealand
- ✓ Capital : Wellington
- ✓ Currency : Dollar
- ✓ Prime Minister : Christopher Luxon



Q.16. India has signed an MoU with which country for cooperation in the field of broadcasting, exchange of news, and audio-visual programmes?

- A) Indian** **B) Malaysia**
C) Japan **D) Russia**

Answer : B

- ✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has approved the MoU/Agreement to strengthen the cooperation in the field of broadcasting, exchange of news, and audio-visual programmes as well as significantly augment India's friendly relations with Malaysia.
 - ✓ With this, the total number of MoUs signed by Prasar Bharati with different countries has increased to 46.
 - ✓ Prasar Bharati plays a very important role in nation-building and lays continuous focus on providing meaningful and accurate content to one and all, both within the country and abroad.
 - ✓ The major benefit arising out of signing of MoUs are exchange of programmes in the areas of Culture, Education, Science, Technology, Sports, News and other fields on gratis/non-gratis basis

Q.17. Which state government has established an autonomous board to recruit efficient and skilled candidates for Public Sector Units (PSUs) through a transparent selection process?

- A) Madhya Pradesh** **B) Kerala**
C) Uttar Pradesh **D) Odisha**

Answer : B

- ✓ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated an autonomous board established by the state government to recruit efficient and skilled candidates for Public Sector Units (PSUs) through a transparent selection process.
 - ✓ The board aims to enhance the efficiency of public sector institutions in the state, he said during the inauguration of the Kerala Public Enterprises (Selection and Recruitment) Board, and its office at Vellayambalam.
 - ✓ The recruitment of public sector undertakings under the Department of Industries and Commerce will be under the board's purview in the first phase.
 - ✓ Initial tasks include selection for various posts in 20 public institutions and appointing managing directors in 22 public sector institutions.



Q.18. What is the name of the first Hindu woman for elections in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Buner district in the General Elections in Pakistan?

- A) Suman Kumari B) Seema Ghulam
C) Saveera Parkash D) Ayesha Naseem

Answer : C

- ✓ Pakistan People's Party nominates Dr Saveera Parkash, to contest from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Buner district in the General Elections.
- ✓ The decision comes following the Pakistan Electoral Commission's mandate of having at least 5% women candidates on general seats.
- ✓ Prakash, a member of the PPP women's wing, will run for the PK-25 seat in the February 8 elections.
- ✓ Her father, Oam Parkash is a retired doctor and has been an active member of the PPP for over three decades.
- ✓ Saveera was also serving as the PPP women's wing General Secretary in Buner

Q.19. Who has been roped in as event ambassador for the 19th edition of the Tata Mumbai Marathon?

- A) Aum Shinrikyo B) Katie Moon
C) Yoko Kamikawa D) Ayuko Kato

Answer : B

- ✓ Two-time pole vault world champion and Tokyo Olympics gold medallist Katie Moon has been roped in as event ambassador for the 19th edition of the Tata Mumbai Marathon.
- ✓ Promoted by Procam International, the Mumbai Marathon is a World Athletics Gold Label Race.
- ✓ Moon had clinched gold medal at the 2022 Eugene and 2023 Budapest World Athletics Championships.
- ✓ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) will spend as much as \$320 million on marathon sponsorships for the next eight years.

Q.20. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Sigrid Kaag as the senior humanitarian and reconstruction coordinator for Gaza. She is from which country?

- A) South Africa B) Ethiopia
C) Netherland D) Argentina

Answer : C



- ✓ UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Sigrid Kaag of the Netherlands as the senior humanitarian and reconstruction coordinator for Gaza.
 - ✓ In this role, she will facilitate, coordinate, monitor, and verify humanitarian relief consignments to Gaza.
 - ✓ She will also establish a United Nations mechanism to accelerate humanitarian relief consignments to Gaza through States which are not party to the conflict.
 - ✓ In executing these functions, she will be supported by the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Ms. Kaag is expected to begin her assignment on 8 January 2024

Q.21. Who has joined the Indian Street Premier League (ISPL) as the owner of team Chennai?

- A) Suriya** **B) Vijay Sethupathi**
C) Dhanush **D) Rajinikanth**

Answer : A

- ✓ National Award winner Suriya has joined the Indian Street Premier League (ISPL) as the owner of team Chennai.
 - ✓ The ISPL is India's first tennis ball T10 cricket tournament that will be played inside a stadium.
 - ✓ The tournament will feature 19 high-intensity matches, boasting a line-up of six teams – Hyderabad, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata, and Srinagar.
 - ✓ Recently, Amitabh Bachchan, Akshay Kumar, Hrithik Roshan, and Ram Charan were announced as the team owners of Mumbai, Srinagar, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad, respectively.
 - ✓ The ISPL is scheduled to be held from March 2 to March 9 in Mumbai.

Q.22. India and which country have signed a Protocol on Consultations for the period of next four years (2024-28) to make progress in economic cooperation, energy trade, connectivity, military-technical cooperation, and people-to-people exchanges?

- A) Israel** **B) Japan**
C) Russia **D) Malaysia**

Answer : C

- ✓ India and Russia have signed a Protocol on Consultations for the period of next four years (2024-28) to make progress in economic cooperation, energy trade, connectivity, military-technical cooperation, and people-to-people exchanges.



- ✓ Jaishankar said the relations between India and Russia have been strong and steady, living up to the responsibility of a special and privileged strategic partnership.
- ✓ India and Russia also signed two important agreements to take forward the further implementation of Kudankulam nuclear power projects in India.

Q.23. Which state of India has emerged as India's 'Petro Capital'?

- A) Madhya Pradesh B) Rajasthan
C) Gujarat D) Odisha

Answer : C

- ✓ With the world's largest grassroot oil refinery in Jamnagar and OPaL petrochemical complex at Dahej in Bharuch district, Gujarat is now recognized as the 'petro capital' of India.
- ✓ Reliance Industries Ltd's (RIL) Jamnagar refinery is the largest and most complex single-site refinery in the world with 1.4 million barrels per day (MMBPD) crude processing capacity.
- ✓ The Jamnagar refinery complex houses some of the world's largest units, such as the fluidized catalytic cracker, coker, alkylation, paraxylene, polypropylene, refinery off-gas cracker, and petcoke gasification plants.

Q.24. Which IIT has collaborated with the Government of Assam's flagship Arohan scheme to motivate meritorious students to pursue STEM subjects in their higher education?

- A) IIT Madras B) IIT Guwahati
C) IIT Kanpur D) IIT Delhi

Answer : B

- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati has collaborated with the Government of Assam's flagship Arohan scheme to motivate meritorious students to pursue STEM subjects in their higher education.
- ✓ To date, the Institute has successfully hosted 3311 students (2009 girls and 1302 boys) and few hundred mentee teachers, inspiring them to explore the vast opportunities and interests in STEM education.
- ✓ Interestingly, the number of girl students was around 65 percent of the total participants, highlighting the importance of encouraging and promoting girl/women in STEM education.
- ✓ Under the Arohan scheme, IIT Guwahati has hosted meritorious students (Mentees) along with their Guide teachers/Officers in a total of 12 batches.



Q.25. Union Minister RK Singh has inaugurated POWERGRID Vishram Sadan in which city?

Answer : B

- ✓ Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy RK Singh has inaugurated POWERGRID Vishram Sadan in Bengaluru.
 - ✓ Built at a cost of about Rs 23 crore, this 2-storey Vishram Sadan has 270 beds.
 - ✓ The 55 rooms of this Sadan are equipped with all necessary facilities and are capable of providing the maximum possible comfort to the attendants of the patients.
 - ✓ POWERGRID as a responsible corporate citizen has built similar Vishram Sadans at AIIMS, New Delhi, IGIMS, Patna, DMCH Darbhanga, KGMU, Lucknow, Guwahati and Vsadodara for the benefit of the masses. Such Vishram Sadans are also being constructed by POWERGRID at Ranchi and Jhansi.

Q.26. President Droupadi Murmu will be the Chief Guest at the celebration of the Karbi Youth Festival in which state on 17 January 2024?

- A) Manipur** **B) Assam**
C) Rajasthan **D) Odisha**

Answer : B

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu will be the Chief Guest at the celebration of the Karbi Youth Festival on 17 January 2024.
 - ✓ The festival will be held at Taralangso, Diphu.
 - ✓ The celebration, from January 12-19, will feature traditional art, folk dance, music, and indigenous tribal foods.
 - ✓ Other dignitaries attending include Assam Governor Gulab Chand, Meghalaya Governor Phagu Chauhan, and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma.

Q.27. Reserve Bank of India has accorded approval to ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company Ltd (ICICI AMC) for acquiring up to how much percent stake in Federal, RBL Bank?

- A) 8.95%** **B) 9.95%**
C) 7.95% **D) 5.95%**



Answer : B

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has accorded approval to ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company Ltd (ICICI AMC) for acquiring up to 9.95 percent stake in the bank.
 - ✓ The approval granted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is subject to compliance with the relevant provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, RBI's Master Direction and Guidelines on Acquisition and Holding of Shares or Voting Rights in Banking Companies dated January 16, 2023.
 - ✓ Meanwhile, RBI also accorded approval to ICICI AMC to acquire a 9.95 percent stake in RBL Bank and Equitas Small Finance Bank.

Q.28. Which company has signed an MoU with Adani Total Gas Ltd (ATGL) for supply chain decarbonization?

- A) Snapdeal
 - B) Amazon
 - C) Meesho
 - D) Flipkart

Answer : D

- ✓ Adani Total Gas Ltd (ATGL) and Flipkart have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on decarbonizing Flipkart's supply chain.
 - ✓ The initiative aims to reduce Flipkart's carbon footprint in the primary, secondary, and tertiary movements of goods across sourcing locations, warehouses, and customer deliveries.
 - ✓ Under the MoU, ATGL will provide decarbonizing solutions, supporting Flipkart's transition to cleaner fuel options, including natural gas, and the integration of electric vehicles (EVs).
 - ✓ Adani Total Energies E-Mobility Ltd (ATEL), a subsidiary of ATGL, will deploy EV charging infrastructure at Flipkart's pan-India supply chain, encompassing warehouses and logistics locations.
 - ✓ This partnership is expected to contribute to the decarbonization of the e-commerce logistics segment in India, which handles over 8 million shipments per day

Q.29. ISRO has launched FEAST software and book to guide faculty and students. What is the meaning of 'E' in 'FEAST'?

- A) Entire
 - B) Element
 - C) Exam
 - D) Effective

Answer : B



- ✓ The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) of the Indian space agency ISRO, has developed an analysis software that is used to perform Finite Element Analysis (FEA) of various types of structures including rockets, aircraft, satellites, buildings, etc.
- ✓ FEA is a computerised method for predicting how a component or a structure reacts to real-world forces—like various types of structural loads, thermal conditions and other physical effects that a structure experiences while in operation.
- ✓ During the design and development phase of a product, FEA is carried out to evaluate how well and safely the structure/component can withstand the various loads, and perform its intended function without any failure.
- ✓ With their latest offering—an FEA software known as FEAST (Finite Element Analysis of Structures)—Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) hopes to take this indigenous and customisable FEA software to the Indian user base.
- ✓ FEAST is available in three versions, based on the sophisticating levels and requirements of a broad category of users — academic (for students and educational institutions), premium (for small and medium scale industries) and professional (for general large-scale applications).

Q.30. Which country has conducted a successful flight test of the indigenously developed guided multi-launch rocket system ‘Fatah-II’, which is capable of engaging targets with high precision up to a range of 400 kilometers?

- A) Pakistan
- B) Saudi Arabia
- C) UAE
- D) Iran

Answer : A

- ✓ Pakistan has conducted a successful flight test of indigenously developed guided multi-launch rocket system ‘Fatah-II’, which is capable of engaging targets with high precision up to a range of 400 kilometres.
- ✓ The ‘Fatah-II’ is “equipped with state-of-the-art avionics, sophisticated navigation system and unique flight trajectory,” the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the military.
- ✓ The weapon system is capable of engaging targets with high precision up to a range of 400 kilometres.



Q.31. With reference to Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY), consider the following statements:

1. It is a small-deposit scheme tailored specifically for the girl child.
 2. NRIs are not eligible to open these accounts.
 3. There is no maximum limit for a family to open SSY scheme accounts.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A) Only one
 - B) Only two
 - C) All three
 - D) None

Answer : B

- ✓ The Government recently raised the interest rates on the Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY) scheme by 20 basis points to 8.2 percent from the existing 8 percent.
 - ✓ About Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana:
 - ✓ SSY is a savings scheme launched in 2015 under the Government of India's " Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" campaign, which aimed to promote the education of girl children.
 - ✓ SSY is a small-deposit scheme tailored specifically for the girl child.
 - ✓ This scheme enables guardians to open a savings account for their girl child with an authorised commercial bank or India Post branch.
 - ✓ Eligibility:
 - ✓ The girl must be an Indian resident.
 - ✓ The account can be initiated by the parent or legal guardian of the girl child.
 - ✓ The girl child must be below the age of 10 at the time of opening the account.
 - ✓ Only one SSY account is allowed per girl child.
 - ✓ A family is limited to opening a maximum of two SSY scheme accounts.
 - ✓ NRIs are not eligible to open these accounts.
 - ✓ The girl must operate the account once she attains the age of 18 years.
 - ✓ Features:
 - ✓ The minimum and maximum deposits that can be made in an account in a financial year are Rs.250 and Rs.1.5 lakh, respectively. The deposits can be made in multiples of 100.
 - ✓ Deposits towards the scheme should be made for a period of 15 years. However, the scheme matures after 21 years.



- ✓ No interest will be payable once the account completes twenty-one years from the date of opening.
- ✓ Partial Withdrawal:
- ✓ Withdrawal up to a maximum of 50% of the amount in the account at the end of the financial year preceding the year of application for withdrawal shall be allowed for the purpose of education of the account holder.
- ✓ Such withdrawal shall be allowed only after the account holder has attained the age of 18 years or has passed the 10th standard, whichever is earlier.
- ✓ Tax benefits: To encourage investments in SSY, the scheme offers the following tax benefits:
- ✓ Section 80C Deductions: Investments made in the SSY scheme can be deducted under Section 80C of the Income Tax Act up to a maximum cap of Rs. 1.5 lakh.
- ✓ Tax-Exempt Interest: The interest that accrues on the Sukanya Samridhi Yojana account, compounded annually, is exempt from tax under Section 10 of the Income Tax Act.
- ✓ Tax-Free Proceeds: The proceeds received upon maturity or withdrawal from the SSY account is also exempt from income tax.

STATIC GK Based Current Affairs MCQs 31,1&2 December 2023

Q.1. Where is the headquarter of FAO situated?

- A) Geneva, Switzerland B) Rome, Italy
C) Beijing, China D) New York, USA

Answer : B

Q.2. Nathpa Jhakri Dam is situated in which state?

- A) Gujarat B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Uttarakhand D) Odisha

Answer : B

- ✓ Nathpa Jhakri Dam is built on the Satluj River in Himachal Pradesh

Q.3. In which state is the Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary situated?

- A) Gujarat B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Chhattisgarh D) Uttarakhand

Answer : B



Q.4. “Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi” is the tagline of which bank?

- A) IDFC Bank** **B) RBL Bank**
C) Kotak Mahindra Bank **D) Axis Bank**

Answer : D

Q.5. Sattriya is the dance form of which state?

- A) Assam** **B) Jharkhand**
C) Manipur **D) Chhattisgarh**

Answer : A

Q.6. Port Moresby is the capital of which country?

- A) Albania** **B) Slovenia**
C) Papua New Guinea **D) Romania**

Answer : C

- ✓ Country: Papua New Guinea; Currency: Kina

Q.7. Carloz Alcaraz is a player related to which sports?

- A) Football
 - B) Chess
 - C) Tennis
 - D) Basketball

Answer : C

Q.8. What is round revolution related to?

- A) Tomato Production
 - B) Potato Production
 - C) Cotton Production
 - D) Cocoa Production

Answer : B



Q.9. Who has authored the book “The Golden Years”?

- A) Aditya Bhushan
- B) Anirudh Bhattacharjee
- C) Anurag Behar
- D) Ruskin Bond

Answer : D

Q.10. Which of the following Temple is situated in Assam?

- A) Vishwanath Temple
- B) Kamakhya Temple
- C) Natraj Temple Temple
- D) Vaishno Devi Temple

Answer : B



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD (🔥)

NAME - PRIYADARSHINI
KALIYAMOORTHY
ROLL NO - [2120036944](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK
STATE - TAMILNADU



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY
ROLL NO - [2603003298](#)
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART
GRAMIN BANK CLERK
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - ISHITA GARG
ROLL NO - [2283004123](#)
STATE - PUNJAB
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

NAME - NIPUN
ROLL NO - [1533002831](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - PRAVEEN
ROLL NO - [1801005776](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
KARNATAKA GRAMMENA
BANK
STATE - KARNATAKA



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



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - NISHU SHARMA
ROLL NO - [1523008901](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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NAME - GURIYA KUMARI
ROLL NO - [1373006773](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN
BANK



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - GURPREET KAUR
ROLL NO - [2283002821](#)
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



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

NAME - MANU VARGHESE
ROLL NO - [2110710970](#)
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN
BANK CLERK