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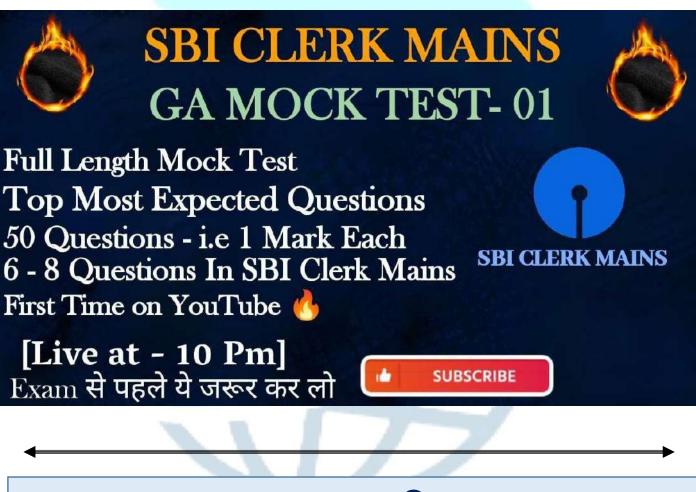
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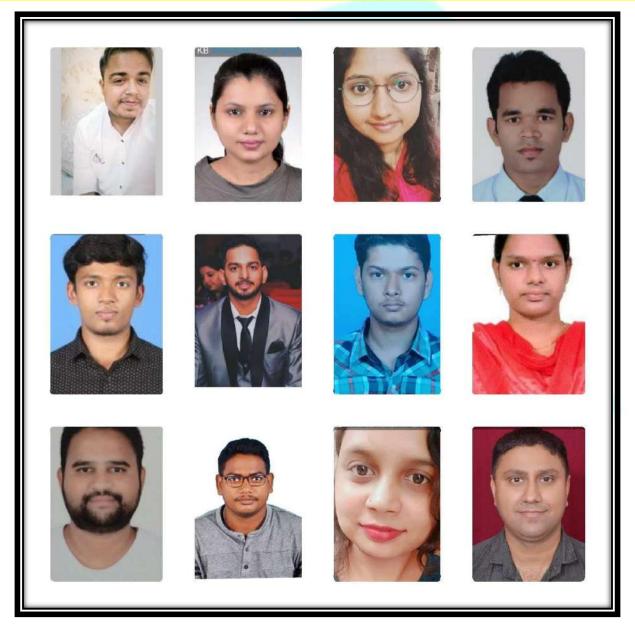


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Aparchit 20 February English Super Current Affairs MCQ with Facts 2024 By Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q.1. What is India's rank in Henley Passport Index 2024?

A) 84th	B) 85th
<b>C) 86th</b>	<b>D</b> ) 87th

#### Answer : B

- ✓ The passport ranking of the countries of the world has been released under the Henley Passport Index 2024.
- ✓ In this ranking, the ranking of Indian passport has fallen one place to 85th compared to last year.
- ✓ In this ranking, six countries (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Japan and Singapore) have emerged as the countries with the most powerful passports.
- ✓ Henley Passport Index 2024
- ✓ TOP : France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore, Spain (194 Visa-Free Access)
- ✓ 2nd : Finland, Netherlands, South Korea, Sweden (193 Visa-Free Access)
- ✓ 3rd : Austria, Denmark, Ireland, Luxembourg, United Kingdom (192 Visa-Free Access)
- ✓ INDIA : 85th ( 62 Visa-Free Access)
- ✓ France secured the top position on the Henley Passport Index 2024.
- ✓ France passport grants visa-free access to 194 countries.
- India's neighbour, Maldives, continues to have a strong passport, maintaining its position at 58th place, with Maldivian passport holders enjoying visa-free travel to 96 countries.

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✓ The Henley Passport Index derives its rankings from data spanning the past 19 years, based on the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) specialized data, covering 199 different passports and 227 travel destinations worldwide.

Q.2. Which edition of the MILAN naval exercise will be held in Visakhapatnam from February 19-27?

D) 14th

A) 11th	B) 12th

**C)** 13th

#### Answer : B

✓ The 12th edition of the MILAN naval exercise will be held in Visakhapatnam from February 19-27, with over 50 countries participating.



 $\checkmark$  The "Forging Naval Alliances for a Secure Maritime Future" is the theme of the exercise which aims to facilitate collaboration and idea-sharing among participating navies to enhance security on the high seas.

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- ✓ Its primary objective is to ensure the safety of maritime trade for the benefit of all stakeholders.
- The previous edition of the exercise was held in Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command and  $\checkmark$ had the theme 'Camaraderie-Cohesion-Collaboration'.

#### **EXERCISE IN NEWS 2023-24**

- ▶ Indian Air Force will conduct mega exercise Vayu Shakti 2024 at Pokhran Range in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan on February 17.
- > The first edition of India-Saudi Arabia joint military exercise 'SADA TANSEEQ' is being organized in Mahajan, Rajasthan
- > India, France, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) conducted a major air exercise, named 'Desert Knight', over the Arabian Sea.
- > Indian Army contingent is taking part in the 2nd edition of India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise CYCLONE. The Exercise is being conducted at Anshas, Egypt.
- > 11th edition of India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR has commenced at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh
- > 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 exercis.  $\triangleright$



> The coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' is set to unfold its strategic manoeuvres along the Kerala and Mahe coasts.

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- 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 2023 in Fort Wainwright, Alaska, USA.

Q.3. India's first Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) will be started from which state?

- A) Maharashtra
- C) Uttarakhand

- **B)** Kerala
- D) Telangana

#### Answer : C

- ✓ India's first Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) will be started from Uttarakhand.
- ✓ All Indian Institute of Medical Science in Rishikesh from where it can be sent anywhere within a radius area of 150 km to airlift the people to the hospital.
- ✓ HEMS would operate under project 'Sanjeevani'. The helicopter is being assembled at present and is under the certification process.
- ✓ India's 1st helicopter emergency medical service to start from Uttarakhand

## **INDIA'S FIRST IN NEWS 2023-24**

- > Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT-K) has successfully established and tested India's first Hypervelocity Expansion Tunnel Test Facility.
- Ola Founder's Krutrim Becomes First \$1 Billion Indian AI Startup.
- > 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.



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- > Lucknow city, known as the 'City of Nawabs', will be developed as India's first 'AI City'.
- > 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.4. Which of the following has reconstituted the Expert Committee on the implementation of Ind AS/IFRS?
  - C) RBI

A) IRDAI

B) SEBI

#### D) SIDBI

#### Answer : A

- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has announced the reconstitution of the Expert Committee on the implementation of Ind AS/IFRS.
- ✓ The 13-member committee, which will be headed by the Member (Finance and Investment) F&I of IRDAI, will also include the Chairman of the Accounting Standards Board (ASB) of ICAI, the President of the Institute of Actuaries of India (IAI), the CGM & HOD of IRDAI's Actuarial Department, among others.
- ✓ The committee will work on steps that may be taken towards the effective implementation of the Indian Accounting Standards, along with giving phase-wise time-lines.



**Q.5**. Which bank has launched a self-subscribing journey for enrolment under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) schemes for its customers?

- A) Punjab National Bank
  - B) State Bank of India

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**C)** Kotak Mahindra Bank D) Indian Overseas Bank

#### Answer : B

- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a self-subscribing journey for enrolment under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) schemes for its customers.
- ✓ The facility will provide impetus to the Indian Government's drive of covering all eligible citizens under PMJJBY & PMSBY schemes.
- ✓ The functionality enables customers to enrol under the schemes as per their convenience without visiting the branch or Customer Service Point.
- ✓ The customer needs to key in the account number, date of birth on Jan Suraksha portal and to select the Bank. The Certificate of Insurance is generated instantly on payment of premium.
- ✓ PMJJBY is a one-year cover term life insurance scheme, renewable from year to year, offering life insurance cover for death due to any cause.
- ✓ PMSBY is an accident insurance scheme offering accidental death and disability cover for death or disability on account of an accident.
- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has successfully launched INSAT-3DS satellite from Q.6. SDSC-SHAR from Sriharikota. It is a which type of satellite?
  - **B)** Defence Satellite A) Astronomical satellites
  - C) Geostationary satellite D) Meteorological satellite

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has successfully launched meteorological satellite INSAT-3DS with the GSLV-F14/INSAT-3DS mission from SDSC-SHAR, Sriharikota.
- $\checkmark$  This will help in enhancing the weather forecast.
- ✓ This was ISRO's second success in the current calendar after the launch of XPoSAT from Sriharikota on January 1 in PSLV's 60th flight.

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✓ The GSLV-F14 – blasted from the second launch pad – was the 16th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).

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- ✓ This was the seventh operational flight of a GSLV with an indigenous cryogenic state. The 51.7 m tall rocket with a lift-off mass of 420 tonnes, with indigenous cryogenic stages, placed the INSAD-3DS satellite weighing 2,274 kg into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.
- ✓ About INSAT-3DS
- ✓ INSAT-3DS Satellite is a follow-on mission of Third Generation Meteorological Satellite from geostationary orbit.
- ✓ It is designed for enhanced meteorological observations and monitoring of land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting and disaster warning.
- ✓ The satellite will augment the Meteorological services along with the presently operational INSAT-3D and **INSAT-3DR** satellites.
- ✓ About GSLV-F14
- ✓ GSLV is a three-stage 51.7 m long launch vehicle with a liftoff mass of 420 tonnes.
- ✓ The first stage (GS1) comprises a solid propellant (S139) motor having a 139-tonne propellant and four earthstorable propellant stages (L40) strapons, each carrying 40 tonnes of liquid propellant.
- The second stage (GS2) was also an earth-storable propellant stage loaded with 40-ton propellant. The third  $\checkmark$ stage (GS3) was a cryogenic stage with a 15-ton propellant loading of liquid oxygen (LOX) and liquid hydrogen (LH2).

#### **ISRO IN NEWS 2023-24**

- > ISRO has successfully launched meteorological satellite INSAT-3DS with the GSLV-F14/INSAT-3DS mission from SDSC-SHAR, Sriharikota.
- > Vyommitra(Woman Robot Astronaut) is going to fly into Space ahead of ISRO's "Gaganyaan" Mission
- > ISRO has completed all key tests on Insat-3DS satellite before the final review which will be followed by its shipping to the spaceport in Srihari Kota, Andhra Pradesh.
- > Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched the PSLV-C58 X-ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat) mission.



Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is planning to send Indian astronauts to the moon for the first time by 2040.

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- > ISRO's Next Moon Mission in Collaboration with Japan Gathers Steam. This mission, called LUPEX, or Lunar Polar Exploration, is slated for 2024-25.
- > Centre has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by the ISRO.
- > ISRO has announced a new online training programme for post-graduate and final-year undergraduate students of physical sciences and technology. The programme is called Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START).
- > ISRO will launch Singapore's TeLEOS-2 satellite using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- Founded : 15 August 1969
- HQ : Bengalore, Karnataka
- Founder / 1st Chairman : Vikram Sarabhai  $\triangleright$
- > 10th Chairman : S Somanath
- Aryabhata India's first satellites Launched on 19 April 1975.
- ➢ GSAT-1 India's first commercial satellite.
- > SLV-3 was India's first experimental satellite launch vehicle.
- Ariane Passenger PayLoad Experiment, (APPLE) first communication satellite in India 19 June 1981.

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- Udupi Ramachandra Rao : satellite Man of India
- The INDUS-X initiative, recently seen in the news, focus on advancing of: **Q.7**.
  - A) agriculture technology
  - **B)** antipiracy measures
  - C) high-tech cooperation in the defense sector
  - D) renewable energy solutions

Answer : C



✓ The defence ministry said the 'INDUS-X' summit in Delhi marks a "significant milestone" in the collaborative efforts between the two countries.

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- ✓ About U.S.-India Defense Accelerator Ecosystem (INDUS-X):
- ✓ It was launched in June 2023 during the state visit of the Prime Minister of India to the US.
- ✓ Objective: To expand strategic technology partnerships and defense industrial cooperation between governments, businesses, and academic institutions in India and the US.
- ✓ INDUS X will be a defence innovation bridge, which will inter-alia, include Joint Challenges, Joint Innovation Fund, Academia engagement, Industry-startup connect, investment by private entities in defence projects, mentoring by experts and niche technology projects etc.
- ✓ The initiative aims to explore possibilities for co-producing jet engines, long-range artillery, and infantry vehicles.
- ✓ India's Innovations for Defense Excellence (iDEX) and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), US, are leading INDUS-X activities.
- Q.8. Consider the following statements regarding Mission Aspides:
  - 1. It is a United States of America led naval mission.
  - 2. It will send warships and airborne early warning systems to the Red Sea to protect cargo ships.

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- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A) 1 only
- Aparch D) Neither 1 nor 2
- C) Both 1 and 2

#### Answer : B

✓ The European Union recently launched Mission Aspides to protect commercial vessels in the Red Sea from attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels.

B) 2 only

- ✓ About Mission Aspides:
- ✓ It is a European Union (EU) naval mission to protect cargo ships in the Red Sea from attacks from Yemen's Houthi rebels.
- $\checkmark$  It will send European warships and airborne early warning systems to the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and surrounding waters.
- ✓ So far, France, Germany, Italy and Belgium have said they plan to contribute ships.



✓ Aspides vessels, whose operational command centre will be in the Greek city of Larissa, will have orders to fire on the Houthis only if they attack first and will not be authorised to shoot pre-emptively.

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- $\checkmark$  The mission is planned for one year but may be renewed.
- Consider the following statements regarding the BharatNet Project: **Q.9**.
  - 1. It aims to provide access to broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats across India.
  - 2. It is executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- C) Both 1 and 2

B) 2 only

D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer : C

- ✓ State-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has floated around Rs 65,000-crore tender for the implementation of the phase-III BharatNet project.
- $\checkmark$  It is one of the biggest rural telecom projects in the world.
- ✓ It is implemented in a phased manner to all Gram Panchayats in the country for providing nondiscriminatory access to broadband connectivity to all the telecom service providers.
- Objective: To enable access providers like mobile operators, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Cable TV operators, content providers to launch various services such as applications like e-health, e-education and egovernance in rural and remote India.
- ✓ The project has been approved in 2011.
- ✓ It is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), which has been incorporated in 2012 under Indian Companies Act 1956.
- The Telecom Commission approved to implement the project in three phases.  $\checkmark$
- BharatNet Phase-I:  $\checkmark$
- ✓ It was approved in 2011 the project for the creation of the National Optical Fibre Network (now BharatNet) to provide broadband connectivity at the Gram Panchayat (GP) level by connecting block headquarters to GPs by using existing fibre of Central Public Sector Undertakings such as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and RailTel Corporation of India Limited and laying incremental fibre to bridge the connectivity gap up to the GPs.
- BharatNet Phase-II



✓ It was approved in 2017, which integrates the implementation experience of Phase-I of the project and aligns it with the vision of Digital India.

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- ✓ The modified strategy provides an optimal mix of media (OFC, Radio and satellite) to connect Gram Panchayats (GPs).
- ✓ In the third phase from 2019 to 2023, state-of-the-art, future-proof network, including fiber between districts and blocks, with ring topology to provide redundancy would be created
- Q.10. Consider the following statements regarding the Rubber Board:
  - 1. It is issues licenses to rubber producers, manufacturers and exporters.
  - 2. It is a statutory organization under the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

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 government has increased the allocation for Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Natural Rubber Sector by 23% to Rs 708.7 crore for the next two financial years and the scheme is run by the Rubber Board.
- ✓ It is a statutory organization constituted under the Rubber Act, 1947.
- ✓ It functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- ✓ Functions:
- ✓ It is responsible for the development of the rubber industry in the country by assisting and encouraging research, development, extension and training activities related to rubber.
- ✓ A crucial function of the Rubber Board is issuing licenses to rubber producers, manufacturers, and exporters/traders. This license, known as the "Rubber Board license/registration," is mandatory for anyone involved in rubber manufacturing and export
- ✓ Structure:
- ✓ It is headed by a Chairman appointed by the Central Government.
- ✓ It has 28 members representing various interests of the natural rubber industry.



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- ✓ The activities of the Board are exercised through Five Departments viz. General Services, Extension & Advisory Services, Research Services (rubber Research Institute of India), Training (Rubber Training Institute) & Finance.
- ✓ Headquarters: Kottayam, Kerala
- Q.11. Which state has achieved 100 percent saturation in 'Har Ghar Jal' scheme under the Centre's Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)?
  - A) Uttar Pradesh
- **B)** Madhya Pradesh
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Rajasthan

#### Answer : C

- Arunachal Pradesh has achieved 100 percent saturation in 'Har Ghar Jal' scheme under the Centre's Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
- The state has become the first in the northeast and tenth in the country to achieve a cent per cent saturation under the central government sponsored scheme.
- ✓ The Centre's share for the scheme in the state was ₹ 3,965.41 crore, while the state contributed ₹ 455.51 crore to complete the project, ensuring every household gets clean and safe piped water.
- ✓ Launched in 2019 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the 'Jal Jeevan Mission' is a centrally sponsored scheme aimed to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections to all households in rural India by 2024.
- Q.12. According to Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) data, which state tops the country in terms of public electric vehicle charging stations with 5,059?
  - A) Tamil Nadu B) Karnataka
  - C) Telangana

D) Kerala

- Answer : B
- ✓ Karnataka tops the country in terms of public electric vehicle charging stations with 5,059, according to statistics from the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the Union Ministry of Power.
- ✓ Bengaluru Urban District has the most public charging stations with 4,281, which constitutes 85% of the charging infrastructure in the State.
- ✓ In 2017, Karnataka became the pioneer in India by introducing the first electric vehicle (EV) policy.
- ✓ At present, it leads in the number of public charging stations, with Maharashtra (3,079), Delhi (1,886), Kerala (958), Tamil Nadu (643), Uttar Pradesh (583), and Rajasthan (500) following suit.

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✓ Meanwhile, in terms of the number of EVs, Uttar Pradesh is top with 7.45 lakh, followed by Maharashtra (4.15 lakh), and Karnataka (3.31 lakh).

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- ✓ The State government, last year, in a bid to create a robust electric vehicle ecosystem in Karnataka, unveiled a revised draft EV policy (2023-28), which aims to attract ₹50,000 crore in investment while creating job opportunities for one lakh people.
- ✓ In Karnataka, the registered number of EVs has increased from 9,703 in 2020 to 33,306 in 2021, 95,892 in 2022, and 1.52 lakh in 2023.

#### Q.13. Who will take over as Non-Executive Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank after G. C. Chaturvedi's term ends on 30 June 2024?

- A) Pradeep Kumar Sinha
- C) Abhishek Singh

**B)** Aman Sharma

**D)** Ramesh Chand

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Former Cabinet Secretary Pradeep Kumar Sinha will take over as Non-Executive Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank after G. C. Chaturvedi's term ends on 30 June 2024.
- ✓ The Bank's Board, has approved the appointment of Sinha as an Additional (Independent) Director for a period of five years, with immediate effect subject to the approval of shareholders.
- ✓ Sinha joined the Indian Administrative Service (Uttar Pradesh in 1977).
- ✓ He served as the Cabinet Secretary (from June 2015) for more than four years before moving to the Prime Minister's Office. He retired from there in March 2021.

#### **ICICI BANK IN NEWS 2023-24**

- > Pradeep Kumar Sinha to take over as Non-Executive Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank.
- ▶ HDFC Bank to acquire up to 9.5% stake in ICICI Bank.
- ▶ ICICI Bank Canada Launches 'Money2India (Canada)' Mobile Banking App.

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- > 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.

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- 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.
- 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.14. Rizwan Javed was banned from all cricket for 17.5 years for his part in match-fixing attempts during the 2021 Abu Dhabi T10 League. For which country does he play cricket?

A) Pakistan

B) Bangladesh

C) United Kingdom

D) Afghanistan

#### Answer : C

- ✓ A UK club cricketer, Rizwan Javed received a 17.5 years ban from all cricket due to his participation in match-fixing attempts during the 2021 Abu Dhabi T10 League.
- ✓ Authorities enforced the ban on September 19, 2023, as Javed failed to address charges related to his involvement in the league.
- ✓ Javed was among eight players and officials charged by the International Cricket Council (ICC) on behalf of the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB) in September last year.
- ✓ Bangladesh all-rounder Nasir Hossain received charges and is currently serving a two-year ban.

Q.15. Suhani Bhatnagar passed away recently at the age of 19. Who was she?

A) Magician	B) Sculptor
-------------	-------------

C) Actress D) Social Worker

Answer : C

✓ Suhani Bhatnagar, who played young Babita Kumari Phogat in Aamir Khan's 'Dangal', died.



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- ✓ She was 19.
- ✓ Suhani became a household name after playing young Babita Kumari Phogat in the 2016 film, 'Dangal'. She shared screen space with Aamir Khan, Sakshi Tanwar, and Zaira Wasim.

Q.16. Which state government has launched the 'Van Mitra' scheme to encourage community participation in tree-planting activities in non-forest areas?

A) Haryana

B) Gujarat

C) Kerala

D) West Bengal

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has launched the 'Van Mitra' scheme and its portal to encourage community participation in tree planting activities in non-forest areas.
- ✓ The members of families with an annual income of less than Rs 1.80 lakh can register to become 'Van Mitras'.
- ✓ The objective of this scheme is to directly involve the local public in increasing forest areas across the state, ensuring an increase in the survival rate of afforestation, and promoting tree planting in non-forest areas.
- ✓ Each van mitra will receive an incentive based on the maintenance of the plant and they can plant a maximum of 1,000 saplings. Any individual aged between 18 and 60 can become a van mitra, according to an official statement.
- Q.17. Who has inaugurated "SUFALAM: Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors Startup Conclave 2024"?
  - A) G Kishan Reddy

**B)** Pashupati Kumar Paras

C) Jitendra Singh

D) Narendra Modi

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Union Minister of Food Processing Pashupati Kumar Paras has inaugurated "SUFALAM: Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors Startup Conclave 2024".
- ✓ This initiative demonstrates the government's unwavering dedication to fostering entrepreneurship and building a supportive ecosystem for startups, which in turn empowers aspiring entrepreneurs in the food processing industry.
- ✓ About SUFALAM



- The Startup Conclave for Food Processing Entrepreneurs has the potential to be a game-changing event,  $\checkmark$ driving the sector towards a future marked by innovation, sustainability, and inclusive growth.
- ✓ As startups come together to exhibit their creativity and foresight, the conclave acts as a source of inspiration, encouraging the upcoming generation of food processing leaders to push the limits of what's possible.

#### Q.18. Who has inaugurated the newly constructed Kalughat Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) terminal on National Waterways -1 in Bihar?

A) Nitish Kumar

**B)** Sarbananda Sonowal

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C) Lalu Yadav

D) G Kishan Reddy

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated the newly constructed Kalughat Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) terminal on National Waterways -1 (NW-1) at Kalugaht near Parmanandpur in Saran district in Bihar.
- It has been constructed with a worth of 82.48 crore rupees.
- ✓ It will provide seamless connectivity to vessels from Haldia and Kolkata ports along NW -1.
- The new Intermodal Terminal cargo will enhance handling capacity along inland waterways.  $\checkmark$
- Q.19. With which country's central bank, RBI are planning to integrate their respective fast payment systems for facilitating cross-border remittances? War
  - A) Nepal

B) Maldives Aparch D) Pakistan

**C)** Bhutan

#### Answer : A

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Nepal Rastra Bank entered into an agreement integrating the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) of India and the National Payments Interface (NPI) of Nepal for cross-border remittances.
- $\checkmark$ The integration of Indian and Nepalese fast payment systems is aimed at facilitating cross-border remittances between the two countries by enabling users of the two systems to make instant, low-cost fund transfers.
- The collaboration between India and Nepal in linking their fast payment systems through the UPI-NPI  $\checkmark$ linkage will deepen financial connectivity and reinforce the enduring historical, cultural, and economic ties between the two countries.



## ✓ Recently, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and France have enabled the Indian digital payment system — UPI in these countries.

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#### Q.20. Prabowo Subianto has been elected as President of which country?

- A) Malaysia **B)** Indonesia
- **C)** Singapore **D)** Thailand

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Prabowo Subianto elected as Indonesia President
- ✓ Prabowo Subianto emerges victorious in Indonesia's Presidential race, securing nearly 60% of the votes in the first round.
- ✓ His military background and alignment with President Joko Widodo's policies propel him to a clear-cut victory, sparking positive reactions in Indonesian markets.
- ✓ About Indonesia
- ✓ Capital Jakarta
- ✓ Currency Rupiah
- ✓ Official language Indonesian
- ✓ President Prabowo Subianto
- Q.21. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the deadline for restrictions on deposit and credit transactions of Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) to
  - A) 15 March 2024
- B) 1 April 2024
- C) 15 April 2024

D) 1 May 2024

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the deadline for restrictions on deposit and credit transactions of Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) to March 15, 2024 stating that customers and merchants might require "a little more time to make alternative arrangements.
- ✓ The earlier deadline was February 29.
- ✓ The regulator has clarified that merchants can accept payments using Paytm QR code, soundbox or point of sale (PoS) terminal even after March 15, if the receipt or transfer of funds are linked to any banks other than PPBL.



✓ Merchants, however, cannot transact after March 15 if the QR code, PoS, and sound box are linked to PPBL.

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- ✓ Merchants, however, cannot transact after March 15 if the QR code, PoS, and sound box are linked to PPBL.
- ✓ It was also clarified that PPBL couldnot offer any banking services, including unified payments interface (UPI) facility after March 15 — the deadline of which was February 29 earlier. No money transfers into PPBL accounts via UPI is not allowed after March 15.
- Q.22. Kavita Chaudhary passed away recently at the age of 67. Who was she?

A) Historian	B) Actor
C) Writer	D) Social Worker

Answer : B

- ✓ Kavita Chaudhary, known for her 1989 superhit TV show, 'Udaan', and for playing Lalita-ji in the iconic Surf ads, died at the age of 67.
- ✓ Kavita Chaudhary was best known for her portrayal of IPS officer Kalyani Singh in Udaan a progressive show about women empowerment, which ran on Doordarshan between 1989 and 1991.
- ✓ Besides starring, she wrote and directed the serial, which was inspired by the life of her elder sister and police officer Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya.

Q.23. Who has been named as the 'State Icon' of Punjab under the voter awareness campaign?

- A) Harbhajan Singh
- A Dar Ch B) Yuvraj Singh
- C) Guru Randhawa

**D) Shubman Gill** 

#### Answer : D

✓ Young Indian cricketer Shubman Gill has been named as the "state icon" for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab. In October last year, the Election Commission of India had appointed famous actor Rajkumar Rao as 'National Icon'. Former cricketers like Sachin Tendulkar, MS Dhoni, Aamir Khan and Mary Kom have been national icons

#### Q.24. Where is the 11th International Puppet Festival being held?

A) Patna	B) Varanasi
C) Chandigarh	D) Jaipur



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#### Answer : C

- ✓ The 11th International Puppet Festival is being organized in Chandigarh.
- The program was inaugurated by Punjab Governor and UT Administrator Banwarilal Purohit. It is being organized at Tagore Theater from 17th February to 21st February.

#### Q.25. With whom has 'Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority' signed an agreement to increase awareness?

- A) Asian Development Bank
- **B) DBS Bank**

C) State Bank of India

**D)** Punjab National Bank

#### Answer : B

'Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority' (IEPFA) has entered into an agreement with DBS Bank  $\checkmark$ to spread awareness on investment and fraudulent schemes. As per the MOU, the Bank will take forward IEPFA's investor awareness campaign by disseminating security messages through its various digital platforms. IEPFA was established in the year 2016.

Q.26. NASA and which country's space agency have joined to launch the world's first wooden satellite?

- A) Japan
- **B)** Russia
- C) India
- D) UK

#### Answer : A

- Aparchit Exam Warriors ✓ NASA and Japan's space agency, JAXA, are planning to launch the world's first wooden satellite, LignoSat, in 2024.
- ✓ The satellite is designed to reduce space debris and is made of biodegradable magnolia wood, known as Hoonoki in Japanese.
- ✓ The satellite is being developed by scientists at Kyoto University.
- $\checkmark$  First tests have been performed in space-simulating laboratories, and wood samples found no signs of damage, decomposition, or mass changes.
- The initiative aims to make spaceflight operations more sustainable and pave the way for a more sustainable future in orbit

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	STATIC GK Ba	sed Current Affairs MCQs 20 February 2024
<b>Q</b> .1.	Scheduled banks are	included under which schedule of the RBI act 1934?
	A) 1st schedule	B) 2nd schedule
	C) 3rd schedule	D) 4th schedule
Ansv	wer: B	
Q.2.	What is the minimum	n paid up capital of a bank, must have to be eligible for inclusion in the Reserve
	Bank of India at 1934	's Second Schedule to attain Scheduled Banks' status?
	A) Rs. 2 lakhs	B) Rs. 4 lakhs
	C) Rs. 5 lakhs	D) Rs. 20 lakhs
Ansv	wer : C	
Q.3.	•	ernment owned scheduled commercial banks that operate at the regional level in is the share of the central government in the regional rural banks?
	A) 50	B) 35
	<b>C)</b> 45	D) 15
Ansv	wer:A	
	egional Rural Banks sh overnment and sponsor	ould have the share of 50%, 15% and 35% owned by the central government, state ing bank respectively.
Q.4.	What is the authorize	ed capital of regional rural banks?
-	A) ₹20 lakhs	ADarchil B) ₹50 lakhs
	C) ₹ 1 crore	D) ₹5 crores
Ansi	wer : D	
Q.5.		nsor Bank of India's first regional rural bank Prathama Grama bank in Uttar Pradesh?
	A) Indian bank	
	B) Canara Bank	
	C) Punjab National H	Bank
	D) Syndicate Bank	
Ansv	wer : D	
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Q.6. Anyonya Co-operative Bank Lim located?	nited (ACBL) is the first cooperative bank in India. Where was it
A) Uttar Pradesh	B) Gujarat
C) Maharashtra	D) Bihar
Answer : B	
<ul> <li>✓ First co-operative bank in India is Vadodara (previously Baroda) in Guja</li> </ul>	Anyonya Co-operative Bank Limited (ACBL), which is based in arat
Q.7. The local area bank scheme was required for setting up of local area	introduced in August 1996. What is the minimum paid up capital ea banks?
A) Rs. 1 crore	B) Rs. 2 crores
C) Rs. 5 crores	D) Rs. 10 crores
Answer : C	
Q.8. What is the number of digits used	to represent the universal account number?
A) 10	B) 20
<b>C)</b> 12	D) 16
Answer : C	1075
Q.9. Society for Worldwide Interbank	Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) is 8 to 11
A) digital code	B) alphabetic code
C) alpha-numerical code	arch D) Roman code
Answer : B	
Q.10. What is the full form of PPI?	
A) Postpaid Payment Instrument	B) Prepaid Payment Instrument
C) PostOffice Payment Inclusion	D) none of the above
Answer : B	
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