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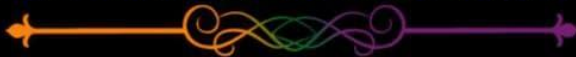


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## Aparchit January 3rd Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts By :- **Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir**

**Q. Which bank of India has introduced the Green Rupee Term Deposit?**

- A) State Bank of India (SBI)                      B) HDFC Bank  
C) ICICI Bank    D) Indian Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) recently introduced the SBI Green Rupee Term Deposit (SGRTD) scheme to mobilise funds to support environment friendly initiatives and projects.
- ✓ About SBI Green Rupee Term Deposit (SGRTD) Scheme:
- ✓ It is an initiative of the State Bank of India (SBI) with the aim of raising money to finance environment-friendly projects.
- ✓ The deposit scheme is open to resident individuals, non-individuals, and non-resident Indian (NRI) customers.
- ✓ The current framework permits green deposits to be denominated in rupees only.
- ✓ It offers investors the flexibility to choose from three distinct tenors: 1,111 days, 1,777 days, and 2,222 days.
- ✓ What is a Green Deposit?
- ✓ A Green deposit is an interest-bearing deposit, received by the regulated entities (RE) for a fixed period, the proceeds of which are earmarked for being allocated towards green finance.
- ✓ The deposits raised under the framework are covered by the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).

### SBI IN NEWS 2023-24

- State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced SBI Green Rupee Term Deposit (SGRTD) scheme to mobilise funds to support environment friendly initiatives and projects.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a Line of Credit (LOC) of Euro 70 million (about Rs 630 crore) with German development bank KfW to promote solar projects in the country.
- SBI Mutual Fund got permission from the RBI to buy up to a 9.99% share in Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates SBI branch in Sri Lanka.
- State Bank of India ropes in MS Dhoni as brand ambassador.





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- 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 (NCCM) that can be used nationwide.
- 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 (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. Who recently launched the secure army mobile ecosystem 'SAMBHAV'?**

A) Indian Navy

B) Indian Air Force

C) Indian Army

D) Indian Coast Guard

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Indian Army has developed an indigenously developed "end-to-end secure mobile ecosystem" with instant connectivity on the move, named 'SAMBHAV' (Secure Army Mobile Bharat Version).





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- Unmesha' – International Literature Festival and 'Utkarsh' – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Festival of Libraries 2023 : New Delhi .
- Chachin Grazing Festival : Arunachal Pradesh
- Harela Festival : Uttarakhand
- Bonalu Festival : Telangana
- Kharchi Puja : Tripura
- Palkhi festival : Maharashtra
- Raja festival : Odisha

**Q. Famous classical singer Prabha Atre, who passed away recently, belonged to which family?**

- A) Gwalior Gharana                      B) Patiala Gharana  
C) Kirana Gharana                      D) Rampur Gharana

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Renowned classical singer and Padma Vibhushan awardee Prabha Atre passed away at the age of 92.
- ✓ Prabha Atre was associated with 'Kirana Gharana' of Hindustani classical music.
- ✓ In the year 1991, he was honored with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and he was also honored with Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, 'Rashtriya Kalidas Award' and 'Tagore Academy Ratna Award'.
- ✓ 1990 – Padma Shri.
- ✓ 2002 – Padma Bhushan.
- ✓ 2022 – Padma Vibhushan.
- ✓ Prabha Atre was an Indian classical vocalist from the Kirana gharana. She was awarded all three of the Padma Awards by the Government of India.

**Q. Kachchhi Kharek (dates), which has recently received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag, belongs to which state?**

- A) Andhra Pradesh                      B) Gujarat  
C) Goa                                      D) Bihar

**Answer : B**





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- ✓ Kachchhi Kharek, the indigenous variety of dates of Kutch, has become the second fruit of Gujarat to get a geographical indication (GI) tag from the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDT) of India.
- ✓ About Kachchhi Kharek:
- ✓ The presence of dates in Kachchh (Kutch) is believed to be around 400-500 years old.
- ✓ It is believed that date palm groves along the north-western border of India have developed from the seeds thrown by the settlers, who used to visit Middle-East countries for Haj.

## GI TAG IN NEWS 2023-24

- Kachchhi Kharek, the indigenous variety of dates of Kutch, has become the second fruit of Gujarat to get a geographical indication (GI) tag.
- West Bengal achieves Geographical Indication tags for distinctive products, including 'Mouban' honey from Sunderbans, 'Prince of Rice' Black Nunia rice, and traditional Tangail, Gorod, etc.
  - 1. Recognition of Sunderbans Honey – 'Mouban'
  - 2. Black Nunia Rice – 'Prince of Rice'
  - 3. Distinctive Sarees – Tangail, Gorod, and Kadiyal.
- As a part of the National GI Drive Mission, 'Kadiyal Sarees' of West Bengal have been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Ladakh secures 4th GI tag for Sea Buckthorn.
- The famous Kadaknath chicken meat from Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh has now got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- 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.













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**Q. Which nation's King Frederik X took the throne after the abdication of his mother Queen Margrethe II?**

- A) Denmark  
B) Norway  
C) Sweden  
D) Poland

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Denmark's King Frederik X took the throne after the abdication of his mother Queen Margrethe II.
- ✓ For many in Denmark, his mother Margrethe was the only monarch they had ever known. But her shock abdication, after more than five decades on the throne, paved the way for her son, the former Crown Prince Frederik, to succeed her.
- ✓ About Denmark
- ✓ Capital : Copenhagen
- ✓ Currency : Danish krone
- ✓ Prime Minister : Mette Frederiksen

**Q. William Lai was elected president of which country?**

- A) North Korea  
B) Taiwan  
C) South Korea  
D) Laos

**Answer : B**

- ✓ William Lai, also known as Lai Ching-te, from the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) won Taiwan's presidential election.
- ✓ He was competing against two other candidates, including Hou Yu-ih from the conservative Kuomintang (KMT) and former Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je from the Taiwan People's Party which was only founded in 2019.
- ✓ About Taiwan
- ✓ Capital : Taipei City
- ✓ Currency : New Taiwan dollar
- ✓ President : William Lai







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**Q. Renowned Poet Munawwar Rana passed away recently at the age of 71. He was the poet of which language?**

- A) Urdu  
B) Sanskrit  
C) Marathi  
D) Bengali

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Renowned poet Munawwar Rana passed away at the age of 71.
- ✓ Born in 1952 in Rae Bareli, Munawwar Rana was awarded the Gyanpeeth Award in 2014 for 'Shahdaba'.
- ✓ His use of simple words in the poems made his works popular among the common people.
- ✓ in Gujarat. Individuals from across the globe came to show off their kites

**Q. Which day has been declared by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to be observed as 'National Start-up Day' in India?**

- A) January 15  
B) January 17  
C) January 18  
D) January 16

**Answer : D**

- ✓ In 2022, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi had officially declared 16 January as National Startup Day.
- ✓ Under the Startup India programme, startups in the country expanded from around 400 to 1.18 lakh.
- ✓ In 2024, Startup India recognized 10-18 January as Innovation Week 2024 with the theme, "Celebrating 8 Years of Innovation."
- ✓ So far, the Indian government has given 2,977 income tax exemptions and provided 3,658 startups with funds under the SIDBI Fund of Funds scheme, established in 2016 with a corpus of ₹10,000 crore.
- ✓ The scheme also gives capital to Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) registered with SEBI, also called daughter funds. These funds invest money in startups through equity and equity-linked instruments.

**Q. Recently, Japanese Yen Denominated Green Bonds were issued by:**

- A) REC Limited  
B) Reserve Bank of India  
C) Ministry of Power  
D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ REC Limited issues inaugural Yen Denominated Green Bonds aggregating to 61.1 Billion Japanese Yen.
- ✓ REC Limited, a Maharatna and a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Power, has achieved a significant milestone by issuing its inaugural Japanese Yen (JPY) 61.1 billion green bonds under the Global Medium Term Notes Programme.
- ✓ About the Yen Denominated Green Bonds:
- ✓ It is REC Limited's eleventh venture into the international bond market and inaugural Yen Bond issuance, which is also the first Yen Green Bonds issuance by any Indian PSU.
- ✓ Time period: 5-year, 5.25-year and 10-year bonds issued at yield of 1.76%, 1.79% and 2.20% respectively
- ✓ It is the largest ever Euro-Yen issuance in South and South East Asia.
- ✓ It is the largest Yen-denominated issuance from India.
- ✓ Largest non-sovereign Yen-denominated issuance ever from South and South East Asia.

## REC LTD IN NEWS 2023-24

- REC Limited issues inaugural Yen Denominated Green Bonds aggregating to 61.1 Billion Japanese Yen.
- REC sets ₹1 lakh crore sanction target for infrastructure space including roads and highways in FY24.
- REC Invests Rs. 35,000 Cr In Multi-Modal Projects With Rail Vikas Nigam For 5 Years.
- REC Honoured with 'Best Employer in Diversity & Inclusion' Award by Assocham.
- RailTel has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with REC Ltd extending up to Rs 30,000 crore as financial assistance for telecom, IT and railway signaling infrastructure projects.
- REC Ltd gets Golden Peacock Award for Disaster Management.
- REC Limited, the Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise launched a SUGAM REC mobile application.
- REC Limited and Punjab National Bank have signed an MoU to explore funding possibilities in the Power Infrastructure and logistics sectors.
- The consortium arrangement will co-finance loans worth Rs 55,000 crores over the next three years.
- REC Ltd has become the 12th company to attain the Maharatna status
- REC Limited, formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
- Founded : 1969
- Headquarters : New Delhi





- CMD : Vivek Kumar Dewangan
- REC was formerly known as Rural Electrification Corporation Limited.
- REC Limited is an NBFC focused on financing and development of the power sector across India.
- REC Limited has also recently started services in the financing infrastructure and logistics sector.
- REC funding lights every fourth bulb in India. REC is a 'Maharatna' company under the Ministry of Power.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Pinaka Weapon System:**

**1. It is a multi-barrel rocket launcher developed by India.**

**2. It has a range of more than 1000 km.**

**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**

- ✓ According to defence officials, two South American countries have shown interest in the Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers.
- ✓ About Pinaka:
- ✓ Pinaka is a Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL).
- ✓ The Pinaka MBRL is designed by the Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), a laboratory of the DRDO.
- ✓ It was first used during the Kargil War, where it successfully neutralised Pakistan Army positions on the mountain tops.
- ✓ It has a range of 60 to 75 kilometers.
- ✓ The system is mounted on a Tatra truck for mobility.

**Q. Maritime exercise 'Ayutthaya' is conducted between the navies of India and which country?**

**A) Thailand**

**B) Japan**

**C) Vietnam**

**D) France**

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Recently, the first bilateral maritime exercise 'Ayutthaya' was conducted between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy.
- ✓ This is a bilateral exercise between India and Thailand. Indigenously built Indian Navy ships Kulish and IN LCU 56 participated in this naval exercise.

## EXERCISE IN NEWS 2023-24

- The maiden Bilateral Maritime Exercise -Ayutthaya' between the Indian Navy (IN) and Royal Thai Navy (RTN) was conducted.
- The 12th edition of the Multilateral Naval Exercise - 2024 (Milan) is set to take place at Visakhapatnam from February 19 to 27.
- Indian Armed Forces contingent comprising 45 personnel reached Hanoi, Vietnam to take part in the Joint Military Exercise VINBAX-2023.
- This year's exercise will be conducted at Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise "VAJRA PRAHAR 2023" commenced at the Joint Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya.
- A joint military exercise, "Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023" is being conducted from November 16th to 29th, 2023, in Aundh (Pune), Maharashtra.
- It is a joint military exercise between India and Sri Lankan army.
- This year is the ninth edition of the exercise.
- The coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' is set to unfold its strategic manoeuvres along the Kerala and Mahe coasts.
- Coordinated by the Indian Coast Guard.
- Much-anticipated joint exercise 'Trishakti Prahar' recently began near the western border of Rajasthan in Jaisalmer.
- Exercise CORPAT and BONGOSAGAR between the Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy were conducted in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 07 - 09 Nov 2023.
- Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023 commenced in Umroi Cantonment, India.
- It is a joint bilateral training exercise between Indian & Malaysian Armed Forces.
- The 19th edition of "EXERCISE YUDH ABHYAS" will be conducted from 25th September to 8th October



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➤ 2023 in Fort Wainwright, Alaska, USA.

**Q. Who was awarded the Best FIFA Men's Player Award?**

- A) Erling Holland                      B) Lionel Messi  
C) Kylian Mbappe                      D) Pep Guardiola

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Argentina Football Legend Lionel Messi was named crowned FIFA The Best Men's Player of 2023. After winning the award two times previously in 2019 and 2022, he clinched the award for a record third time.
- ✓ Messi had also won the Ballon d'Or award for the eighth time in 2023.
- ✓ Spain and Barcelona star Aitana Bonmati won the Best FIFA Women's Player 2023.
- ✓ She won three more major titles in 2023 for FC Barcelona, including UEFA Women's Champions League, Liga F, and Supercopa de Espana Femenina.
- ✓ FIFA Best Awards winners 2024
- ✓ Men's player : Lionel Messi
- ✓ Women's player : Aitana Bonmati
- ✓ Men's coach : Pep Guardiola
- ✓ Women's coach : Sarina Wiegman
- ✓ Men's goalkeeper : Ederson
- ✓ Women's goalkeeper : Mary Earps
- ✓ Puskas Award : Guilherme Madruga
- ✓ Fair Play : Brazil men's national team for efforts fighting racism

**Q. Which of the following Women Football Players won the FIFA Best woman's player award 2023?**

- A) Lucy Bronze                      B) Alexia Putellas  
C) Jennifer Hermoso                      D) Aitana Bonmati

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Spain and Barcelona star Aitana Bonmati won the Best FIFA Women's Player 2023.
- ✓ She won three more major titles in 2023 for FC Barcelona, including UEFA Women's Champions League, Liga F, and Supercopa de Espana Femenina.





**Q. Which ship of the Indian Navy decommissioned recently?**

- A) Khanderi  
B) Cheetah  
C) Karanj  
D) Vela

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Recently, Indian Navy ships Cheetah, Guldar and Kumbhir have been decommissioned after four decades of glorious service.
- ✓ The decommissioning ceremony was held at Port Blair and the national flag, naval ensign and decommissioning pennants of the three ships were lowered for the last time.
- ✓ Cheetah, Guldar and Kumbhir were built at the Gdynia Shipyard in Poland.
- ✓ These ships were inducted into the Indian Navy in 1984, 1985 and 1986 respectively.

**Q. With which country has India signed an agreement for exploration and mining of Lithium?**

- A) Malaysia  
B) Argentina  
C) France  
D) Australia

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Ministry of Mines, Government of India has recently signed an agreement with Catamarca Minería y Energética Sociedad del Estado (Camayan SE), a state-owned enterprise of Catamarca Province, Argentina.
- ✓ Under this, Mineral Videsh India Limited will do the exploration and mining of five lithium blocks.
- ✓ Argentina is a South American country. It is the second largest country in South America after Brazil.

### SIGNS MoU IN NEWS 2023-24

- India Signs Agreement for Lithium Exploration & Mining Project in Argentina.
- Cabinet approves the Migration and Mobility Agreement between India and Italy
- India and Italy sign Mobility and Migration Partnership Agreement to facilitate movement of workers.
- India-Japan pact on semiconductor supply chain gets Cabinet green light.
- India, Italy sign defence agreement.
- India and Tanzania elevate ties to Strategic Partnership; Agree on 5 year roadmap for defence cooperation.



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- 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. Who won the title of 'Best Drama Series' at the 75th Emmy Awards?**

- A) Succession
- B) The Bear
- C) The White Lotus
- D) jury duty

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The 75th Emmy Awards have been announced.
- ✓ 'The Bear' and 'Succession' each captured six awards.
- ✓ "The Bear" was awarded the title of Best Comedy.
- ✓ Road rage drama "Beef" won the Best Limited Edition award.



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- ✓ The award for best drama series was given to 'Succession'.
- ✓ 'Kieran Culkin' was given the Best Actor Award in the Drama Series category.
- ✓ The 75th Primetime Emmy Awards honored the best in American prime time television programming from June 1, 2022, until May 31, 2023, as chosen by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.
- ✓ The ceremony was broadcast on Fox on January 15, 2024, with the 75th Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards on January 6 and 7 at the Peacock Theater in Downtown Los Angeles, California.

**Q. Who inaugurated the 5th edition of Meghalaya Games?**

A) Draupadi Murmu

B) Narendra Modi

C) Rajnath Singh

D) S Jaishankar

**Answer : A**

- ✓ President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the 5th edition of Meghalaya Games in Tura, Meghalaya. On this occasion, the President said that there is tremendous potential for the development of sports and players in the North-Eastern region.
- ✓ These games were started in the year 2001. Its fourth edition was organized in the year 2022.
- ✓ 3000 athletes are participating in these games to be held for 6 days.

**Q. Who was appointed as the 'Director General of Naval Operations' in the Indian Navy?**

A) Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh

B) Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi

C) Vice Admiral AN Pramod

D) Vice Admiral Suraj Berry

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Vice Admiral AN Pramod has been appointed as the Director General of Naval Operations (DGNO).
- ✓ AN Pramod was appointed to the Indian Navy in 1990.
- ✓ He is an alumnus of the 38th Integrated Cadet Course, Naval Academy, Goa

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the e-SAKSHI Application:**

1. It is used for revised fund flow procedure under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLAD) Scheme.

2. It was launched by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.





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**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 Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application.
- ✓ It was launched for revised fund flow procedure under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLAD) Scheme.
- ✓ It will bring forth a myriad of benefits, revolutionizing the way Members of Parliament engage with and manage development projects in their constituencies.
- ✓ It would offer convenience and accessibility, allowing MPs to propose, track, and oversee the projects at their fingertips.
- ✓ This real-time access enhances decision-making processes, enabling swift responses to emerging needs or issues

**Q. Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival is mainly celebrated in:**

A) Odisha

B) Assam

C) Kerala

D) Arunachal Pradesh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The 9th edition of the Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival (PPHF), a state festival of Arunachal Pradesh, will take place at Seijosa in the Pakke Kessang district from January 18-20, 2024.
- ✓ The first-ever PPHF was held in 2015.
- ✓ The aim was to recognise the role played by the Nyishi tribal group in conserving hornbills in Pakke Tiger Reserve (PTR).
- ✓ This year, the festival's theme is Domutoh Domutoh, Paga hum Domutoh. It translates to 'Let Our Hornbills Remain' in the Nyishi language.



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**Q. Simmtech has signed an MoU with the Gujarat government to set up its plant in Sanand at a cost of Rs1,250 crore to create a semiconductor ecosystem in the state. Simmtech is the company of which country?**

A) Russia

B) Israel

C) Japan

D) South Korea

**Answer : D**

- ✓ South Korean firm Simmtech signs MoU for creating semiconductor ecosystem in Gujarat
- ✓ After US chipmaker Micron and Tata group, South Korean firm Simmtech has signed an MoU with the Gujarat government to set up its plant in Sanand at a cost of Rs1,250 crore as part of creating a semiconductor ecosystem in the state.
- ✓ Simmtech is the world's biggest manufacturer of semiconductor substrates.
- ✓ The company has been given subsidy under SPECS (Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS) by the centre as well as state government.

**Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released how much rupees the first installment for pucca homes under the PM-JANMAN Scheme?**

A) ₹340 crore

B) ₹440 crore

C) ₹640 crore

D) ₹540 crore

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released ₹540 crore — the first installment of funding — for pucca homes under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) to one lakh Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) beneficiary families as part of the recently-launched PM-JANMAN package for the overall development of PVTG habitations.
- ✓ Simultaneously, in 100 districts, officials of both the Centre and the respective State governments will distribute benefits under the package to Gram Panchayats and village chiefs.
- ✓ In the two months since the Prime Minister launched the scheme on November 15, the government had sanctioned projects worth over ₹4,700 crore through nine Ministries under the PM-JANMAN package, which includes the first installment for PMAY(G) homes for one lakh beneficiaries.
- ✓ About Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN)
- ✓ PM-JANMAN was launched for the socio-economic welfare of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) on November 15, 2023 on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.







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- ✓ This innovation aligns with the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) efforts to enhance infrastructure sustainability in the country.

**Q. Which of the following state governments has recently declared January 22 as a dry day to mark the consecration of Lord Ram's temple in Ayodhya?**

- A) Chhattisgarh                      B) Madhya Pradesh  
C) Uttar Pradesh                      D) Bihar

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh government has declared January 22 as a dry day, when liquor shops will remain closed to mark the consecration of Lord Ram's temple in Ayodhya.
- ✓ Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that keeping in view the public sentiments, the state government has decided that all types of shops including liquor and Bhang outlets will remain closed on the 22nd of this month.
- ✓ Meanwhile, states including Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, and Assam have already declared January 22 a 'dry day' given the Pran Pratishtha ceremony.

**Q. The Reserve Bank imposed penalties totalling how much crore rupees on Dhanlaxmi Bank, Punjab and Sind Bank, and ESAF Small Finance Bank for contravention of regulatory norms?**

- A) 2.39 crore                      B) 2.49 crore  
C) 2.69 crore                      D) 2.89 crore

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank has imposed penalties totalling ₹2.49 crore on three banks, including Dhanlaxmi Bank and Punjab and Sind Bank, for contravention of regulatory norms.
- ✓ A penalty of ₹1.20 crore has been slapped on Dhanlaxmi Bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances — Statutory and Other Restrictions', KYC, and certain norms related to interest rate on deposits.
- ✓ Further, a fine of ₹1 crore has been imposed on Punjab and Sind Bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances — Statutory and Other Restrictions'.
- ✓ The central bank has also imposed a penalty of ₹29.55 lakh on ESAF Small Finance Bank for non-compliance with the directions issued by it on 'Customer Service in Banks'.



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**Q. Hyderabad DLabs at the Indian School of Business (ISB) has launched 'Build for Billions' in partnership with Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) and which bank?**

- A) Karur Vyasya Bank                      B) Karnataka Bank  
C) Union Bank of India                      D) Indian Overseas Bank

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Hyderabad DLabs at the Indian School of Business (ISB) has launched 'Build for Billions', a startup accelerator programme, themed around financial inclusion for the informal economy, in partnership with Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) and Union Bank of India.
- ✓ Gig workers, migrant workers, domestic workers, street vendors, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and construction labourers — representing the informal economy — face multifaceted challenges
- ✓ Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor of RBI has inaugurated the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) on March 24, 2022 in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ✓ RBI has set up the RBIH with an initial capital contribution of Rs. 100 crore.
- ✓ The objective of RBIH is to encourage and nurture financial innovation in a sustainable manner through an institutional set-up. It has been setup as a Section 8 company under Companies Act, 2013.
- ✓ Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) is one of the five wholly-owned subsidiaries of the RBI

**Q. Which company has signed pacts to buy Capital Foods, Organic India?**

- A) Jio Mart                                      B) Tata Consumer  
C) Big Bazar                                      D) Vishal Mega Mart

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Tata Consumer Products Ltd (TCPL) has signed definitive agreements to fully acquire Capital Foods, owner of Ching's Secret and Smith & Jones, and Organic India, the Fabindia-backed organic teas and health products maker.
- ✓ TCPL will pay an enterprise value on a no cash-no debt basis of ₹5,100 crore for 100% stake in Capital Foods.
- ✓ TCPL will acquire 75% of Capital Foods upfront and the remaining 25% over the next three years.

**Q. Who has become the first men's player to play 150 T20Is?**

- A) Glenn Maxwell                              B) Virat Kohli  
C) KL Rahul                                      D) Rohit Sharma

**Answer : D**

- ✓ India captain Rohit Sharma has become the first men's player to play 150 T20Is.



- ✓ Rohit achieved this feat during the second T20I match against Afghanistan at the Holkar Cricket Stadium.
- ✓ Rohit returned to India's T20I setup for the first time since the end of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022. He led his side to a 6-wicket victory over Afghanistan in the first T20I in Mohali.
- ✓ Rohit also secured another milestone by becoming the first player to win 100 T20Is.
- ✓ Stirling has played 134 matches in his career. His Ireland colleague, George Dockrell, is third on the list, having played 128 matches.

**Q. Which bank has launched the Money2India app, which allows customers of any Canadian bank to send money to any bank in India?**

A) Yes Bank

B) HDFC Bank

C) Axis Bank

D) ICICI Bank

**Answer : D**

- ✓ ICICI Bank Canada Launches 'Money2India (Canada)' Mobile Banking App
- ✓ ICICI Bank Canada, a subsidiary of ICICI Bank Ltd., has launched the app Money2India, which allows customers of any Canadian bank to send money to any bank in India without an account with ICICI Bank Canada.
- ✓ Customers can send money directly through the app via Visa or Mastercard.
- ✓ The introduction of the 'Money2India (Canada)' app reflects our commitment to providing users with a convenient and enriched experience

### ICICI BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- ICICI Bank Canada Launches 'Money2India (Canada)' Mobile Banking App.
- iVIS, a subsidiary of Magellanic Cloud, has announced its empanelment with ICICI Bank for the delivery of e-surveillance services across branches.
- ICICI Bank receives RBI's nod to make Securities a wholly-owned subsidiary.
- ICICI Bank Introduces 'iFinance,' A One-Stop Solution for Multi-Bank Account Access.
- IIT Kanpur has signed an MoU with private lender ICICI Bank to support the startup ecosystem in the institute.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken strict measures against two prominent banking institutions, Kotak Mahindra Bank penalty of Rs 3.95 crore and ICICI Bank penalty of Rs 12.19 crore, by imposing significant penalties.





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- RBI approves reappointment of Sandeep Bakshi as ICICI Bank MD & CEO for three more years till October 2026.
- ICICI Bank gets RBI nod to make I-Process Services as wholly-owned subsidiary.
- Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) BANK
- Founded : 1994
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sandeep Bakhshi
- Tagline : Hum Hai Na Khayal Apka.

**Q. Who led the main rituals of the much-awaited consecration ceremony of Shri Ram Lalla in Ayodhya?**

- A) Draupadi Murmu                      B) Narendra Modi  
C) Amit Shah                              D) Yogi Adityanath

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The much-awaited consecration ceremony of Shri Ram Lalla was held in Ayodhya, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi leading the rituals at the newly constructed grand temple.
- ✓ He also unveiled the idol of Ramlala in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple.

**Q. Who is the chief architect of the construction of Ayodhya Ram temple?**

- A) Ram Sutar                              B) Chandrakant Sompura  
C) Arun Yogiraj                          D) Jagan Mohan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The chief architect of Ayodhya Ram temple is Chandrakant Sompura.
- ✓ Chandrakant comes from a family which has already been engaged in temple construction work for years.
- ✓ Notable temples designed by him include Somnath Temple in Gujarat, Swaminarayan Temple in Mumbai, Akshardham Temple Complex in Gujarat and Birla Temple in Kolkata

**Q. What is the name of the trust behind the construction of the Ram Mandir?**

- A) Shri Ayodhya Dharmarth Samiti      B) Rama Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust  
C) Vishva Hindu Parishad                  D) Indian Archaeological Society

**Answer : B**



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**Q. Which architectural style of Ayodhya Ram Mandir?**

- A) Mughal
- B) European
- C) Dravidian
- D) Nagara

**Answer : D**

**Q. Who sculpted the idols of Ram Lalla for the Ram Mandir?**

- A) K. G. Subramaniam Iyer
- B) Ram Sutar
- C) Arun Yogiraj
- D) M. F. Husain

**Answer : C**

**Q. What is the estimated cost of Ayodhya Ram Mandir's construction?**

- A) ₹1,000 crore
- B) ₹15,00 crore
- C) ₹18,00 crore
- D) ₹20,00 crore

**Answer : C**



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### Ram temple at Ayodhya

**Facts & Figures**

- Estimated cost of temple: **₹1800 crore**
- Total land: **70 acres**
- Main temple land: **2.77 acres**
- Floors: **3**
- Gates: **12**
- Doors: **44**
- Total built-up area: **57,400 Sq. ft.**
- Height of each floor: **20 ft.**
- No. of columns in ground floor: **160**
- No. of columns in first floor: **132**
- No. of columns in second floor: **74**
- No. of pedes and pavilions: **5**

Length: 360 ft. Width: 235 ft. Height: 161 ft.

### Ram temple at Ayodhya

Shikhara (Flag)  
Mandaps  
Garbh Griha (Temple sanctum)

- Ram Darbar comprises **statues of Ram, Sita, Lakshman, & Hanuman**
- Temple can accommodate **1500** people at a time
- Expected daily footfall: **1-2 lakh**
- Expected footfall on special days: **upto 5 lakh**

Pradhakshin patha  
16 ft.  
32 steps

Source: Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, Businessline

- ✓ The Ram Mandir is a Hindu temple in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. It is located at the site of Ram Janmabhoomi, the birthplace of Lord Rama.
- ✓ No iron or steel has been used in the construction of the grand structure. Stones have been sourced from Rajasthan's Bansi Paharpur area.
- ✓ The temple complex, built in the traditional Nagara style, will be 380 feet long from the east to the west, 250 feet wide and 161 feet high.
- ✓ Each floor of the temple will be 20 feet high and have a total 392 pillars and 44 gates.
- ✓ Around the grand temple is a rectangular periphery called percota, a feature found in temples in south India, but not generally in north India.
- ✓ The percota will be 14 feet wide and the periphery span 732 metres. The temple will be nestled within the percota periphery.
- ✓ Important Facts about Ram Mandir
- ✓ Chief Architects : Chandrakant Sompura, and his two sons – Nikhil Sompura and Ashish Sompura.





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- ✓ Construction Company : Larsen and Toubro (L&T)
- ✓ Sculptors : Arun Yogiraj (Mysore), Ganesh Bhatt and Satyanarayan Pandey
- ✓ Total Area : 70 Acre (70% green Area)
- ✓ Temple Area : 2.77 Acre
- ✓ Temple Dimensions : Length – 380 Ft.
- ✓ Width – 250 Ft.
- ✓ Height – 161 Ft.
- ✓ Architectural Style : Indian Nagar Style
- ✓ Bansi Paharpur Pink Sandstone from Rajasthan's Bharatpur district have been used in the main temple structure.
- ✓ The main temple is built in Nagara Style.
- ✓ The original design for Ram Mandir was developed in 1988 by the Sompura family of Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The revered temple consists of a total of five Mandaps (Hall) – Nritya Mandap, Rang Mandap, Sabha Mandap, Prarthna, and Kirtan Mandaps.
- ✓ The temple has a total of 44 doors, of which some will be coated with 100 kg gold.
- ✓ The main entrance to the temple is called the Singh Dwar

**Q. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Praveen Achuthan Kutty as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of which bank?**

- A) Karur Vyasya Bank                      B) DCB Bank  
C) Union Bank of India                      D) Indian Overseas Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Praveen Achuthan Kutty as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of DCB Bank.
- ✓ The appointment is for a period of three years with effect from April 29, 2024, the bank said in a regulatory filing. The term of the bank's MD & CEO Murali Natrajan ends on April 28, 2024.
- ✓ DCB Bank Limited is a private sector scheduled commercial bank in India.
- ✓ Founded : 1930
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ✓ MD & CEO : Praveen Achuthan Kutty





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## Answer : C

- ✓ Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) launches scheme to incentivise production of green hydrogen.
- ✓ Rs 17,490 crore has been set aside for the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) programme, to bolster domestic electrolyser manufacturing, green hydrogen production..
- ✓ About Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Programme:
- ✓ It is a subcomponent of National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- ✓ Aim: To bolster domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production.
- ✓ In the initial stage, two distinct financial incentive mechanisms were proposed with an outlay of ₹ 17,490 crore up to 2029-30:
  - ✓ Incentive for manufacturing of electrolysers
  - ✓ Incentive for production of green hydrogen.
- ✓ Implementing agency: The Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) would be the implementing agency responsible for the scheme's execution.
- ✓ What is National Green Hydrogen Mission?
- ✓ It is implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy with an outlay of ₹ 19,744 crore from FY 2023–24 to FY 2029–30.
- ✓ The overarching objective of the Mission is to make India a global hub for the production, usage, and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.
- ✓ The expected outcomes of the mission by 2030, are as follows:
  - ✓ India's Green Hydrogen production capacity is likely to reach 5 MMT per annum, contributing to reduction in dependence on the import of fossil fuels. Achievement of Mission targets is expected to reduce a cumulative ₹ 1 lakh crore worth of fossil fuel imports by 2030.
- ✓ Green Hydrogen is produced by the process of electrolysis, where water is split into hydrogen and oxygen using electricity generated from renewable sources like solar, wind, or hydropower

**Q. What is the primary purpose of the NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter?**

- A) Conducting scientific experiments on Mars' surface
- B) Investigating the composition of Martian soil
- C) Performing experimental flight tests on Mars
- D) Observing Martian weather patterns





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## Answer : C

- ✓ NASA has re-established contact with its Ingenuity helicopter on Mars, the US space agency said recently.
- ✓ About Ingenuity Mars Helicopter:
  - ✓ It is a small, autonomous aircraft that flew to Mars aboard NASA's Perseverance rover.
  - ✓ It was sent to Mars to perform experimental flight tests to determine if powered, controlled flight at the Red Planet was possible.
  - ✓ Ingenuity's mission is experimental in nature and completely independent of the rover's science mission.
  - ✓ Ingenuity was deployed to the surface on April 4, 2021.
  - ✓ On April 19, it became the first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on another planet.
- ✓ Key Facts about Perseverance Rover:
  - ✓ It is a robotic explorer to land on Mars as part of NASA's ongoing Mars 2020 Mission

## NASA IN NEWS 2023-24

- NASA Re-Establishes Contact With Ingenuity Helicopter On Mars After Outage
- NASA has invited people to send their names to the surface of the Moon aboard the agency's first robotic lunar rover VIPER – short for Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover.
- NASA is gearing up to enhance our understanding of Earth's atmosphere with the upcoming Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem (PACE) mission, scheduled for launch in early 2024.
- NASA renames mission going to asteroid Apophis after returning rocks from Bennu.
- About OSIRIS-APEX:
  - It is a mission to study the physical changes to asteroid Apophis that will result from its rare close encounter with Earth in April 2029.
  - A NASA experiment on the Psyche spacecraft has beamed back a near-infrared laser that contains test data from almost 16 million kilometres away.
- 16 Psyche:
  - It is currently orbiting the Sun between Mars and Jupiter.
  - NASA is set to launch the Atmospheric Waves Experiment (AWE) to study 'airglow' to understand space weather.



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- NASA's James Webb Telescope recently discovered a new exoplanet named 'Wasp-107b', which is the size
- of Jupiter.
- NASA's Lucy spacecraft successfully completed its first flyby of an asteroid named Dinkinesh.
- About Lucy Mission:
- It is a first-of-its-kind mission of NASA that will explore Jupiter's elusive Trojan asteroids.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched a sounding rocket as part of its INFUSE mission.
- NASA's Subsurface Water Ice Mapping (SWIM) project released its fourth set of maps.
- NISAR is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Founded : 1958
- Headquarters : Washington, D.C
- Administrator : Bill Nelson

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Bureau of Police Research and Development:**

**1. It assists in modernization of the State Police forces.**

**2. It works under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.**

**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 Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) has warned users of different scams perpetrated through messaging platform WhatsApp.
- ✓ It was set up in 1970 under the Ministry of Home Affairs by replacing the Police Research and Advisory Council.
- ✓ Objectives
- ✓ To identify the needs and problems of the police in the country.







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- ✓ It is a revolutionary mobile hospital equipped with cutting-edge technology.
- ✓ This cube is a part of the broader initiative named “Project BHISHM” – Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog, Hita and Maitri.
- ✓ Features
- ✓ It is tailored to treat up to 200 casualties, emphasizing rapid response and comprehensive care.
- ✓ The Aid Cube is equipped with several innovative tools designed to enhance disaster response and medical support during emergencies.
- ✓ It integrates Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data analytics to facilitate effective coordination, real-time monitoring, and efficient management of medical services in the field.
- ✓ It has advanced medical equipment, RFID-tagged for efficient repacking and redeployment.
- ✓ The state-of-the-art BHISHM software system integrated into a provided tablet allows operators to locate items quickly, monitor their usage and expiry, and ensure readiness for subsequent deployments.

**Q. The Havisure vaccine, recently seen in the news, is developed to treat:**

- A) Hepatitis A
- B) Malaria
- C) Tuberculosis
- D) HIV

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) a wholly owned subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) launched India’s first indigenously developed Hepatitis A vaccine ‘Havisure’ in Hyderabad.
- ✓ It is a two-dose vaccine — first dose administered at above 12 months of age and the second at least six months after the first dose.
- ✓ The vaccine is recommended for children as part of the routine immunization as well as for individuals at risk of exposure or travel to the regions with high hepatitis A prevalence.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Global Alliance for Global Good - Gender Equity and Equality:**

1. It is established by the United Nations (UN).
2. It aims to bring investment opportunities in women's education, health and enterprise.









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- ✓ About NAM Summit:
- ✓ The 19th NAM Summit was held under Uganda's leadership in Kampala. Uganda has taken over as chair from Azerbaijan, to run until 2027.
- ✓ Theme: 'Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence.'
- ✓ Key discussions at the summit:
  - ✓ Israel-Hamas war
  - ✓ India's "Vishwaa Mitra" initiative
  - ✓ A call for multipolar world
- ✓ About Non-Aligned Movement:
  - ✓ The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is an alliance of developing nations that refuses to identify with any major superpower.
  - ✓ It was established in 1961 at the height of the Cold War. Whereas it started with the Bandung Conference held in Indonesia in 1955.
  - ✓ Current members:
    - ✓ 120 countries: 53 from Africa, 39 from Asia, 26 from Latin America and the Caribbean and two from Europe.
    - ✓ After the United Nations, NAM is the second-largest grouping of nations.
    - ✓ The summit usually takes place every three years.
    - ✓ The first NAM summit was held in September 1961 in Belgrade, Yugoslavia

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to Atal Bhujal Yojna:**

- 1. It aims to improve the management of groundwater resources in water stressed areas.**
- 2. It incentivises the States for achievements in improved groundwater management practices.**

**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 meeting for review of progress of Atal Bhujal Yojana was held at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.



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- ✓ About Atal Bhujal Yojana:
- ✓ Atal Bhujal Yojana is a central sector scheme which was launched in 2019.
- ✓ Duration: Period of 5 years (2020-21 to 2024-25), Increased by 2 years in May, 2023.
- ✓ Objective: The major objective of the Scheme is to improve the management of groundwater resources in select water stressed areas in identified states.
- ✓ The scheme is being taken up in 8220 water stressed Gram Panchayats of seven states: Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ Funding:
- ✓ The scheme is being funded by the Government of India and the World Bank on 50:50 basis.
- ✓ Total cost of scheme is Rs. 6,000 crore, Out of this, Rs. 3,000 is loan from the
- ✓ World Bank and Rs. 3,000 crore is matching contribution from the Government of India.
- ✓ Implemented Ministry: Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ✓ Improved planning and implementation of groundwater management interventions

**Q. Who is the President of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly who is currently on a visit to India?**

- A) Antonio Guterres                      B) Dennis Francis  
C) Ajay Bagga                              D) Ruchira Kamboj

**Answer : B**

- ✓ President of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Dennis Francis, reached New Delhi on a five-day visit to India.
- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs said, this visit is an opportunity to advance India-United Nations relations and exchange views on India's priorities and global challenges.
- ✓ On the occasion of Republic Day on January 26, Francis will participate in Maharashtra's Republic Day Parade as the state guest.

**Q. Pendyala Lakshmi Priya who was awarded the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2024 is related to which dance?**

- A) Bharatanatyam                      B) Kuchipudi  
C) Mohiniyattam                      D) Kathak

**Answer : B**









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- ✓ India and France have agreed to jointly fund scientific research projects in the fields of health, decarbonized hydrogen, marine sciences, and applied mathematics.
- ✓ The decision was taken during a meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee on Science and Technology (JCST) in the India International Science Festival.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the CEO of PepsiCo India?**

- A) Anant Maheshwari                      B) Jagrut Kotecha  
C) Pramod Sharma                         D) Ganesan Kannabiran

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Jagrut Kotecha has been appointed as the CEO of Snacks and beverage major 'PepsiCo India'.
- ✓ He will succeed Ahmed El Sheikh, who will take over as CEO for the Middle East Business Unit, in March, after a seven-year stint in India.
- ✓ Kotecha is currently Chief Commercial Officer for PepsiCo in Africa, Middle East, and South Asia (AMESA).
- ✓ PepsiCo, Inc. is an American multinational food, snack, and beverage corporation headquartered in Harrison, New York, in the hamlet of Purchase

**Q. Which of the following country is hosting ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup 2024?**

- A) Sri Lanka                                      B) India  
C) South Africa                                 D) Australia

**Answer : C**

- ✓ South Africa is hosting the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup 2024.
- ✓ The World Cup started on 19 January and will conclude on 11 February.
- ✓ This 50-over tournament will feature 16 teams, with a total of 41 matches scheduled to be played.
- ✓ The ICC U19 World Cup 2024 in India will be broadcast on Star Sports Network TV channels. The live streaming will be available on the Disney+ Hotstar app and website for free.

**Q. Which company has been conferred with the prestigious SCOPE Eminence Award in the category of Women Empowerment for the period 2019-20?**

- A) NTPC Limited                                 B) JSW Energy  
C) ReNew Power                                 D) Engineers India Limited



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## Answer : D

- ✓ Engineers India Limited (EIL) has been conferred with the prestigious SCOPE Eminence Award in the category of Women Empowerment for the period 2019-20.
- ✓ The award recognizes EIL's exemplary commitment to fostering an inclusive & diverse work environment and celebrates the outstanding achievement of its women workforce.
- ✓ The award was presented to EIL by the Vice-President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar and received by EIL's Director (Finance) Sanjay Jindal and Director (Commercial) Atul Gupta, during an award ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

**Q. Who has become India's number one chess player, leaving behind Vishwanathan Anand?**

- A) Rameshbabu Praggnanand                      B) Gukesh D  
C) Vidit Gujarati                                      D) Pantala Harikrishna

## Answer : A

- ✓ Indian young chess player Rameshbabu Praggnanand has defeated world chess champion Ding Liren in the 'Tata Steel Masters' held in Netherlands.
- ✓ With this victory, Praggnananda became the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to defeat the defending champion.
- ✓ He has also become India's new number one chess player by defeating Anand in terms of live ratings

### CHESS GRANDMASTER IN NEWS 2023-24

- Indian young chess player Rameshbabu Praggnanand has defeated world chess champion Ding Liren in the 'Tata Steel Masters' held in Netherlands.
- Vaishali Rameshbabu has become the 84th Grandmaster of India.
- Raunak Sadhwani (Maharashtra) won FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship.
- India's Karthikeyan Murali became the third Indian chess player to defeat World No 1 Magnus Carlsen in classical chess after he prevailed over the Norwegian at the Qatar Masters tournament.
- Divya Deshmukh (Maharashtra) Emerges Winner Of 2023 Tata Steel Chess India Women's Rapid Tournament defeated Koneru Humpy.
- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) wins the Chess World Cup Final 2023.
- Aditya Samant becomes India's 83rd Grandmaster.





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- Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has won the title of V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM Chess Tournament 2023 .

**Q. With whom has the Maharashtra government signed an agreement for the state's first green ammonia plant?**

- A) Inox Air Products
- B) Tata Chemicals Limited
- C) Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited
- D) Deepak Fertilizers

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Maharashtra government has signed an agreement with Inox Air Products for the state's first green ammonia plant with a capacity of 500,000 MTPA.
- ✓ A total of 3 billion US dollars will be spent on this project. Green liquid ammonia will be produced in this plant

**Q. India's first solar powered boat will be operated in which river?**

- A) Yamuna River
- B) Ganga River
- C) Ghaghra River
- D) Saryu River

**Answer : D**

- ✓ For the first time in India, a boat running on solar energy will be operated in the Saryu river in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The outline for the operation of this boat service has been prepared by Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Agency (UPNEDA).
- ✓ It has been prepared by Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Agency

## INDIA'S FIRST IN NEWS 2023-24

- For the first time in India, a boat running on solar energy will be operated in the Saryu river in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh.
- Reliance Industries Achieves India's First ISCC-Plus Certification .
- Lucknow city, known as the 'City of Nawabs', will be developed as India's first 'AI City'.



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- Uttar Pradesh government has announced the launch of India's first 'Telecom Center of Excellence.
- India's first solar roof cycling track was inaugurated in Hyderabad city.
- Uttarakhand launches India's first polythene waste bank for sustainable waste management.
- Telangana has launched India's first Agricultural Data Exchange (ADeX) and Agriculture Data Management Framework (ADMF) in Hyderabad.
- India's first-ever sports university to be set up in Manipur.
- India Launches Its 1st Indigenous e-Tractor Developed By the CMERI.
- Dr Jitendra Singh, had launched the CSIR Prima ET11, the first indigenous e-Tractor developed by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur, a public engineering R&D institution in Durgapur, West Bengal, and a constituent laboratory of the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- Kerala Launches India's First AI School, Pioneering Future-Focused Education.
- Sanchi, a world heritage site located in the Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh, is all set to become India's first solar city.
- Hitachi Payment Services launched India's first UPI-ATM.
- India's first Vedic-themed park unveiled in Noida.

**Q. In which state of India will the 'World Economic Forum' establish a center based on 'Health Care and Life Sciences'?**

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Telangana

C) Madhya Pradesh

D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The World Economic Forum (WEF) is going to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) focused on healthcare and life sciences in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- ✓ C4IR Telangana will be an autonomous, non-profit organization and will be the only organization of the World Economic Forum in India.
- ✓ A cooperation agreement was signed between the Telangana government and WEF at the Forum's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland







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- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao recently unveiled a 125-foot tall bronze statue of BR Ambedkar in Hyderabad.
- Hyderabad to become India's first city with 100% sewerage facilities by May 2023.
- The G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting began on April 17 in Hyderabad.
- 'Grand start-up Conclave' on Animal Husbandry and Dairy in Hyderabad.
- The two-day 'Food Conclave-2023' will be organized on April 28 and 29 in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- World Economic Forum (WEF) has chosen Hyderabad to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focused on healthcare and life sciences.
- The seasoned Jean Eric Vergne of DS Penske automobiles won an action-packed Formula E Prix in Hyderabad.

**Q. Who launched a series of commemorative postage stamps dedicated to the Ram temple of Ayodhya?**

- A) Draupadi Murmu                      B) Narendra Modi  
C) Amit Shah                              D) Yogi Adityanath

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a series of commemorative postage stamps dedicated to the Ram temple in Ayodhya and a book containing stamps from around the world.
- ✓ With six different designs, these stamps depict the essence of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple.
- ✓ It is noteworthy that the program of consecration of Ram temple in Ayodhya will be completed by PM Modi on January 22.

**Q. What is India's rank among the world's most powerful armies in the Global Firepower Ranking?**

- A) 2    B) 3  
C) 4    D) 5

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Recently Global Firepower has released a ranking of the countries of the world on the basis of military capability.
- ✓ Among the most powerful armies in the world, America is at first place, Russia is at second place and China is at third place.



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- ✓ India has been given fourth place in this ranking. 145 countries of the world have been included in this ranking.
- ✓ Neighboring country Pakistan is at 9th place.
- ✓ 60 factors assessing military capability have been included in this ranking
- ✓ Some of the major ones are:
  - ✓ Number of Soldiers
  - ✓ Military Equipment
  - ✓ Financial Stability
  - ✓ Geographical Situation
- ✓ Top-ten most powerful countries in the world:
  - ✓ 1..America
  - ✓ 2. Russia
  - ✓ 3. China
  - ✓ 4. India
  - ✓ 5. South Korea
  - ✓ 6. United Kingdom
  - ✓ 7. Japan
  - ✓ 8. Turkiye
  - ✓ 9. Pakistan
  - ✓ 10. Italy
- ✓ Ten least powerful countries in the world:
  - ✓ Bhutan
  - ✓ Moldova
  - ✓ Suriname
  - ✓ Somalia
  - ✓ Benin
  - ✓ Liberia
  - ✓ Belize
  - ✓ Sierra Leone
  - ✓ Central African Republic



✓ Iceland

**Q. Who will be awarded the highest honor of Assam state 'Assam Vaibhav'?**

A) Amit Shah

B) Raghuram Rajan

C) Ranjan Gogoi

D) Ratan Tata

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has recently announced that former Chief Justice of India (CJI) and Rajya Sabha MP Ranjan Gogoi will be honored with the 'Assam Vaibhav' award.
- ✓ 'Assam Vaibhav' is the highest civilian honor of the state.
- ✓ A bench of five judges headed by CJI Ranjan Gogoi had given an important decision on Ayodhya 'Ram Temple' in the year 2019

**Q. Which country will host the 'Global Peace Summit' on Ukraine?**

A) USA

B) France

C) Switzerland

D) Japan

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A 'Global Peace Summit' on Ukraine will be organized in Switzerland.
- ✓ At the request of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, Switzerland has agreed to host this conference. It is noteworthy that Russia sent its army to Ukraine on February 24, 2022, since then the conflict between the two countries is going on

**Q. Where is the 12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace being held?**

A) Kathmandu

B) Colombo

C) New Delhi

D) Dhaka

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Indian Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar recently inaugurated the 12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace in New Delhi.
- ✓ About Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP):
- ✓ It was founded in 1970 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, as a voluntary movement of followers of Buddhism with both monastic (monks) and lay members.







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- ✓ Rohit scored this century in the third and final T20 match against Afghanistan at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru.
- ✓ Rohit played a blazing century inning of 121 runs in 69 balls in which he hit 11 fours and 8 sixes. In this matter, he left behind Suryakumar Yadav and Glenn Maxwell who have 4 centuries each.

**Q. Which of the following statements clearly explains the term Windfall Tax?**

- A) It is a tax imposed for selling the assets of the company
- B) It is a new tax imposed in Europe to reduce the use of fossil fuel.
- C) It is a higher tax rate on sudden big profits levied on a particular company or industry.
- D) It is a tax imposed on companies for their predatory pricing policies

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Govt cuts windfall tax on crude petroleum to Rs 1,700 a tonne.
- ✓ India cut its windfall tax on petroleum crude to 1,700 rupees (\$20.53) a tonne from 2,300 rupees a tonne, according to a recent government notification.
- ✓ About the Windfall Tax:
- ✓ What is it? It is a tax levied by governments against certain industries when economic conditions allow those industries to experience significantly above-average profits.
- ✓ The term “windfall” refers to an unexpected rise in profits, and the tax on windfall gains is known as the windfall tax

**Q. FASTag, recently seen in the news, works on which of the following techniques?**

- A) WiFi Frequency Identification
- B) Infrared Frequency Identification
- C) Radio Frequency Identification
- D) Electrical Frequency Identification

**Answer : C**

- ✓ National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative.
- ✓ About the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative:
- ✓ The National Highways Authority of India suggested tagging users to complete the Know Your Customer (KYC) process by the end of January 31 to avoid deactivation.
- ✓ The move aims to enhance the efficiency of the Electronic Toll Collection system and provide seamless movement at the Toll Plazas.



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- ✓ The initiative had been taken after the recent reports of multiple FASTags being issued for a particular vehicle and FASTags being issued without KYC in violation of RBI's mandate.
- ✓ Key points about FASTag
- ✓ It is a device that employs Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for making toll payments directly while the vehicle is in motion.
- ✓ It is a RFID passive tag used for making toll payments directly from the customers linked prepaid or savings/current account
- ✓ The tag is valid for five years and comes in seven different colours — violet, orange, yellow, green, pink, blue, black. Each colour is assigned to a particular category of vehicles.
- ✓ It was rolled out in April 2016, and the Government made it mandatory from December 1, 2017 for all new cars and trucks to be fitted with a FASTag before they were sold.
- ✓ To encourage the use of FASTags, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) refunds 5% of the total monthly transactions.

**Q. Which one of the following is the primary objective of the Chang'e 6 mission?**

- A) To search for exoplanets beyond our solar system.**
- B) To study Venus's geological and volcanic activity.**
- C) To retrieve samples from the lunar south pole.**
- D) To explore the potential for life on Mars.**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The China National Space Administration (CNSA) recently announced that the Chang'e 6 sample return mission is on track to land on the surface of the Moon in the first half of 2024.
- ✓ About Chang'e 6 Mission:
- ✓ The Chang'e 6 mission is a planned lander designed to return samples from the lunar south pole.
- ✓ The mission aims to land on the Moon, collect samples from the lunar surface, and return them to Earth. This process will contribute crucial data to unravel the Moon's geological mysteries.
- ✓ The mission involves international collaboration, with payloads from the European Space Agency (ESA) and the French space agency CNES.









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**Q. In which state was the 125 feet high bronze statue of Dr. BR Ambedkar inaugurated?**

- A) Bihar
- B) Rajasthan
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ In Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy inaugurated the 125 feet tall bronze statue of Dr. BR Ambedkar at Swaraj Maidan in Vijayawada.
- ✓ This statue has been named "Statue of Social Justice" and it is dedicated to Dr. It has been installed to remember the contribution of BR Ambedkar.
- ✓ The statue, which stands atop an 81-foot pedestal at the Smriti Vanam, takes the total height of the monument to 206 ft, the tallest Dr Ambedkar structure ever built in the world

## STATUE IN NEWS 2023-24

- A statue dedicated to Thiruvalluvar, a cultural icon revered among Tamilians, was unveiled in the French city of Cergy.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Rajkot Fort located in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
- External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar unveiled the bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore at the International Friendship Park in Bac Ninh province, Vietnam.
- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma unveiled a statue of medieval-era Ahom army commander, Lachit Borphukan, and a Swahid Smarak at Bir Lachit Borphukan Park in Guwahati.
- Outside India, Dr. The largest statue of BR Ambedkar will be unveiled in the United States. The 19-foot statue of Ambedkar has been named 'Statue of Equality' and will be inaugurated in Maryland, USA.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan unveiled the 108-foot-tall 'Statue of Oneness' of Adi Shankaracharya at Omkareshwar.
- President Droupadi Murmu has unveiled a 12 feet high statue of the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi and a 'Gandhi Vatika' at Gandhi Darshan near Rajghat in New Delhi.





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- Union Home Minister Amit Shah on laid the foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a 54 feet tall statue of Lord Hanuman at Sarangpur temple in Botad district of Gujarat.
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah unveiled the statues of Lord Basaveshwara ji and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda ji at the State Assembly premises in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Samatha Kumbh is being held on the premises of the Statue of Equality at Muchintal, Telangana.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has unveiled a 120-feet-tall statue of a polo player riding a pony at Marjing Polo Complex in Manipur's Imphal East district.

**Q. According to the recent report of Forbes, which is the strongest currency in the world?**

- A) Bahraini Dinar
- B) Kuwaiti Dinar
- C) Euro
- D) US dollar

**Answer : B**

- ✓ According to a recent report by Forbes, 'Kuwaiti Dinar' is the most powerful currency in the world.
- ✓ Bahrain's currency 'Bahraini Dinar' is in second place and Oman's currency 'Omani Riyal' is in third place.
- ✓ The world's second most traded currency 'Euro' is at 9th place in the list and US dollar is at 10th place.
- ✓ According to this report, the United Nations currently recognizes 180 currencies as legal tender



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Currency & Symbol	Value In Rs	Value in USD
Kuwaiti Dinar (KWD)	270.23	3.25
Bahraini Dinar (BHD)	220.44	2.65
Omani Rial (OMR)	215.84	2.60
Jordanian Dinar (JOD)	117.10	1.41
British Pound (GBP)	105.54	1.27
Gibraltar Pound (GIP)	105.52	1.27
Cayman Island Dollar (KYD)	99.76	1.20
Swiss Franc (CHF)	97.54	1.17
Euro (EUR)	90.89	1.09
United States Dollar (USD)	83.10	1.00

**Q. Which bank has launched SmartFin, an end-to-end digital supply chain finance (SCF) platform, powered by Veefin Solutions?**

**A) HDFC Bank**

**B) Yes Bank**

**C) axis bank**

**D) ICICI Bank**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Yes Bank has launched SmartFin, an end-to-end digital supply chain finance (SCF) platform, powered by Veefin Solutions.
- ✓ The initiative reflects Yes Bank's commitment to fostering innovation and enhancing its digital offerings, particularly in the realm of working capital efficiencies.
- ✓ The SmartFin platform, through its end-to-end digital offerings, will help us drive the required operational & financial efficiencies for all stakeholders

### YES BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- Yes Bank Launches SmartFin With Veefin Solutions, An Advanced Digital Platform To Boost MSMEs.
- Yes Bank becomes first lender to offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'.



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- Yes bank partnered with fintech Zagle 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 (₹) 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 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. 'Mahatari Vandana Yojana' was recently launched by which state government?**

- A) Madhya Pradesh
- B) Chhattisgarh
- C) Bihar
- D) Assam

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Chhattisgarh state government has recently launched a new scheme named 'Mahtari Vandana Yojana' 2024.
- ✓ Under this, women will be provided annual financial assistance of Rs 1,000 every month/total Rs 12,000.
- ✓ To avail the benefits of this scheme, the applicant must be a resident of Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ This scheme is believed to be inspired by 'Ladli Brahmin Yojana' of Madhya Pradesh Government.





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**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to Khelo India Youth Games- 2023:**

- 1. It was organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.**
- 2. Tamil Nadu is hosting the sixth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games.**
- 3. Silambam was introduced as a demo sport for the first time in Khelo India Youth Games.**

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Recently Prime Minister inaugurated the Khelo India Youth Games and expressed the government's commitment to hosting the 2029 Youth Olympics and the 2036 Olympic Games in the country.
- ✓ Khelo India Youth Games- 2023 :
- ✓ Tamil Nadu is hosting the sixth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games. This is the first time that Khelo India Youth Games are being held in South India.
- ✓ The Games will be played across four cities of Tamil Nadu, namely Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore from 19th to 31st January 2024.
- ✓ This edition of Khelo India Youth Games will see participation from over 5600 athletes with over 275 competitive events across 26 sports disciplines and 1 demo sport.
- ✓ Silambam, a traditional sport of Tamil Nadu, is being introduced as a demo sport for the first time in the history of Khelo India Youth Games and the sport of Squash shall be organised for the first time in this edition of the Games.
- ✓ The Mascot: 'Veera Mangai'. Rani Velu Nachiyar, fondly known as Veera Mangai, was an Indian queen who waged a war against British colonial rule.
- ✓ The logo: The figure of poet Thiruvalluvar.
- ✓ Objective: To revive the sports culture in India at the grass-root level by building a strong framework for all sports played in our country and establish India as a great sporting nation.
- ✓ It is an annual event. The first edition was held in 2018 in Delhi.
- ✓ Organised by: Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.









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- ✓ These awards are to be given as recognition to children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievement in the fields of innovation, scholastic achievements, sports, arts & culture, social service and bravery which deserves recognition.
- ✓ Each awardee will be given a medal, a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, book vouchers worth Rs. 10,000/-, a certificate and citation.
- ✓ The award for institution consists of a prize of Rs. 5,00,000/ - each and a citation and a certificate

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Central Consumer Protection Authority:**

**1. It is empowered to order the discontinuation of unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements.**

**2. It is administered by the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.**

**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**

- ✓ The Central Consumer Protection Authority issues notice to Amazon for sale of sweets under misleading name of Shri Ram Mandir Ayodhya Prasad.
- ✓ The action has been initiated based on a representation made by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) alleging that Amazon is engaging in deceptive trade practices involving the sale of sweets under the guise of 'Shri Ram Mandir Ayodhya Prasad'.
- ✓ It may be mentioned that under the Consumer Protection (e-commerce) Rules, 2020 no e-commerce entity shall adopt any unfair trade practice, whether in the course of business on its platform or otherwise Further, 'Misleading advertisement' as defined under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
- ✓ About Central Consumer Protection Authority:
- ✓ As provided in the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has been established w.e.f. 24th July, 2020.
- ✓ Objective: To promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers as a class.
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.



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**Q. SLIM (Smart Lander for Investigating Moon) mission, recently seen in the news, is launched by:**

- A) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- B) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- C) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)
- D) European Space Agency (ESA)

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Japan recently landed a spacecraft called SLIM (Smart Lander for Investigating Moon) on the lunar surface, becoming the 5th country after the Soviet Union, the US, China and India to achieve a soft landing on the moon.
- ✓ About SLIM:
- ✓ SLIM was launched by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) in September 2023 aboard the H-IIA rocket from the Tanegashima spaceport.
- ✓ It aims to demonstrate precision landing within 100 metres through new technologies.
- ✓ It also carried two mini robotic rovers developed by Sony and Tomy for reconnaissance.
- ✓ The mission aims to revitalise Japan's space program which suffered setbacks like the failure of the flagship H3 rocket in March 2023.
- ✓ Objectives:
- ✓ The mission aims to observe X-rays coming from deep space and to identify their wavelengths with unprecedented precision.
- ✓ It detects X-rays with energies ranging from 400 to 12,000 electron volts. (For comparison, the energy of visible light is 2 to 3 electron volts.)
- ✓ Future Moon Missions:
- ✓ ISRO (India): LUPEX with JAXA, Chandrayaan-4
- ✓ NASA (USA): Lunar Trailblazer Mission, Viper Rover, Artemis 2-6 (Manned mission).
- ✓ ROSCOSMOS (Russia): LUNA 26-28, ORYOL
- ✓ CNSA (China): Chang'e 6-8
- ✓ JAXA (Japan): Destiny+







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- ✓ Union Minister Parshottam Rupala has announced allocation of Rs 302 crore for setting up artificial reef units on the shores of fishing villages in Vizhinjam, Kerala.
- ✓ This scheme has been started under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) of the Central Government and the State Fisheries Department.
- ✓ It has been started to promote sustainable fisheries and livelihood.

**Q. 'Mahatari Vandana Yojana' was recently launched by which state government?**

- A) Madhya Pradesh                      B) Chhattisgarh  
C) Bihar                                      D) Assam

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Chhattisgarh state government has recently launched a new scheme named 'Mahtari Vandana Yojana' 2024.
- ✓ Under this, women will be provided annual financial assistance of Rs 1,000 every month/total Rs 12,000.
- ✓ To avail the benefits of this scheme, the applicant must be a resident of Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ This scheme is believed to be inspired by 'Ladli Brahmin Yojana' of Madhya Pradesh Government.

**Q. In which city of Maharashtra did PM Narendra Modi launch 8 AMRUT projects?**

- A) Pune                                      B) Aurangabad  
C) Nashik                                      D) Solapur

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of 8 AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) projects worth about Rs 2,000 crore in Solapur, Maharashtra.
- ✓ He also launched the distribution of the first and second installments of PM-Swanidhi to 10,000 beneficiaries in Maharashtra during the program

**Q. Center approved creation of posts for the 16th Finance Commission, who is the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission?**

- A) Dr. Arvind Panagariya                      B) Raghuram Rajan  
C) Urjit Patel                                      D) Shaktikanta Das

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the creation of three posts of Joint Secretary level for the 16th Finance Commission.



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- ✓ This Finance Commission was constituted through a notification dated December 31, 2023.
- ✓ The Finance Commission in India is a constitutional body established under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution.
- ✓ Former Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Dr. Arvind Panagariya is the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission.

**Q. Which company has secured a mega-contract worth Rs 10,000 crore from an authorized Japanese agency to construct an electrification system for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed rail project in India?**

- A) Bharat Electronics Limited      B) Tata Advanced Systems  
C) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited      D) Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has secured a mega contract from an authorized Japanese agency to construct an electrification system for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed rail project in India.
- ✓ Valued in the range of Rs 10,000 crore to Rs 15,000 crore, the project, according to company executives, is the largest single rail-electrification order in India.
- ✓ This would be the first of its kind railway project in India involving the implementation of Japanese Shinkansen High-Speed Electrification Technology.
- ✓ This electrification system will enable trains to travel at speeds of up to 320 kmph.

**Q. Which of the following companies has become the first ISO 27001:2022 certified petrochemical organization in the industry by BSI (British Standards Institution)?**

- A) Novartis Petrochemicals Ltd      B) Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd  
C) Johnson & Johnson      D) Sanofi

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Haldia Petrochemicals becomes India's first BSI Certified ISO 27001:2022 Petrochemical firm
- ✓ Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd (HPL), a leading petrochemicals company in India, has become the first ISO 27001:2022 certified petrochemical organization in the industry by BSI (British Standards Institution), a renowned certification body.
- ✓ This milestone showcases HPL's commitment to maintaining a robust and secure information security governance structure throughout its digital transformation journey.



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- ✓ The Certification demonstrates HPL's commitment towards a secure and reliable digital environment for a seamless exchange of information across internal and external stakeholders.
- ✓ British Standards Institution (BSI) is the world's first Standards Body and founding member of ISO from the United Kingdom.

**Q. Which bank has launched the 'Platinum Credit Card' in association with EazyDiner?**

- A) IndusInd Bank                      B) Axis Bank  
C) Federal Bank                      D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ IndusInd Bank has launched the 'EazyDiner IndusInd Bank Platinum Credit Card' in association with EazyDiner.
- ✓ The credit card offers an additional discount of ₹500 while paying through the EazyDiner App via PayEazy for both dining and takeaway at select restaurants.
- ✓ Cardholders get an EazyDiner Prime membership for three months, with guaranteed discounts of 25 percent to 50 percent, at over 2,000 premium restaurants, without any joining or annual fees. Users can renew their membership upon payment of ₹30,000 every 90 days.

**Q. Which company has regained its status as the most valued public sector undertaking, surpassing the market capitalization of State Bank of India?**

- A) HDFC Bank                      B) ICICI Bank  
C) NTPC                              D) LIC

**Answer : D**

- ✓ LIC overtakes SBI to become the most valuable PSU.
- ✓ Life Insurance Corporation of India, a government-owned insurance giant, has regained its status as the most valued public sector undertaking, surpassing the market capitalization of State Bank of India.
- ✓ While SBI holds a market value of Rs 5.63 lakh crore, LIC has surpassed it with a market capitalization (MCap) of Rs 5.64 lakh crore.
- ✓ ONGC secured the third spot with a market capitalisation of ₹3 lakh crore, followed by NTPC, Coal India, Power Grid Corporation, and Indian Oil Corporation with over ₹2 lakh crore m-cap.







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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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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
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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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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - ISHITA GARG  
ROLL NO - 2283004123  
STATE - PUNJAB  
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.  
NAME - NIPUN  
ROLL NO - 1533002831  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
STATE - HARYANA

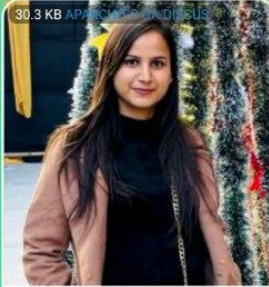


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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - PRAVEEN  
ROLL NO - 1801005776  
SELECTED IN - RRB PO  
KARNATAKA GRAMMENA  
BANK  
STATE - KARNATAKA



34.5 KB APARCHIT'S GA DISCUS  
Name: Bathina Maneesha  
Rollno: 2543024278  
Selected in : RRB clerk  
State : Telangana

👏👏 MY 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



30.3 KB APARCHIT'S GA DISCUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - NISHU SHARMA  
ROLL NO - 1523008901  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
STATE - HARYANA



84.9 KB APARCHIT'S GA DISCUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.  
NAME - GURIYA KUMARI  
ROLL NO - 1373006773  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN  
BANK



17.7 KB APARCHIT'S GA DISCUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - GURPREET KAUR  
ROLL NO - 2283002821  
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK  
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



15.7 KB APARCHIT'S GA DISCUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
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