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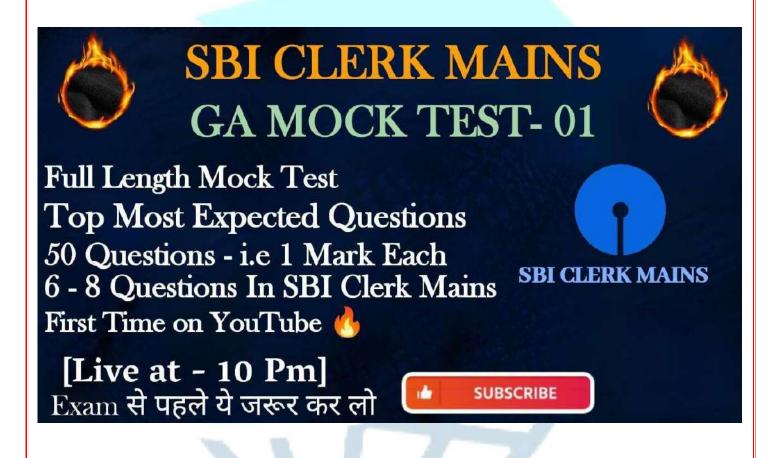
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## Aparchit 13 March English Super Current Affairs MCQ with Facts 2024

By Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

#### Q.1. With whom has SBI partnered for its transaction banking platform?

A) Google

B) Rogerpay

C) Aurionpro

D) Meta

#### Answer: C

- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has entered into an agreement with Aurionpro Solutions for the license and operation of cash management and transaction banking platform iCashpro+.
- ✓ This deal, worth approximately Rs 100 crore, includes license and maintenance for 6 years.
- ✓ Aurionpro's iCashpro+ is based on advanced cloud technology and micro services.

#### **SBI IN NEWS 2023-24**

- Aurionpro secures a significant deal with SBI for iCashpro+, a cash management platform. Valued at Rs 100 crore, it involves phased delivery over 12 months, followed by 6-year maintenance.
- ➤ LIC emerged as the most valued Indian PSU firm, surpassing SBI.
- > 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.
- > SBI has launched a 'Mobile Handheld Device' as part of its financial inclusion drive in a bid to improve accessibility and convenience.
- ➤ The tenure of State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Khara has been extended till August 2024.
- > State Bank of India has introduced a digital facility for Non-Resident Indians to effortlessly open Non-Residential External and Non-Resident Ordinary accounts through its mobile app YONO.
- > State Bank of India has launched its 'Nation First Transit Card', a RuPay prepaid instrument under the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) that can be used nationwide.
- > State Bank of India (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.2. According to SIPRI report, which country is the world's top arms importer between 2019-2023?

A) China

B) Pakistan

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C) India

D) Iran

#### Answer: C

- ✓ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) according to its report on March 11, 2024, India is the world's top arms importer.
- ✓ India's arms imports have registered a growth of 4.7 percent between 2014-2018 and 2019-2023.
- ✓ Highlights of SIPRI Report:
- ✓ According to the SIPRI report, Russia still remains India's main arms supplier.
- ✓ However, this is the first time since 1960-64 that Russia's share in India's arms imports was less than 50 percent.
- ✓ India has received 36 percent of its total arms imports from Russia.
- ✓ According to the SIPRI report, the US supplied about 55% of the total weapons imported by European countries in 2019-23.
- ✓ Japan's arms imports have increased by 155 percent.

- ✓ Whereas South Korea's arms imports have increased by 6.5 percent.
- ✓ However, China's own arms imports have decreased by 44 percent.
- ✓ According to the report, Pakistan's arms imports have increased by 43 percent.
- ✓ Pakistan has been the fifth largest arms importer in 2019-23.
- ✓ Pakistan has received a maximum 82 percent of weapons from China.
- ✓ The high level of arms imports by US allies in Asia and Oceania is due to these countries' concerns about China's ambitions.
- ✓ The US is a major supplier of arms to the Asia and Oceania region.
- ✓ According to the report, Qatar increased its arms imports almost four times (396 percent) between 2014-18 and 2019-23. Due to which it became the world's third largest arms importer in 2019-23.
- ✓ About Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI):
- ✓ SIPRI is an international institute. It conducts research in the fields of wars, munitions, arms control and disarmament.
- ✓ SIPRI was established in 1966.
- ✓ SIPRI is headquartered in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden.
- Q.3. India's first automobile in-plant railway siding project was inaugurated in which state?
  - A) Himachal Pradesh

B) Haryana

C) Gujarat

D) Tamil Nadu

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#### Answer: C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first automobile in-plant railway siding project at Maruti Suzuki India's plant in Hansalpur, Gujarat.
- ✓ This railway siding project is a collaborative initiative between Maruti and Gujarat Rail Infrastructure Development (G-RIDE).

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

- > Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first automobile in-plant railway siding project at Maruti Suzuki India's plant in Hansalpur, Gujarat.
- ➤ Kerala has declared the man-animal conflict a state-specific disaster, the first in India to do so.
- > Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India's first indigenous green hydrogen fuel cell inland waterway vessel in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu.

- 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.
- 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. Consider the following statements regarding the Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) programme:
  - 1. It is an athlete-centric programme under the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
  - 2. It is aimed at school children between 9 and 18 years of age.

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

## Answer: C

- ✓ Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports inaugurated the unique Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) programme amidst much enthusiasm at the Sector 7 sports complex, in Chandigarh.
- ✓ It is aimed at school children between nine and 18 years.
- ✓ The nation-wide scheme will have two main objectives:
- ✓ To hunt talent from every nook and corner of the country and
- ✓ To use sports as a tool to curb addiction towards drugs and other gadgetry distractions.
- ✓ KIRTI made a solid launch across 50 centres in India. Fifty thousand applicants are being assessed in the first phase across 10 sports, including athletics, boxing, wrestling, hockey, football and wrestling.
- ✓ KIRTI aims to conduct 20 lakh assessments across the country throughout the year to identify talent through notified Talent Assessment Centres.
- ✓ It wants to reach out to every block in the country and connect with those kids who want to play a sport but don't know how.
- ✓ KIRTI's athlete-centric programme is conspicuous by its transparent selection methodology based on Information Technology.
- ✓ Data analytics based on Artificial Intelligence is being used to predict the sporting acumen in an aspiring athlete.
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

#### Q.5. Gorsam Kora festival, recently in news, is celebrated in:

A) Ladakh

B) Arunachal Pradesh

C) Manipur

D) Andhra Pradesh

#### Answer: B

- ✓ The Gorsam Kora festival, symbolised the enduring friendship between India and Bhutan commenced on 7th March and concluded on 10th March this year.
- ✓ It is held in Arunachal Pradesh's Zeminthang Valley along the Nyanmjang Chu River.
- ✓ History

- ✓ This annual festival is held at Gorsam Chorten, a 93 feet tall Stupa, built during 13th century AD by a local monk-Lama Pradhar.
- ✓ This is also the place where the 14th Dalai Lama had his first rest after fleeing from Tibet in 1959.
- ✓ It features cultural performances and Buddhist rituals at the Gorsam Chorten, which is older than the Tawang Monastery.
- ✓ The festival featured a diverse array of events, including enthralling performances by local cultural troupes and by the Indian army bands, martial performances like Mallakhamb and Zanjh Pathaka.

## **FESTIVAL IN NEWS 2023-24**

- Gorsam Kora festival: Arunachal Pradesh
- Chapchar Kut Festival : Mizoram
- Orange Festival : Nagaland
- Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival: Arunachal Pradesh
- Ethnic Mamani Festival : Ladakh
- ➤ International Camel Festival : Bikaner, Rajasthan
- > Chandubi Festival : Assam
- ➤ International Purple Fest 2024 Goa
- > National Street Food Festival: New Delhi
- Kuno Forest Festival : Madhya Pradesh
- 'Shar Amartala Torgya' Festival: Arunachal Pradesh

  24th Hornbill Festival: Nagaland
- > 24th Hornbill Festival : Nagaland
- Dhillo festival : Goa
- ➤ India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 : Faridabad, Haryana
- > Arattu festival : Kerala
- > Banni festival : Andhra Pradesh
- Zanskar Festival : Ladakh
- ➤ Indo-Latin America Cultural Festival : New Delhi
- Nuakhai festival : Odisha
- Nadi Utsav : Delhi
- Karnataka Cultural Festival : Sri Lanka .

➤ 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.6. Consider the following statements with reference to Exercise 'Bharat Shakti', recently seen in the news:
  - 1. It is an integrated tri-service firepower and manoeuvre exercise.
  - 2. It was conducted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

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

- ✓ The Prime Minister recently witnessed the tri-service exercise 'Bharat Shakti' in Pokhran, Rajasthan.
- ✓ About Exercise 'Bharat Shakti':
- ✓ It is an integrated tri-service firepower and manoeuvre exercise, showcasing the prowess of indigenously manufactured defence equipment across the three services.
- ✓ Location: Pokhran, Rajasthan.
- ✓ The exercise involves the showcasing of the calibrated tactical employment of niche technology in a triservices environment against perceived threats.
- ✓ The exercise displays an array of indigenous weapon systems and platforms as a demonstration of the prowess of the country, premised on the nation's Aatmanirbharata initiative.

- ✓ It features indigenous weapon systems: T-90 (IM) Tanks, Dhanush and Sarang Gun Systems, Akash Weapons System, Logistics Drones, Robotic Mules, ALH, and various unmanned aerial vehicles from the Indian Army showcasing the advanced ground warfare and aerial surveillance capabilities.
- ✓ The Indian Navy displays Naval Anti-Ship Missiles, Autonomous Cargo Carrying Aerial Vehicles, and Expendable Aerial Targets.
- ✓ The Indian Air Force showcases indigenous aircraft: Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, Light Utility Helicopters, and Advanced Light Helicopters.
- Q.7. Kochrab Ashram, recently seen in the news, is located in which one of the following States?

A) Maharashtra

B) Bihar

C) Odisha

D) Gujarat

#### Answer: D

- ✓ The Prime Minister inaugurated the redeveloped Kochrab Ashram in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, recently to mark the 94th anniversary of the Dandi March.
- ✓ About Kochrab Ashram:
- ✓ It was the first ashram founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1915, following his return to India from South Africa.
- ✓ Location: It is located in Kochrab village, situated on the outskirts of Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ✓ It was called Satyagraha Ashram based on his ideas of achieving India's independence from British rule through peaceful methods.
- ✓ Establishment:
- ✓ Gopal Krishna Gokhale requested Mahatma Gandhi to return to India, which needed his skills as a community organizer.
- ✓ Mahatma Gandhi began his association with Ahmedabad after returning to India from South Africa.
- ✓ About his decision to settle in Ahmedabad in 1915, Gandhi wrote that, as a Gujarati, he should be able to serve the country best through the Gujarati language.
- ✓ On 20th of May, 1915, Gandhi began living in a bungalow in Kochrab village.
- ✓ The bungalow, which he soon rechristened as the Satyagraha Ashram, was given to him by his fellow lawyer and colleague, Jeevanlal Desai.

- ✓ Mahatma Gandhi based himself here for about one-and-a-half years before moving to the new campus of Sabarmati Ashram.
- ✓ It is a colonial-style building with a white-washed façade.
- Q.8. With reference to the Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) 2024, consider the following statements:
  - 1. It prohibits pharma companies from offering gifts and travel facilities to healthcare professionals or their family members.
  - 2. It also holds companies responsible for the actions of the medical representatives.
  - 3. The pharma companies should not make claims and comparisons of their drug's usefulness, and the word "safe" must not be used without qualification.

How many of the above statements are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

#### Answer: C

- ✓ The Central Government recently rolled out a Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) for pharmaceutical companies.
- ✓ About UCPMP 2024:
- ✓ It has been implemented to control unethical practices in the pharma industry.
- ✓ The updated guidelines include drug endorsement, promotion, ethical conduct for medical representatives, and maintaining relationships with healthcare professionals.
- ✓ Important Provisions:
- ✓ It prohibits pharma companies from offering gifts and travel facilities to healthcare professionals or their family members.
- ✓ The UCPMP mandates that medical representatives must not employ any inducement or subterfuge to gain an interview, and they must not pay, under any guise, for access to a healthcare professional.
- ✓ It also holds companies responsible for the actions of the medical representatives.
- ✓ It also bans the supply of free samples to those who are not qualified to prescribe such a product.
- ✓ Each pharma company also needs to maintain details such as product name, doctor name, the number of samples given, date of supply of free samples to healthcare practitioners, etc., and the monetary value of samples so distributed should not exceed two percent of the company's domestic sales per year.

- ✓ All pharmaceutical associations must constitute an Ethics Committee for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (ECPMP), set up a dedicated UCPMP portal on their website, and take further necessary steps towards the implementation of this Code.
- ✓ It also lists in detail how the drug should be promoted, both in texts and in the audio-visual market.
- ✓ The information about drugs must be balanced, up-to-date, and verifiable, and must not mislead either directly or by implication.
- ✓ The word "new" must not be used to describe any drug which has been generally available or any therapeutic intervention which has been generally promoted in India for more than a year.
- The responsibility for adherence to the code rests with the Chief Executive Officer of pharmaceutical companies.
- Q.9. Consider the following statements with reference to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP):
  - 1. It indicates the relative change in physical production in the field of industries during a specified year as compared to the previous year.
  - 2. It is computed and published by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

A) 1 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

- ✓ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation recently released the Quick Estimates of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for January 2024, revealing a growth of 3.8 percent.
- ✓ About Index of Industrial Production (IIP):
- ✓ It is one of the prime indicators of economic development for the measurement of trends in the behavior of industrial production over a period of time with reference to a chosen base year.
- ✓ IIP is a short-term indicator measuring industrial growth until the actual result of detailed industrial surveys become available.
- It indicates the relative change in physical production in the field of industries during a specified year as compared to the previous year.

- ✓ It is computed and published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, on a monthly basis.
- ✓ Calculation:
- ✓ The IIP is a quantum index, the production of items is expressed in physical terms. However, the unit of reporting in respect of certain items like machinery, machine tools, shipbuilding, etc. is in value terms.
- ✓ The IIP is compiled as a simple weighted arithmetic mean of production relatives by using Laspeyre's formula.
- ✓ In order to remove the effect of price rises from the index, the production figures of such items are deflated on the basis of Wholesale Price Indices (Base 2011-12), compiled by the Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, before the compilation of the index.
- ✓ Base Year:
- $\checkmark$  The base year is always given a value of 100.
- $\checkmark$  The current base year for the IIP series in India is 2011-12.
- ✓ So, if the current IIP reads as 116, it means that there has been 16% growth compared to the base year.
- Q.10. Consider the following statements with reference to the Graphics Processing Unit:
  - 1. It is a computer chip which provides graphics and images by performing rapid mathematical calculations.
  - 2. It does not have its own Random Access Memory (RAM).

A) 1 only

Aparch B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: A

- ✓ As the world rushes to make use of the latest wave of AI technologies, one piece of high-tech hardware has become a surprisingly hot commodity: the Graphics Processing Unit, or GPU.
- ✓ It is a computer chip that renders graphics and images by performing rapid mathematical calculations.
- ✓ GPUs are used for both professional and personal computing. Originally, GPUs were responsible for the rendering of 2D and 3D images, animations and video.
- ✓ Like a Central Processing Unit (CPU), a GPU is also a chip component in computing devices.

- ✓ One important difference, though, is that the GPU is specifically designed to handle and accelerate graphics workloads and display graphics content on a device such as a PC or smartphone.
- Q.11. Consider the following statements regarding the Directorate General of Foreign Trade:
  - 1. It is responsible for granting the Exporter Importer Code Number to Indian exporters and importers.
  - 2. It works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

#### Answer: C

- ✓ The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has granted an exemption to the import of certain goods, including viscose staple fibre and numerous steel items, from quality control orders (QCOs) under the advance authorisation scheme.
- ✓ It is a government organization in India responsible for the formulation of exim guidelines and principles for indian importers and indian exporters of the country.
- ✓ Before 1991, DGFT was known as the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports (CCI&E).
- ✓ It is an attached office of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and is headed by Director General of Foreign Trade.
- ✓ It has been assigned the role of "facilitator".
- ✓ It is responsible for implementing the Foreign Trade Policy or Exim Policy with the main objective of promoting Indian exports.
- ✓ The DGFT also issues scrips/authorization to exporters and monitors their corresponding obligations through a network of 24 regional offices.
- ✓ Functions
- ✓ To implement the Exim Policy or Foreign Trade Policy of India by introducing various schemes and guidelines through its network of dgft regional offices thought-out the country.
- ✓ To Grant Exporter Importer Code Number to Indian Exporter and Importers. IEC Number is a unique 10 digit code required by the traders or manufacturers for the purpose of import and export in India.
- ✓ To grant the permission of free export in Export Policy Schedule 2.
- ✓ Setting standard input-output norms is also controlled by the DGFT.

- ✓ Headquarter: New Delhi
- Q.12. With reference to Hyodol Robot, consider the following statements:
  - 1. It is an AI care robot which offers customized care for seniors.
  - 2. It uses the large language model for conversation.
  - 3. It cannot be linked to smart home devices.

How many of the above statements are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

#### Answer: B

- ✓ South Korean company Hyodol has come up with a way to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to beat loneliness among elders with dementia.
- ✓ These look like cuddly soft toys, their advanced language processing and ability to recognise emotions, talk, and play music can offer some form of engagement to seniors.
- ✓ It is an AI care robot that offers customised care for seniors.
- ✓ The robot does this by relying on data collected by living and having conversations with them.
- ✓ The doll can hold full conversations and it comes with a companion app and web monitoring platform for caretakers to monitor remotely.
- ✓ Besides, it comes with safety features that can raise an alert when no movement has been detected for a certain period of time.
- ✓ This robot collects verbal/nonverbal data for 24 hours from the users through AI.
- ✓ Technology used
- ✓ The AI robot can hold conversations owing to the large language model that has been integrated into it.
- ✓ Hence only statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- Q.13. According to the India Cellular and Electronics Association, India now stands as the world's second-largest producer of mobile phones at the end of the decade 2014-2024 with \_\_ percent self-sufficiency.

A) 96%

B) 97%

C) 98%

D) 99%

Answer: B

- ✓ India now stands as the world's second-largest producer of mobile phones at the end of the decade 2014-2024.
- ✓ India Cellular and Electronics Association said in a statement that the sector has transitioned from being 78 percent import-dependent in 2014 to 97 percent self-sufficiency.
- ✓ Only three percent of the total mobile phones sold in India are now imported.
- ✓ India's mobile phone production is nearing 20 lakh crore rupees in a decade of unprecedented growth.
- ✓ India produced 2.45 billion units of mobile phones during these ten years, against a goal of 2.5 billion units.
- ✓ China is the largest producer of mobile phones; Indonesia stands at 3rd.
- Q.14. Union Minister of State, Dr Jitendra Singh has announced the establishment of North India's first Government Homeopathic College in which place?

A) Kishtwar

B) Srinagar

C) Kathua

D) Badgam

#### Answer: C

- ✓ Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, announced the establishment of North India's first Government Homeopathic College in the Jasrota area of Kathua district, Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ The project, funded centrally at Rs 80 crore, reflects a significant stride in healthcare and education infrastructure development in the region.
- ✓ The proposed structure will include a hospital complex, a college, an administrative block and one hostel each for male and female students.
- ✓ The open space will be utilized later on for construction of an auditorium, playground, etc.
- Q.15. PM Narendra Modi has launched the Mahtari Vandan Yojana in Chhattisgarh. What is the purpose of this scheme?
  - A) To provide financial assistance for married women
  - B) To provide free LPG connection for poor women
  - C) To provide free sanitary pad for girls
  - D) To provide 50,000 loans for skilled women

#### Answer: A

✓ PM Narendra Modi has launched the Mahtari Vandan Yojana in Chhattisgarh.

- ✓ The scheme has been launched in Chhattisgarh to provide financial assistance of Rs 1000 per month to eligible married women of the state as monthly DBT.
- ✓ It has been envisioned to ensure economic empowerment of women, provide them financial security, promote gender equality and strengthen the decisive role of women in the family.
- ✓ The scheme will provide benefits to all eligible married women of the state who are above 21 years of age as of January 1, 2024.
- ✓ Widows, divorced, and deserted women will also be eligible for this scheme. Around 70 lakh women will benefit from the scheme.
- Q.16. What is the theme of 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain 2024' campaign?

A) Valuing Water

B) Jal Shakti se Vikas

C) Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti

D) Source Sustainability for Drinking Water

#### Answer: C

- ✓ The Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has launched the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign 2024.
- ✓ It is the fifth edition of the campaign. The launch of Catch the Rain Campaign was scheduled to be held at the NDMC Convention Centre in New Delhi.
- ✓ The theme of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain Campaign 2024 is Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti.
- ✓ This theme revolves around the role of Women in water Conservation as well as water management.
- ✓ The conducting body of the Catch the Rain Campaign is the National Water Mission, Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation in collaboration with the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation.
- Q.17. Which company has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Rural Development to train members of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)'s Women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the Lakhpati Didi Yojana?

A) Easy Trip Planner

B) IndiGo

C) IRCTC

D) Red Bus

#### Answer: A

✓ Easy Trip Planners partners with Ministry of Rural Development to empower self-help groups

- ✓ Easy Trip Planner Ltd.'s EaseMyTrip.com, signed an MoU with the Ministry of Rural Development to train members of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)'s Women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the Lakhpati Didi Yojana.
- ✓ The initiative aims to focus on women-led skill development, fostering entrepreneurial skills and financial independence among rural women.
- ✓ Through the MoU, EaseMyTrip will train members of SHGs in 800 districts across India.
- ✓ The eligibility criteria for selection includes basic knowledge of reading & writing English/Hindi and familiarity with using a computer & browsing the internet.
- ✓ The training will cover making travel reservations across all essential segments, including trains, buses, hotels and flights

#### Q.18. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)?

A) Vijay Sampla

B) Kishor Makwana

C) Subhash Ramnath Pardhi

D) Anju Bala

#### Answer: B

- ✓ Kishor Makwana has assumed the charge of Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC).
- ✓ While, Luv Kush Kumar also assumed the charge of Member of National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC).
- ✓ Kishor Makwana was appointed by the President of India as the Chairman of the NCSC, Government of India.
- ✓ Makwana has previously served as the joint spokesperson of the Gujarat unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- ✓ About National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)
- ✓ NCSC is a constitutional body. It was established to provide safeguards against exploitation of the Scheduled Castes (SC). Also, it has been done with the aim of promoting the social, educational, economic and cultural interests of SC.
- ✓ Established 19 February 2004
- ✓ Headquarters New Delhi
- ✓ Under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

- ✓ Initially there was a provision in the Constitution for the appointment of a special officer under Article 338. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was appointed as the special officer.
- ✓ Article 338 was amended by the 89th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003. Also, the then National Commission for SC and ST was replaced by two commissions from the year 2004. Which were:
- ✓ The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) operates under the authority of Article 338.
- The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) functions under the jurisdiction of Article 338A.
- Q.19. The Ministry of Defence has signed a ₹200 crore contract for anti-drone systems for the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) with which company?

A) Bharat Electronics Limited

B) Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited

C) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited D) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

## Answer: B

- ✓ The Ministry of Defence has signed a ₹200 crore contract for anti-drone systems for the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) with Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (BBBS).
- ✓ This is the largest contract signed by the MoD under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative.
- ✓ The focus of the iDEX programme is to foster an ecosystem of innovation and technology development in defence.
- ✓ This order contracted to Big Bang Boom Solutions is a step in that direction and we are happy to have young companies support the nation's growth.

#### Q.20. Which state/UT conducted All-Women Maritime Surveillance Mission?

A) Andaman & Nicobar

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Lakshadweep

D) Karnataka

#### Answer: A

- ✓ The Andaman & Nicobar Command marked the 40th anniversary of INAS 318 and International Women's Day with a historic all-women maritime surveillance mission.
- ✓ The crew, consisting of Lt Cdr Shubhangi Swaroop, Lt Cdr Divya Sharma, and Lt Vaishali Mishra, showcased women's pivotal role in the Naval Air Arm.
- The event emphasized gender equality, as women officers handled pre-flight briefing, meteorological briefing, medical check-up, and Air Traffic Control.

- ✓ The mission's success reaffirms women's capability in executing independent operational tasks, reinforcing their crucial contributions to national defense.
- Q.21. 'Gulf of Tonkin Incident', recently seen in the news, is related to which one of the following?
  - A) Russia-Ukraine War

B) Vietnam War

C) World War II

D) Iran-Iraq War

#### Answer: B

- ✓ China has officially revealed new territorial claims in the northern Gulf of Tonkin, a shared area with Vietnam.
- ✓ The crescent-shaped Gulf, located in the South China Sea, borders Vietnam's northwestern coast, China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and the Leizhou Peninsula and Hainan Island.
- ✓ Known as "Beibu Gulf" in Chinese and "Bac Bo Gulf" in Vietnamese, it connects with the South China Sea and Hainan Strait.
- ✓ Notably, the Gulf of Tonkin gained historical significance due to the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin Incident during the Vietnam War.
- Q.22. Union Minister of Science & Technology inaugurated the first-of-its-kind "National Speed Breeding Crop Facility" at which place?

A) Mohali, Punjab

B) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

C) Bikaner, Rajasthan

D) Indore, Madhya Pradesh

#### Answer: A

- ✓ The Union Minister of Science & Technology inaugurated India's first National Speed Breeding Crop Facility at the National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI) in Mohali, Punjab.
- ✓ The facility will revolutionize crop improvement programs by rapidly developing advanced crop varieties through speed breeding methods.
- ✓ Established in 2010, NABI is India's first Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute, dedicated to catalyzing transformations in the agri-food sector.
- ✓ NABI has actively contributed to initiatives like 'Atal Jai Anusandhan Biotech (UNaTI) Mission' and Biotech Kisan Hubs for various regions.

Q.23. Sea6 Energy launched the world's first large-scale mechanized tropical seaweed farm in which country?

A) Maldives

B) Singapore

C) Malaysia

D) Indonesia

#### Answer: D

- ✓ Sea6 Energy launched the world's first large-scale mechanized tropical seaweed farm in Lombok, Indonesia.
- ✓ The farm is located off Ekas, on the island of Lombok.
- ✓ Sea6 Energy is a Bangalore-based company that specializes in cultivating and processing tropical seaweed species.
- ✓ The company has developed a cultivation mechanism called the Sea Combine, which can harvest and replant seaweed in deep ocean waters.
- ✓ They also have technologies to convert seaweed into environmentally friendly products.
- Q.24. Ministry of Rural Development signed an MoU with which institute to formalize their partnership in applications of geospatial technology & AI?

A) IIT Kanpur

B) IIT Delhi

C) IIM Ahmedabad

D) IIT Roorkee

#### Answer: B

- ✓ The Ministry of Rural Development and IIT Delhi signed an MoU for rural advancement through geospatial technology and AI.
- ✓ Led by Shri Amit Kataria and Prof. Manabendra Saharia, the collaboration focuses on "BhuPRAHARI" project under MGNREGA.
- ✓ Officials, including Shri Shailesh Kumar Singh and Prof. Rangan Banerjee, highlighted the partnership's significance in enhancing MGNREGA's efficiency and transparency.
- ✓ The integration of advanced tech aims to modernize rural development processes, ensuring accountability and optimal resource allocation.
- Q.25. Which Union Minister launched the credit assistance program for Jan Aushadhi Kendras?

A) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya

B) Smriti Irani

C) Anurag Thakur

D) Giriraj Singh

#### Answer: A

- ✓ Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated a loan assistance program for Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
- ✓ Under this, an agreement was also signed between Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI).
- Q.26. India recently signed an agreement with which country to establish a Joint Economic and Trade Committee?

A) Kenya

B) South Africa

C) Argentina

D) Dominican Republic

#### Answer: D

- ✓ India has recently signed the protocol for the establishment of Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) with the Dominican Republic.
- ✓ The Union Cabinet had approved the proposal to sign the said protocol for the establishment of JETCO on January 24 this year.
- ✓ The Dominican Republic is a Caribbean nation.
- Q.27. Where did PM Modi lay the foundation stone of India's first commercial semiconductor fabrication service?

A) Punjab

B) Rajasthan

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Gujarat

#### Answer: B

- ✓ PM Modi laid the foundation stone of Tata-Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp's chip fabrication unit in Dholera Rajasthan.
- ✓ This will be India's first commercial semiconductor fabrication service.
- ✓ This includes three projects worth more than Rs 1.25 lakh crore.
- ✓ The capacity of the Dholera unit will be 50,000 wafer starts per month
- Q.28. Who recently inaugurated the regional airline service Fly91?

A) Amit Shah

B) S Jaishankar

C) Rajnath Singh

D) Jyotiraditya Scindia

#### Answer: D

- ✓ Union Civil Aviation and Steel Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated Fly91, a regional airline service and flagged off the first flight between Manohar International Airport in Goa and the Agatti Islands of Lakshadweep.
- ✓ Airline Fly91 will start commercial services on March 18. Fly91 is a Goa-based airline, its MD and CEO is Manoj Chacko

## STATIC GK Based Current Affairs MCQs 13 March 2024

- Q.1. Which committee recommended the introduction of Liquidity adjustment facility in India?
  - A) R. Gandhi Committee
- B) Rangarajan Committee
- C) Narasimham Committee
- D) SS Tarapore Committee

#### Answer: C

- Q.2. Treasury Bills have a maximum maturity of:
  - A) 1 year

B) 90 days

C) 120 days

D) 30 days

#### Answer: A

- ✓ Debt obligations of the Government that have maturities of one year or less are normally called Treasury Bills or T-Bills.
- Q.3. Which of these derivatives types are traded between financial institutions and not retail investors?

A) Futures

B) Forward

C) Options

D) Swaps

### Answer: D

- Q.4. In which year did second phase of nationalization of banks took place?
  - A) 1969
  - B) 1980
  - C) 1984
  - D) None of these

Answer: B



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- Q.5. What is the total amount that can be loaded in the new type of semi-closed Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) introduced by RBI during the financial year?
  - A) Rs 10,000

B) Rs 1,00,000

C) Rs 1,20,000

D) Rs 1,50,000

#### Answer: C

- ✓ The amount loaded in such PPIs during any month shall not exceed ₹ 10,000 and the total amount loaded during the financial year shall not exceed ₹ 1,20,000
- Q.6. RRBs are required to maintain a minimum Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) of \_ on an ongoing basis.
  - A) 8 per cent

B) 9 per cent

C) 10 per cent

D) 11 per cent

#### Answer: B

- Q.7. What is the limit for On-lending by NBFC for Micro & Small enterprises?
  - A) Rs 10 lakh

B) Rs 20 lakh

C) Rs 50 lakh

D) Rs 60 lakh

#### Answer: B

Q.8. Which section of Banking Regulation Act 1949 give Power to the Reserve Bank to give directions?

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- A) Section 42
- B) Section 42A
- C) Section 47
- D) Section 35A

#### Answer: D

- Q.9. Currency Chest is the property of:
  - A) State Bank of India

B) Government of India

C) Reserve Bank of India

D) None of these

#### Answer: C

✓ A currency chest is a depositary of RBI which it maintains at treasuries and branches of the banks at all important centres.



Q.10. The right of set-off customers account can be exercised only by a\_?

A) Creditors

B) Debtors

C) Banker

D) Customer

Answer: C





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