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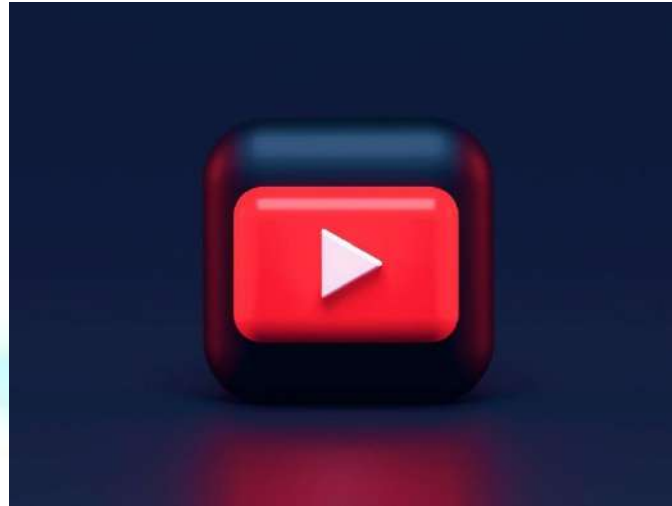
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Hey there,

Your Aparchit sir is here.

I have been providing Aparchit Super Current Affairs on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Additionally, I run GA-paid groups and channels on Telegram for three years. Over the past three years, you have consistently shown me a great deal of love, support, and respect. Your numerous messages urging me to join YouTube have been instrumental in boosting my confidence and inspiring me to take the plunge. "Your support and love mean the world to me. They provide me the strength and courage to overcome any challenge that comes my way. Knowing that you're always there for me is everything. Please continue to be my rock and support me through thick and thin."

Ultimately, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for giving me an abundance of love, support, and respect. Thank you so much, India.

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Top 12 Students Selected in RRB PO With Highest Marks in GA Section





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The Top 12 students of Aparchit's Warrior who were selected in IBPS PO and IBPS Clerk 2023 with the highest marks in GA.



Name - Rohit Thakur
State - Himachal Pradesh
Selected as - IBPS PO



Name - Samridhi
State - Bihar
Selected as - PO



Name - Jyothy Jagadeesan
State - Kerala
Selected as - IBPS PO



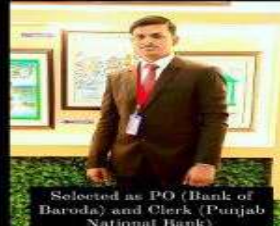
Name - Neelam
State - Jharkhand
Selected as - IBPS P



Name - Anju
Selected as - IBPS PO



Name - Christina Dsouza
State - Maharashtra
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Himanshu Gupta
State - Uttar Pradesh
Selected as - IBPS PO & Clerk



Name - Anil
State - West Bengal
Selected as - RRB PO / RRB Clerk / IBPS Clerk



Name - Shivkumar Sharma
State - Rajasthan
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Reksha Dongre
State - Maharashtra
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Maya Mohan
State - Kerala
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



Name - Mehalar
State - Tamilnadu
Selected as - IBPS Clerk



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

Q. Who launched India's first private sub-meter resolution surveillance satellite?

- A) Agnikul Cosmos B) Dhruv space
C) Tata Advanced Systems Limited D) Skyroot Aerospace

Answer : C

- ✓ Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) launched India's first privately built sub-meter resolution surveillance satellite TSAT-1A.
- ✓ TASL, in collaboration with Satellogic, launched the spacecraft on April 7 using SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida

INDIA'S FIRST IN NEWS 2023-24

- India's first Artificial Intelligence based Film 'TRAH' trailer launched
- India's 1st Battery Energy Storage GigaFactory will be Launched in J&K
- India's first integrated oil palm processing unit in Arunachal Pradesh started operation by one of India's largest oil palm development companies, 3F Oil Palm.
- India's first Indoor athletic centre inaugurated in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- India's First Research IIT Satellite Campus will be in Ujjain.
- India's first spy satellite built by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) will be launched in a SpaceX rocket by April and will be used by the armed forces to obtain secret information.
- Commencement of Core Loading at India's first indigenous Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) (500 MWe) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- The PFBR has been fully designed and constructed by BHAVINI.
- 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.



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- 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. Consider the following statements regarding TSAT-1A, recently seen in the news:

1. It is an Earth observation satellite of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

2. It has the ability to capture military grade imagery of Earth's surface with sub-meter resolution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : B



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- ✓ Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) recently announced the successful deployment in space of its sub-metre resolution optical satellite, TSAT-1A, by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.
- ✓ About TSAT-1A:
- ✓ It is an optical sub-metre-resolution Earth observation satellite.
- ✓ It was built by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) in collaboration with Latin American company Satellogic Inc, following a collaboration agreement between the two companies in late November 2023.
- ✓ TSAT-1A was assembled in TASL's Assembly, Integration, and Testing (AIT) plant at its Vemagal facility in Karnataka.
- ✓ It was launched by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, in the US.
- ✓ Features:
- ✓ TSAT-1A's core strength lies in its ability to capture military grade imagery of Earth's surface with sub-meter resolution.
- ✓ It is equipped with both multispectral and hyperspectral imaging capabilities.
- ✓ TSAT-1A boasts greater collection capacity, a wider dynamic range (the ability to capture detail in both very bright and very dark areas), and low-latency delivery of data.
- ✓ While India has a few military spy satellites built by ISRO, this is the first such initiative in the private sector.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Directorate General of Trade Remedies:

- 1. It conducts anti-dumping investigations in India.**
- 2. It works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**

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 Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has now recommended imposition of anti-dumping duty on sodium cyanide (NaCN) imported from China, the European Union, Japan and Korea.
- ✓ It was earlier known as Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) was formed on 17th May 2018.
- ✓ It works as a single national entity dealing with all kinds of Trade Remedial measures (anti-dumping, countervailing, safeguard).



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- ✓ It was earlier known as Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) was formed on 17th May 2018.
- ✓ It works as a single national entity dealing with all kinds of Trade Remedial measures (anti-dumping, countervailing, safeguard).
- ✓ It provides a level playing field to the domestic industry against the unfair trade practices like dumping, subsidization and surge in imports.
- ✓ Functions:
- ✓ Conducting anti-dumping investigations and recommendation to Government of India (GoI).
- ✓ Conducting anti-subsidy/CVD investigations and recommendation to GoI.
- ✓ Conducting safeguard investigations and recommendation to GoI
- ✓ Handling Litigation matters before CESTAT, High Courts and Supreme Court of India.
- ✓ Conducting Outreach programmes to create and spread conceptual awareness and explain the working of DGTR
- ✓ Exchange of information with World Trade Organisation (WTO).
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: It functions as an attached office of Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Electronic Trading Platform:

- 1. It is where eligible instruments like securities and money market instruments are contracted.**
- 2. It is authorized by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor raised concerns over unauthorised forex trading platforms and asked banks to maintain vigil against such illegal activities.
- ✓ Electronic Trading Platforms are electronic system, other than a recognised stock exchange, on which transactions in eligible instruments like securities, money market instruments, foreign exchange instruments, derivatives, etc. are contracted.



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- ✓ In India no entity shall operate an ETP without obtaining prior authorisation of RBI under The Electronic Trading Platforms (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2018.
- ✓ Resident persons operating ETPs without authorisation from RBI, collecting and effecting/remitting payments directly/indirectly outside India shall render themselves liable for penal action, including the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.
- ✓ ETPs authorised by the Reserve Bank shall host transactions only in instruments approved by the Reserve Bank.
- ✓ Criteria for authorization of ETPs
- ✓ The entity shall be a company incorporated in India.
- ✓ An entity seeking authorisation as an ETP operator shall maintain a minimum net-worth of Rs.5 crore (Rupees five crore only) and shall continue to maintain the minimum net-worth prescribed herein at all times.
- ✓ The existing entities operating ETPs with a net-worth lower than the prescribed net-worth requirement shall achieve the minimum net-worth of Rs.5 crores within one year from the date of authorisation by the Reserve Bank.
- ✓ Banks seeking authorisation to operate ETP shall earmark a minimum capital of Rs.5 crore for the purpose.

Q. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched an extensive awareness and sensitization program targeting major markets in which city?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Mumbai
- C) Hyderabad
- D) Chennai

Answer : A

- ✓ The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched an extensive awareness and sensitization program targeting major markets in the New Delhi.
- ✓ The awareness campaign will focus particularly on the detection and mitigation of pesticide residue and contaminants in food products.
- ✓ During the programme, the food business operators were sensitized about the importance of organic farming, raw material testing, ill effects of pesticide residues, artificial ripening and wax coating using unapproved chemicals.



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FSSAI IN NEWS 2023-24

- FSSAI is working towards creating a network of 34 microbiology labs across the country that will be equipped to test food products for 10 pathogens.
- FSSAI has awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification to 150 railway stations so far for ensuring safe, hygienic and nutritious food options for passengers.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) introduced a new provision called 'Special Category' in the FOSCOS portal.
- FSSAI has recently recognized the Mithun as a 'food animal,' opening doors for its commercial use found in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Defence ministry, FSSAI to promote use of millets, healthy eating habits among armed forces.
- Guwahati Railway Station of the Northeast Frontier Railway has been awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI, for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- Varanasi Cantt Railway Station of the Indian Railways has been awarded the 5-Star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high quality nutritious food to the passengers.
- The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has awarded the food provided by the Bulandshahr prison of Uttar Pradesh a five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus'. Bulandshahr Jail is the second prison after Farrukhabad jail to get this tag from Uttar Pradesh..
- G Kamala Vardhana Rao was appointed the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- FSSAI has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which is a consolidating statute related to food safety and regulation in India.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- Founded : 2008
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Chairperson : Rajesh Bhusan
- CEO : G Kamala Vardhana Rao



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Q. Which Indian shipyard company has signed the Master Shipyard Repair Agreement (MSRA) with the United States Navy to facilitate the repair of US Naval vessels under Military Sealift Command?

- A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders B) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers
C) Hindustan Shipyard D) Cochin Shipyard Limited

Answer : D

- ✓ The Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), a government enterprise, has signed the Master Shipyard Repair Agreement (MSRA) with the United States Navy.
- ✓ This will facilitate repair of US Naval vessels under Military Sealift Command in Cochin Shipyard.
- ✓ CSL (Cochin Shipyard) has been qualified for entering into the Master Shipyard Repair Agreement (MSRA) after a detailed evaluation process and capability assessment by the US Navy – Military Sealift Command.

Q. Which airlines has signed a pact with Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) to develop the Bengaluru airport as an aviation hub?

- A) IndiGo B) Akasha
C) Vistra D) Air India

Answer : D

- ✓ Air India and Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) have signed a pact to develop the Bengaluru airport as an aviation hub, encompassing the construction of a dedicated domestic lounge, expansion of international services, and establishment of a maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) facility.
- ✓ Air India (along with other Tata Group airlines – AIX and Vistara) and BIAL will collaborate to enhance international connectivity, operational efficiency, and passenger experience over the next five years.
- ✓ Air India is wholly owned by the Tata Group, while AIX Connect and Air India Express are its wholly-owned subsidiaries. Vistara, a 51:49 joint venture between the Tata Group and Singapore Airlines, is currently undergoing a merger into Air India. The Bengaluru airport is operated by Fairfax-run BIAL.

AIRPORT IN NEWS 2023-24

- Manohar International Airport, Mopa, joins 13 others in India adopting the Digi Yatra system, enhancing travel convenience.
- Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in Delhi, India has been named the “Best Airport” in the Asia-Pacific region for six years in a row.



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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 15 airport projects, including the revamped Terminal 1 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, worth over Rs.9,800 crore
- Cochin International Airport Limited has signed an agreement with Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) for the Green Hydrogen Project.
- Supreme Court recently agreed to hear a curative petition filed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) against the multinational conglomerate GMR Group concerning the operational management of Nagpur's Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport.
- So far, 519 air routes are being operated across the country under the regional level air connectivity scheme (RCS) 'Ude Deshka Aam Nagrik' (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik-UDAN).
- Government of India has officially given the status of 'International Airport' to Surat Airport in Gujarat.
- Thiruvananthapuram Airport Honored with Excellence Award for its Quality Initiatives.
- Bengaluru and Delhi Airports have jointly bagged the 'Best Airport of the Year' at the Wings India Awards 2024 in the Civil Aviation Sector.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a new terminal building at Tiruchirappalli International Airport in Tamil Nadu.
- Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to declare Surat Airport an international airport.
- 58 Airports in the country have been covered under Krishi Udan Scheme.
- Deoghar Airport in Jharkhand is the first airport in the country to land a commercial aircraft in low visibility.
- Larsen and Toubro (L&T) Construction have secured a large order to construct the greenfield Bhogapuram International Airport project in Andhra Pradesh.
- The largest airport in the world is the king Fahd International Airport, located in Dammam, Saudi Arabia which covers an area of about 300 sq.
- Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia inaugurated Utkela Airport owned by the Government of Odisha.
- Guwahati's Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport became the first airport in the northeast to get 'Digi Yatra' facility.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate Gujarat's first greenfield airport at Hirasar near Rajkot.
- Government of India has given 'in-principle' approval for setting up 21 new greenfield airports.



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Q. In which country will the Clean Energy Investor Forum be organized by IPEF?

- A) India B) China
C) Singapore D) Malaysia

Answer : C

- ✓ The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) will organize the Clean Energy Investor Forum in Singapore.
- ✓ IPEF was launched in May 2022 and currently has 14 partners.
- ✓ IPEF Clean Energy Investor Forum is an initiative under IPEF. India is also included in IPEF.

Q. Who will organize 'Shakti - Festival of Music and Dance'?

- A) Sangeet Natak Academy B) Global Music Institute
C) Swarnabhoomi Music Academy D) IIFA

Answer : A

- ✓ Sangeet Natak Akademi will organise 'Shakti - Festival of Music and Dance' from 9 to 17 April at seven different Shaktipeeths across the country.
- ✓ 'Shakti Utsav' is starting from Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati. Sangeet Natak Akademi is the National Academy of Performing Arts and an autonomous body of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India

Q. Who has been recently appointed as the CEO and MD of the company by Wipro?

- A) Srinivas Palliya B) Ajay Kala
C) Vinay Sinha D) Dinesh Khurana

Answer : A

- ✓ Wipro has recently appointed Srinivas Pallia as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of the company.
- ✓ He replaces Thierry Delaporte.
- ✓ Srinivasa Pillai is an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and joined Wipro in 1992

Q. In which city will the National Women's Hockey League be inaugurated?

- A) Ranchi B) Lucknow
C) Varanasi D) Bhopal



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Answer : A

- ✓ National Women's Hockey League will be inaugurated on 30 April in Ranchi.
- ✓ It will be organised from 30 April to 10 May.
- ✓ While the eight quarterfinalists at the Senior Women's National Championship in Pune - Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Bengal, Mizoram, Manipur and Odisha - will compete in the first phase of the league.
- ✓ This league will provide an opportunity to the emerging players in the country to hone their skills

Q. India has acquired the right to operate the overseas Sittwe port, in which country?

- A) Iran
- B) Qatar
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Myanmar

Answer : D

- ✓ Sittwe Port located in Myanmar will now be operated by India. After Iran's Chabahar Port, this is the second foreign port which will be operated by India.
- ✓ A proposal of India Ports Global (IPGL) to take over the operations of this port located on the Kaladan river has been approved.

Q. In which city will the Indian Navy Half Marathon be organized?

- A) Kolkata
- B) Jaipur
- C) Mumbai
- D) New Delhi

Answer : D

- ✓ Indian Navy has announced the organization of a Half Marathon race in Delhi on 06 October 24.
- ✓ The main objective of this event is to strengthen the Navy's relations with the civil society and to spread awareness about the important role of the Navy in defence.
- ✓ The Navy also organises such events every year in Mumbai, Visakhapatnam and Kochi.

Q. Piramal Alternatives, the investment arm of Piramal Group, has announced an investment of ___ in Biodeal Pharmaceuticals.

- A) Rs 110 crore
- B) Rs 120 crore
- C) Rs 130 crore
- D) Rs 210 crore

Answer : B



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- ✓ Piramal Alternatives, the investment arm of Piramal Group, has announced an investment of Rs 110 crore in Biodeal Pharmaceuticals.
- ✓ The funding will be directed towards improving infrastructure and capacities, upgrading technology, and underlay a dedicated nutraceuticals manufacturing facility.
- ✓ Biodeal is a contract development and manufacturing organisation.
- ✓ The investment is aimed at fuelling Biodeal's development of solutions, enhancing its production capabilities, and operations, positioning it as a leading nasal spray manufacturer.

Q. Sumit Nagal becomes the first Indian to win main draw match in Monte Carlo Masters. He is related to which sport?

- A) Badminton B) Tennis
C) Wushu D) Archery

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal stuns 35th ranked Matteo Arnaldi and becomes first ever Indian to win main draw match at Monte Carlo Masters.
- ✓ He defeated Arnaldi. The unseeded 95th-ranked Nagal, is only the third Indian to feature in the main draw in Monte Carlo after Vijay Amritraj in 1977 and Ramesh Krishnan in 1982.
- ✓ He became the first-ever male Indian singles player to win a Masters 1000 match on clay.

Q. Who is the author of the book titled 'The Idea of Democracy'?

- A) Chetan Bhagat
B) Salman Rushdie
C) Sam Pitroda
D) Amitav Ghosh

Answer : C

- ✓ Sam Pitroda has launched 'The Idea of Democracy', expressed concern over democracy's state in the US and India, highlighting 2024's global elections.
- ✓ He discussed political challenges worldwide, including authoritarian regimes and social media's role in misinformation.



- ✓ Highlighted cycle of elite regimes falling to public dissent, suggesting the current political-business elite facing rejection.

FAMOUS BOOKS & AUTHOR IN NEWS 2023-24

- The Idea of Democracy : Sam Pitroda
- From A Car Shed To The Corner Room & Beyond : S Raman
- The Gems of Indian Art : Harish Khullar
- UNEQUAL: Why India Lags Behind Its Neighbours : Swati Narayan
- Gandhi: A Life in Three Campaigns : M.J. Akbar and K. Natwar Singh
- Assam's Braveheart Lachit Barphukan : Arup Kumar Dutta
- An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy : Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
- Gandhi: A Life in Three Campaigns : M.J. Akbar & co-author K. Natwar Singh
- Modi: Energising A Green Future : Pentagon Press in collaboration with the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation
- Sanskriti ke Ayaam : Manorama Mishra
- Four Stars of Destiny: An Autobiography : General Manoj Mukund Naravane
- The Babri Masjid Ram Mandir Dilemma : Madhav Godbole
- Breaking the Mould: Reimagining India's Economic Future : Raghuram Rajan & Rohit Lamba
- Zeba: An Accidental Superhero : Huma Qureshi
- Welcome to Paradise : Twinkle Khanna
- India's Moment : Changing Power Equations around the World : Mohan Kumar
- Pranab, My Father: A Daughter Remembers : Sharmishtha Mukherjee
- Thread by Thread, on the life of Shambhu Kumar or 'the' S Kumar : Sathya Saran
- Do Palkon Ki Chhavn Main : Hema Joshi
- Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal ('Lions that drank the Moonlight') : Autobiography of S Somanath
- Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire: Nandini Das

Q. Who has been elected as the next Prime Minister of Iceland?

- A) Bjarni Benediktsson
- B) Stuart Mark
- C) Katrin Jakobsdottir
- D) None of these



Answer : A

- ✓ Iceland's Foreign Minister Bjarni Benediktsson has been chosen as the country's next Prime Minister.
- ✓ Earlier, Katrin Jakobsdottir had resigned from her post to contest the presidential election.
- ✓ Iceland is a Nordic island country located between the North Atlantic and Arctic Ocean

NEWLY PRIME MINISTER IN NEWS

- Simon Harris : Ireland
- Bjarni Benediktsson : Iceland
- Luis Montenegro : Portugal
- Mohammad Mustafa : Palestine
- Olzhas Bektenov : Kazakhstan
- Gabriel Attal : France
- Donald Tusk : Poland
- Luke Frieden : Luxembourg
- Robert Fico : Slovakia
- Christopher Luxon : 42nd PM of New Zealand
- Srettha Thavisin : Thailand
- Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani : Qatar
- Li Qiang : China
- Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM : Equatorial Guinea
- Anwar Ibrahim : Malaysia
- Benjamin Netanyahu : Israel
- Rishi Sunak : 57th PM of United Kingdom (UK)

Q. Who has been sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Ireland?

- A) Michael Martin B) Simon Harris
C) Michael McGrath D) Leo Varadkar

Answer : B

- ✓ The Irish Parliament has elected Simon Harris as the country's new and youngest Prime Minister.
- ✓ Earlier, Indian-origin Leo Varadkar had resigned from the post of Prime Minister. He was appointed Minister of Health in 2016 at the age of 29 and Minister of Higher Education in 2020.



✓ Simon Harris has become the youngest PM of the country

Q. Peter Pellegrini was elected the new President of which country?

A) Scotland

B) Sweden

C) Norway

D) Slovakia

Answer : D

- ✓ Peter Pellegrini elected President of Slovakia
- ✓ A close ally of populist Prime Minister Robert Fico beat a pro-Western career diplomat to become Slovakia's new President, and succeed Zuzana Čaputová, the country's first female head of State.
- ✓ Parliamentary Speaker Peter Pellegrini received 53.85% of the vote with the ballots from over 98% polling stations counted by the Statistics Office in Saturday's runoff election, topping former Foreign Minister Ivan Korčok who had 46.14%.
- ✓ Mr. Pellegrini becomes Slovakia's sixth President since the country gained independence after the split of Czechoslovakia in 1993.
- ✓ Slovakia
- ✓ Capital : Bratislava
- ✓ Currency : Euro

NEWLY PRESIDENT IN NEWS 2023-24

- Peter Pellegrini : Slovakia
- Abdel Fatah al-Sisi : Egypt
- Prabowo Subianto : Indonesia
- Tamás Sulyok : Hungary
- Alexander Stubb : Finland
- Azali Assoumani : Comoros
- Bernardo Arevalo : Guatemala
- William Lai : Taiwan
- Daniel Noboa : Ecuador
- Mohammed Muizzu : Maldives
- Bharatvanshi Tharman Shanmugaratnam : Singapore



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- Emmerson Mnangagwa : Zimbabwe
- Edgars Rinkevics : Latvian
- Tayyip Erdogan : Turkey
- Bola Tinubu : Nigeria
- Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu : Bangladesh
- Ram Chandra Paudel : Nepal
- Xi Jinping : China (third term)
- Vo Van Thuong : Vietnam

Q. C-Dome, an air defence system, is developed by which one of the following countries?

- A) USA
- B) Israel
- C) Russia
- D) Iran

Answer : B

- ✓ Israel for the first time deployed its ship-mounted defence system, called the C-Dome.
- ✓ About C-Dome:
- ✓ It is a naval version of Israel's Iron Dome air defence system, used to shield against rocket and missile attacks.
- ✓ The Iron Dome, which was activated in 2011 and has an effectiveness of about 90%, works by using radars to detect short-range rockets before destroying them with its own missiles.
- ✓ The C-Dome, which was first unveiled in 2014, declared operational in November 2022, works similarly to the Iron Dome, using some of the same technology, except that it's mounted on ships.
- ✓ Key Facts about Iron Dome:
- ✓ It is Israel's air missile defense system that can defend against short-range rockets, intercepting them in the air above the state.
- ✓ It is capable of successfully handling multiple rockets at a time.
- ✓ Developed by Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and Israel Aerospace Industries, the system became operational in March 2011.



Q. With reference to the Higgs Boson, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is the fundamental force-carrying particle of the Higgs field, responsible for granting fundamental particles their mass.**
- 2. It is one of the elementary particles that make up the Standard Model of particle physics.**
- 3. It has a positive charge with zero spin.**

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ Nobel prize-winning British physicist Peter Higgs, who proposed the existence of a mass-giving particle, which became known as the Higgs boson or the "God particle", has died aged 94.
- ✓ About Higgs Boson:
- ✓ The Higgs boson is the fundamental force-carrying particle of the Higgs field, which is responsible for granting fundamental particles their mass.
- ✓ This field was first proposed in the mid-sixties by Peter Higgs, for whom the particle is named.
- ✓ The particle was finally discovered on July 4, 2012, by researchers at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the most powerful particle accelerator in the world, located at the European particle physics laboratory CERN, Switzerland.
- ✓ The LHC confirmed the existence of the Higgs field and the mechanism that gives rise to mass and thus completed the standard model of particle physics.
- ✓ It is one of the 17 elementary particles that make up the Standard Model of particle Physics, which is scientists' best theory about the behaviors of the universe's most basic building blocks.
- ✓ Higgs boson plays such a fundamental role in subatomic physics that it is sometimes referred to as the "God particle."

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to International Narcotics Control Board:

- 1. It was established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961.**
- 2. All its members are nominated by the World Health Organisation.**



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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 : A

- ✓ India's Jagjit Pavadia was re-elected for a third term for five years from March 2025-2030 to the International Narcotics Control Board.
- ✓ It was established in 1968 and is the independent and quasi-judicial monitoring body for the implementation of the United Nations International Drug Control Conventions.
- ✓ History:
- ✓ It was established by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 by merging two bodies: the Permanent Central Narcotics Board, created by the 1925 International Opium Convention and the Drug Supervisory Body, created by the 1931 Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs.
- ✓ Members:
- ✓ It consists of 13 members who are elected by the Economic and Social Council and who serve in their personal capacity, not as government representatives.
- ✓ Three members with medical, pharmacological or pharmaceutical experience are elected from a list of persons nominated by the World Health Organization (WHO) and 10 members are elected from a list of persons nominated by Governments.

Q. Adani Green Energy Ltd plans to invest about ₹1.5 trillion through 2030 to develop the world's largest renewable energy plant with 30-gigawatt capacity in which state?

A) Maharashtra

B) Gujarat

C) Haryana

D) Tamil Nadu

Answer : B

- ✓ Adani Green Energy Ltd plans to invest about ₹1.5 trillion through 2030 to develop the world's largest renewable energy plant with 30-gigawatt capacity at the Khavda renewable energy park in Gujarat.
- ✓ The project, part of the Adani Groups renewable energy flagship's plan to achieve 45 gigawatt (GW) installed renewable energy capacity in the country by 2030, will see 26 GW of solar and 4 GW of wind generation capacity coming up.



- ✓ Currently, AGEL has an operating renewable portfolio of 10.93 GW—7.39 GW solar, 1.4 GW wind, and 2.14 GW of hybrid—across 12 states.

Q. Which state has launched the 'Booth Raabta' website for election-related information?

- A) Punjab B) Haryana
C) Gujarat D) Bihar

Answer : A

- ✓ Website 'Booth Raabta' launched by Punjab for election-related information
- ✓ In Punjab, under the unique initiative of the District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner of Malerkotla, Dr. Pallavi, a special website named 'Booth Raabta' has been launched to provide election-related information to the people of the district.
- ✓ The website boothraabta.com will be helpful not only to the voters but also to the polling personnel in any circumstances.
- ✓ Deputy Election Commissioner of India Hirdesh Kumar and Punjab Chief Electoral Officer Sibin C appreciated this initiative

Q. Which bank has partnered with a fintech Onion Life Private Limited to use the latter's technology platform KarmaLife for a pilot to provide micro loans to gig workers?

- A) RBI B) SEBI
C) SIDBI D) NABARD

Answer : C

- ✓ SIDBI partners fintech platform KarmaLife for micro loans to gig workers
- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has partnered with a fintech Onion Life Private Limited to use the latter's technology platform KarmaLife for a pilot to provide micro loans to gig workers.
- ✓ This is expected to support the gig workers' financial inclusion to formal institutional credit.
- ✓ KarmaLife will help gig workers access micro loans through a mobile app and eliminates the hassle of extensive paperwork or physical documentation.
- ✓ This streamlined process will make it easier for gig workers to manage the liquidity needs of their enterprise activities



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Q. Who has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the American Surgical Association (ASA) in April 2024?

A) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma

B) Dr Raghu Ram

C) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy

D) Dr. RG Patel

Answer : B

- ✓ The American Surgical Association (ASA) has honoured Dr Raghu Ram with an Honorary Fellowship in Washington DC.
- ✓ This is the highest recognition that the ASA can bestow upon a surgical colleague from a foreign country.
- ✓ Dr Raghu Ram is the third surgeon from South Asia to receive this honour in the 144 years' history of the United State's oldest surgical organisation.

Q. Which bank has partnered with Paymart India Pvt Ltd to introduce a Virtual ATM (VATM) facility?

A) HDFC Bank

B) J& K Bank

C) Axis Bank

D) Federal Bank

Answer : B

- ✓ J& K Bank has partnered with Paymart India Pvt Ltd to introduce a Virtual ATM (VATM) facility.
- ✓ The partnership aims to introduce cardless cash withdrawal for the Bank's customers through their neighbourhood merchants.
- ✓ The goal of the collaboration is to enhance banking convenience for its customers across its areas of operations especially in J&K and Ladakh.
- ✓ The move is to leverage technology to enhance banking accessibility and convenience for the bank customers. The bank's customers would be able to avail this facility through its mobile banking app
- ✓ The merchants would also need to have the bank's app to initiate a cash withdrawal request. After that, the customer will receive an OTP for validation and sharing that with the merchant would complete the transaction.
- ✓ It is to be noted that the Virtual ATM facility has a limit to the transaction amounts. For now, it enables consumers for a withdrawal of up to Rs 2,000 cash per transaction and a total of Rs 10,000 per month.



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Q. Which bank has raised \$500 million (about Rs 4,200 crore) from foreign markets to fund overseas business growth?

- A) Karnataka Bank
B) Indian Overseas Bank
C) Union Bank of India
D) Punjab National Bank

Answer : C

- ✓ Union Bank of India has raised \$500 million (about Rs 4,200 crore) from foreign markets to fund overseas business growth.
- ✓ The fund was arranged by Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), Dubai Branch, Union Bank of India said in a regulatory filing.
- ✓ A syndicated term loan of \$ 500 million (\$400 million and Green Shoe of \$100 million) would be drawn in two tranches with tenure of 3 and 5 years.
- ✓ This is the maiden syndicated term loan raised by Union Bank of India at an overseas centre.

Q. Indian Coast Guard's DG Rakesh Pal has inaugurated the Indian Coast Guard Aquatic Centre in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
B) Karnataka
C) Madhya Pradesh
D) Rajasthan

Answer : A

- ✓ Indian Coast Guard's DG Rakesh Pal has inaugurated the Indian Coast Guard Aquatic Centre at ICGS Mandapam, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ This is as part of his four-day visit to the maritime force's bases in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Puducherry.
- ✓ The visit aimed to review operational preparedness and infrastructure development in the region, with a focus on ensuring safe, secure, and clean seas.

Q. Which Indian Naval Ship was awarded the 'On-the-spot Unit Citation' by Chief of Navy Staff for successful conduct of anti-piracy operations?

- A) INS Talwar
B) INS Sharda
C) INS Suvarna
D) INS Satpura

Answer : B



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- ✓ Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar has awarded an 'On-the-spot Unit Citation' to INS Sharda for successful conduct of anti-piracy operations at sea.
- ✓ The ship was involved in the safe release of all 19 crew members (11 Iranian and 8 Pakistani) of Iranian fishing vessel "Omari" which was held hostage by pirates off the east coast of Somalia.
- ✓ The ship was tasked to investigate the Iranian fishing vessel "Omari" that was likely hijacked by pirates.

Q. Which country has won the men's Hong Kong Sevens 2024 Titles?

- A) Ireland
- B) South Africa
- C) Australia
- D) New Zealand

Answer : D

- ✓ New Zealand won the men's and women's titles at the Hong Kong Sevens to cap off a tournament that sets a scene for rugby at the Paris Olympics.
- ✓ The All-Blacks Sevens scored the first two tries in a 10-7 win over France in the men's final to successfully defend their title.
- ✓ New Zealand's 36-7 win over the United States lifted the women's title.
- ✓ For the New Zealand men, it was the 68th tournament title in the world series.
- ✓ The Australian women won bronze with a late 24-21 win over France.

Q. Which team has won its maiden I-League title by defeating Shillong Lajong FC 2-1?

- A) Chennai FC
- B) Mohun Bagan
- C) East Sporting
- D) Mohammedan Sporting

Answer : D

- ✓ Mohammedan Sporting won its first I-League title by defeating Shillong Lajong FC 2-1 at the SSA Stadium.
- ✓ They have garnered 52 points from 23 matches.
- ✓ Mohammedan Sporting Club is an Indian football club based in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- ✓ Currently, the club competes in I-League and Calcutta Football League

Q. Gangu Ramsay passed away recently at the age of 83. Who was he?

- A) Horologigrapher
- B) Ultrasonographer
- C) Psychobiographer
- D) Cinematographer



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Answer : D

- ✓ Veteran filmmaker, producer and cinematographer Gangu Ramsay passed away at the age of 83.
- ✓ Ramsay Brothers were known for making horror films in Hindi.
- ✓ Gangu Ramsay's illustrious career spanned decades, leaving an indelible mark on the Indian film industry. He lent his creative vision to over 50 films under the banner of Ramsay Brothers, including classics like "Veerana", "Purana Mandir", and "Bandh Darwaza", "Do Gaz Zameen Ke Niche", "Samri", "Tehkhana", "Purani Haveli", and "Khoj" with Rishi Kapoor.

Q. Which country has been introduced a new gold-backed currency 'ZiG'?

- A) Nigeria
B) Zimbabwe
C) Senegal
D) Tanzania

Answer : B

- ✓ Zimbabwe's ZiG, a new gold-backed currency, saw a 0.2% strengthening to 13.53 per US dollar following its debut. Despite this, its introduction caused nationwide disruption as banks, retailers, and utilities struggled to adapt.
- ✓ Governor John Mushayavanhu announced an exchange rate of 13.56 per dollar during the unveiling last Friday.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe's website published this data, highlighting the country's ongoing efforts to establish a stable local currency.

Q. Which mission received the 2024 John L 'Jack' Swigert Jr. Award for space exploration?

- A) Chandrayaan-3 Mission
B) Chandrayaan-2 Mission
C) Mars Orbiter Mission
D) Gaganyaan Mission

Answer : A

- ✓ The ISRO Chandrayaan-3 mission team received the 2024 John L 'Jack' Swigert Jr. award for space exploration from the US-based Space Foundation.
- ✓ This prestigious accolade, presented during the Space Symposium, recognizes outstanding contributions to space exploration.
- ✓ India's Consul General in Houston accepted the award, highlighting the mission's technical prowess.



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- ✓ The Space Foundation lauded India's leadership in space, emphasizing its recent milestone of landing a spacecraft on the Moon's South Pole.

Q. Who has been appointed as the full-time member of the Sixteenth Finance Commission?

- A) Rajeev Kumar B) Amitabh Kant
C) Manoj Panda D) Rajmohan Sinha

Answer : C

- ✓ The Central Government has appointed Manoj Panda, former Director of the Institute of Economic Growth, as a full-time member of the Sixteenth Finance Commission.
- ✓ Till now there were only three full-time members in the Commission.
- ✓ The Center constituted the 16th Finance Commission on December 31, 2023.
- ✓ The Chairman of the Sixteenth Finance Commission is Arvind Panagariya.

Q. Who has Air India recently appointed as the head of its global airport operations?

- A) Nandkishore Kalra B) Jayaraj Shanmugam
C) Ravichandran Nagarajan D) Abhinav Gupta

Answer : D

- ✓ Air India has recently appointed Jayaraj Shanmugam as the new head of its global airport operations.
- ✓ Shanmugam will begin his new role on April 15, 2024 and will report to Chief Operating Officer Klaus Goersch.
- ✓ He has also worked with airlines like Singapore Airlines, Qatar Airways and Jet Airways.

Q. How many US dollars will World Athletics award to the gold medal winners in athletics at the Paris Olympics?

- A) US \$ 10,000 B) US\$30,000
C) US\$ 40,000 D) US \$ 50,000

Answer : D

- ✓ World Athletics will award US\$50,000 to gold medal winners in athletics at the Paris Olympics.
- ✓ This is the first time that World Athletics has announced prize money for an Olympic sports event.
- ✓ It will be extended to all three medal winners in Los Angeles 2028.



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Q. Which day is observed every year on April 10?

- A) World Malaria Day B) World Liver Day
C) World Hemophilia Day D) World Homeopathy Day

Answer : D

- ✓ The World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year on April 10 to spread awareness about homoeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine.
- ✓ The theme for 2024 World Homoeopathy Day is "Homeoparivar: One Health, One Family"
- ✓ The day marks the birth anniversary of German physician Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, who is considered as the founder of system of alternative medicine called Homeopathy.

Q. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) is celebrated every year on April 09. In 2024 which edition of CRPF Valour Day was celebrated?

- A) 55th B) 61st
C) 59th D) 68th

Answer : C

- ✓ The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) is observed on 9th April every year, as a tribute to the brave men of the Force.
- ✓ 2024 marks 59th CRPF Valour Day.
- ✓ It was on this day in 1965, a small contingent of CRPF created history by defeating an invading Pakistani army, several time larger, at the Sardar Post located in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.
- ✓ The CRPF men eliminated 34 Pakistani soldiers and captured four alive.
- ✓ In the conflict, CRPF lost six personnel who had attained martyrdom.

Q. Which organization has been conferred with the 2024 John L “Jack” Swigert, Jr Award for Space Exploration Award?

- A) ISRO B) DRDO
C) SpaceX D) NASA

Answer : A

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chandrayaan -3 mission team was awarded the 2024 John L “Jack” Swigert, Jr, Award for Space Exploration by the US-based Space Foundation.



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- ✓ This award is given by the US-based non-profit organisation Space Foundation to honour a space agency, company, or consortium of organisations in the realm of space exploration and discovery.
- ✓ The Indian Consul General of India in Houston, D C Manjunath, received the 2024 John L “Jack” Swigert, Jr, Award for Space Exploration Award on behalf of the ISRO’s Chandrayaan -3 team.
- ✓ About John L “Jack” Swigert, Jr Award
- ✓ The John L “Jack” Swigert, Jr, Award for Space Exploration Award was instituted by the Space Foundation in 2004 in memory of John L “Jack” Swigert, Junior.
- ✓ John L “Jack” Swigert, Junior, was part of NASA’s (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Apollo 13 Mission to the moon which had been aborted due to a leakage in its Oxygen tank.
- ✓ The Jack Swigert Award is presented annually at the Space Symposium organised by the Space Foundation.
- ✓ In 2023 NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope Team was honoured with the Jack Swigert award.

ISRO IN NEWS 2023-24

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chandrayaan -3 mission team was awarded the 2024 John L “Jack” Swigert, Jr, Award for Space Exploration by the US-based Space Foundation.
- Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (VSSC) located at Thumba, Thiruvananthapuram has launched a multi-purpose app 'SAKHI' (Space-borne Assistant and Knowledge Hub for Crew Interaction-SAKHI) to assist the Gaganyaan crew.
- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has partnered with ISRO for the Urban Frame Survey (UFS) using Bhuvan.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and ISRO Chairman have already said that by 2040 we should have an Indian astronaut on the moon and also to have our space station by 2035.
- PM Modi laid the foundation stone of the second spaceport of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu.
- 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.



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- 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.
- 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 : Bangalore, Karnataka
- Founder / 1st Chairman : Vikram Sarabhai
- 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.
- Udupi Ramachandra Rao : satellite Man of India

Q. AS per the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024, what is the rank of India in the number of startup unicorns?

A) third

B) sixth

C) fourth

D) fifth

Answer : A



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- ✓ India ranked third on the global list of unicorns but was far behind the US and China who had 703 and 340 high growth start-ups respectively.
- ✓ UK and EU ranked No 4 and No 5 in the list, respectively.
- ✓ India has a total of 67 unicorns in the list, as per a report by The Hurun Research Institute, according to which drop-outs from the chart in 2023 were Byju's and PharmEasy.
- ✓ In total, there are a total of 1,453 unicorns in the world as one unicorn is made every two days over the last year.
- ✓ TikTok owner ByteDance was the world's most valuable unicorn worth \$220 billion. The total value of the world's unicorns reached \$5 trillion which is equivalent to the GDP of Japan.
- ✓ The fastest valuation rise of a unicorn was credited to OpenAI which saw an addition of \$80 billion in value, followed by SpaceX that added \$43 billion.
- ✓ The most active city for unicorns outside of the US and China was London, followed by Bengaluru, Paris and Berlin.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Adjudicating Authority under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA):

1. It determines whether the properties attached by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are involved in money laundering or not.

2. The accused has the right to challenge its confirmation order only in the Supreme Court.

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 Adjudicating Authority under the PMLA recently confirmed the attachment of assets worth Rs 751.9 crore belonging to the National Herald newspaper.
- ✓ About Adjudicating Authority under the PMLA:
- ✓ Under PMLA, an adjudicating authority determines within 180 days whether the properties attached by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are involved in money laundering or not.
- ✓ Functioning:
- ✓ Section 5 of the PMLA provides for the attachment of any property that is suspected to have been acquired with the proceeds of crime in a case of any offence that is listed in the schedule of the law.



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- ✓ 97 countries were named by at least one expert as being a hub for a particular category.
- ✓ India captured the number 10 spot in the rankings.
- ✓ The researchers also found that certain kinds of cybercrime were associated with particular countries. For example, the United States was associated with data and identity theft, while those related to technical products or services seemed to often originate from China.
- ✓ It is estimated that cybercrime costs the world around \$9.22 trillion in 2024, and this is expected to grow to \$13.82 trillion in 2028.

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the GPT-4 Vision:

1. It can interpret handwritten and printed text contained within images.

2. It can be used by developers to write code for a website from a visual image of the design.

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

- ✓ Following its launch, OpenAI's ChatGPT has evolved by leaps and bounds and also recently announced API access to GPT-4 with Vision.
- ✓ It is also referred to as GPT-4V which allows users to instruct GPT-4 to analyse image inputs.
- ✓ It has been considered OpenAI's step forward towards making its chatbot multimodal — an AI model with a combination of image, text, and audio as inputs.
- ✓ It allows users to upload an image as input and ask a question about it. This task is known as Visual Question Answering (VQA).
- ✓ It is a Large Multimodal Model or LMM, which is essentially a model that is capable of taking information in multiple modalities like text and images or text and audio and generating responses based on it.

Q. Which organization launched a new edition of the Girl Empowerment Mission?

A) DRDO

B) ISRO

C) NTPC

D) BHEL

Answer : C

- ✓ NTPC Limited, India's largest power company, launches the latest edition of Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM), aligned with the Government's Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao initiative.



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- ✓ GEM offers a 1-month workshop nurturing girls' imaginations and fostering opportunities.
- ✓ From April 2024, 3,000 underprivileged children join at 42 locations, totaling 10,000 beneficiaries. Started in 2018 with 392 participants, GEM expanded nationwide, benefitting 7,424 girls till date, despite COVID-19 challenges. 2,707 girls participated in 2023 alone.

NTPC IN NEWS 2023-24

- NTPC Limited, India's largest power company, launches the latest edition of Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM), aligned with the Government's Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao initiative.
- NTPC group has inked foreign currency loan agreements worth JPY 30 billion, or roughly \$200 million, with the Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC).
- NTPC Green Energy (NGEL), a wholly owned subsidiary of NTPC, has signed a joint venture agreement with Maharashtra State Power Generation Company (MAHAGENCO) for development of renewable energy parks in Maharashtra
- NTPC Green Energy has entered into an agreement with Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation to set up India's largest green hydrogen production plant.
- NTPC Limited gets certified as a Top Employer 2024 in India.
- NTPC Kanti has received the 11th edition of the FICCI Water Award 2023 under the "Industrial Water Use Efficiency" category.
- NTPC shines as the only Indian PSU to feature in Forbes "World's Best Employers 2023" List.
- The central government has received about Rs 1,487 crore from NTPC as a dividend tranche.
- NTPC has been honoured with the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023.
- NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List.
- NTPC Kanti launches Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GeM)-2023.
- NTPC Group's total installed capacity reaches 72,304 MW with first overseas capacity addition in Bangladesh.
- Country's largest power generation company NTPC Limited has been conferred with 'ATD Best Awards 2023' by Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA.
- NTPC and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) sign agreement for joint development of nuclear power plants.



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- India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- About NTPC
- The NTPC which was earlier known as National Thermal Power Corporation of India is owned by the Government of India. It was set up in 1975.
- The Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh, with an installed capacity of 4,760MW, is currently the biggest thermal power plant in India.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman and Managing Director: Gurdeep Singh

Q. Peter Higgs, who recently passed away, received a Nobel Prize for which research?

- A) Quantum mechanics
- B) Discovery of radioactivity
- C) Discovery of the elements radium and polonium
- D) Discovery of God Particle

Answer : D

- ✓ British physicist Peter Higgs, renowned for discovering the 'Higgs-Boson Particle' or 'God Particle', passed away at 94.
- ✓ Awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2013, his work elucidated the universe's post-Big Bang creation.
- ✓ Higgs, a long-time professor at Edinburgh University, contributed significantly to understanding bosons' role in universal cohesion.
- ✓ His death on April 8, 2024, marked the end of an era in physics.
- ✓ The confirmation of the God particle came in 2012, revolutionizing scientific understanding.

Q. Global Hepatitis Report 2024, recently released by which organization?

- A) WHO
- B) UNICEF
- C) UNDP
- D) WTO

Answer : A



Q. Who has been selected to be part of Britain's research team on dementia?

- A) Chaand Nagpaul B) Kailash Chand
C) Ashvini Keshavan D) Kamlesh Khunti

Answer : C

- ✓ Dr. Ashvini Keshavan, an Indian-origin neurologist and Senior Clinical Research and Honorary Consultant Neurologist Fellow at University College London (UCL), has been selected to be part of Britain's research team on dementia.
- ✓ The team, called ADAPT (Alzheimer's disease Diagnosis And Plasma pTau217), will focus on the biomarker p-tau217, which reflects the levels of two proteins found in the brain that are associated with Alzheimer's disease: amyloid and tau.
- ✓ The team will conduct a clinical trial to see if measuring p-tau217 in the blood can increase the rate of diagnosis for Alzheimer's disease in people with early dementia, as well as in those with mild, progressive memory problems.

Q. Which hospital becomes the first in country to procure and conduct successful piezoelectric bone conduction hearing implants?

- A) AIIMS, Delhi B) KGMU, Lucknow
C) Command hospital, Pune D) Hinduja, Bombay

Answer : C

- ✓ Command Hospital, Pune, achieved a milestone by being the first government hospital in India to procure and perform piezoelectric bone conduction hearing implants.
- ✓ The ENT department conducted successful implants in a child with congenital ear anomalies and an adult with Single Sided Deafness (SSD).
- ✓ As a Neurotology center of the Armed Forces Medical College, they addressed the limited outreach of the costly implant, offering a vital solution for patients with conductive/mixed hearing loss or SSD who don't benefit from traditional interventions.

Q. According to Global Hepatitis Report 2024, what percentage of the global Hepatitis B & C disease burden did India account for in 2022?

- A) 10.5% B) 11.6%
C) 12.1% D) 19.5%



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HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- HDFC becomes first private bank to open branch in Lakshadweep.
- HDFC Bank proposes to sell 100% stake in its subsidiary HDFC Education.
- HDFC Bank has appointed Sumant Rampal as Group Head of Mortgage Business, in the place of Arvind Kapil.
- HDFC Bank Raises \$300 Million via Bond Issue to Fund Green Loans.
- HDFC Bank to acquire up to 9.5% stake in ICICI Bank.
- LIC gets RBI nod for 9.99% stake buy in HDFC Bank.
- HDFC Bank first lender to issue 20 million credit cards.
- HDFC Bank approves re-appointment of Atanu Chakraborty as chairman for 3 years.
- HDFC Bank has recently raised Rs 7,425 crore through infrastructure bond issue.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved the reappointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan as HDFC Bank MD & CEO for a period of three years.
- HDFC Bank Launches India's First Co-Branded Hotel Credit Card named 'Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card' in partnership with Marriott International.
- HDFC Bank's Sashidhar Jagdishan is highest paid bank CEO in FY23 with Rs 10.55 crore pay.
- HDFC Bank overtakes SBI in CRISIL's corporate banking ranking for 2023.
- Food delivery platform Swiggy has joined hands with HDFC Bank to launch a co-branded credit card.
- HDFC BANK
- Founded : 1994
- Founder : Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline : We understand your world

Q. With reference to Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a Central Sector scheme.**
- 2. A specified portion of this fund must benefit SC/ST community.**



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3. The funds are directly transferred into the accounts of Members of Parliament to undertake social projects.

How many of the above statements are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer : B

- ✓ According to the data of Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, nearly 75% of the allocated funds to the 39 Members of Parliament (MPs) in Tamil Nadu under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) from 2019 to 2024 have not been utilised so far.
- ✓ It is an ongoing Central Sector Scheme which was launched in 1993-94.
- ✓ Objective: The Scheme enables the Members of Parliament to recommend works for creation of durable community assets based on locally felt needs to be taken up in their constituencies in the area of national priorities namely drinking water, education, public health, sanitation, roads etc.
- ✓ Under the scheme, annual MPLADS fund entitlement per MP constituency is Rs. 5 crore.
- ✓ Lok Sabha Members can recommend works within their Constituencies.
- ✓ The Rajya Sabha Members of Parliament can recommend works in one or more districts in the State from where he/she has been elected.
- ✓ The Nominated Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may select any one or more districts from any one State in the Country for implementation of their choice of work under the scheme.
- ✓ MPs are to recommend every year, works costing at least 15 per cent of the MPLADS entitlement for the year for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste population and 7.5 per cent for areas inhabited by Scheduled Tribe population.
- ✓ In case an elected MP wishes to contribute MPLADS funds outside the constituency or the State/UT, they can recommend work up to Rs 25 lakh in a financial year.
- ✓ MPs do not directly receive funds under MPLADS. The Centre directly transfers the sanctioned amount in two instalments of Rs. 2.5 crore to the district authorities of the concerned MP's nodal district after a recommended project gets approval.
- ✓ Implementation
- ✓ The role of an MP is, however, limited to the recommendation of a project.



- ✓ The onus is on the district authority to sanction, execute and complete the recommended project within a particular timeframe.
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has been responsible for the policy formulation, release of funds and prescribing monitoring mechanism for implementation of the Scheme.

Q. Which one of the following is the primary objective of the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)?

- A) Supporting wildlife conservation and biodiversity preservation efforts.**
- B) Promoting climate resilient agriculture practices.**
- C) Limiting global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.**
- D) Promoting sustainable exploration of marine and ocean resources**

Answer : C

- ✓ A contentious recent decision by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), permitting carbon offsetting for Scope 3 emissions of businesses with SBTi-based climate targets, has stirred controversy and skepticism.
- ✓ About Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi):
- ✓ SBTi is a global initiative established in 2015 that aims to encourage and support companies to set Science-Based Targets (SBTs) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.
- ✓ The SBTi is a partnership between CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- ✓ The SBTi provides a framework and guidelines for companies to set targets that are in line with the latest climate science, including the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- ✓ Near-term targets show how organizations intend to reduce emissions over the next 5-10 years, crucial for significant progress by 2030 and a prerequisite for net zero targets.
- ✓ Long-term targets indicate how organizations need to reduce their emissions to achieve net zero, according to the criteria of the SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard, by 2050 at the latest (2040 for the energy sector).

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to Queqiao-2:

- 1. It is a relay satellite launched by China.**
- 2. It will serve as a communications bridge between ground operations on Earth and upcoming lunar probe missions.**

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

- ✓ China National Space Administration (CNSA) recently said its launch of Queqiao-2 satellite was a "complete success".
- ✓ About Queqiao-2:
- ✓ Queqiao-2 (Magpie Bridge 2) is a relay satellite launched by China to serve as a communications bridge between ground operations on Earth and upcoming lunar probe missions on the far side of the moon until at least 2030.
- ✓ It has a mass of 1,200 kilograms and carries a large, 4.2-meter-diameter (13.8-foot) parabolic antenna that will be deployed once in space and is one of the largest sent beyond Earth orbit
- ✓ Queqiao-2's first task will be supporting China's Chang'e-6 lunar far-side sample return mission. It will further support the future Chang'e-7 and -8 lunar missions.
- ✓ Queqiao 2 carries three science payloads: an Extreme Ultraviolet Camera (EUC), a Grid-based Energetic Neutral Atom Imager (GENA), and a very long baseline interferometer, the Lunar Orbit VLBI EXperiment (LOVEX).
- ✓ It has a planned lifetime of over 8 years.
- ✓ The mission will also be deploying two experimental CubeSats, Tiandu-1 and Tiandu-2, which will orbit the Moon to test navigation and communication technologies.
- ✓ Tiandu-1 has a Ka-band communications system and a laser retroreflector. It has a mass of 61 kg.
- ✓ Tiandu-2, the smaller of the two cube sats with a mass of 15 kg, also has a communications system.
- ✓ The two satellites will be in formation in an elliptical lunar orbit. Navigation tests include laser ranging to the Moon, and microwave ranging between satellites.

Q. Carmaker Citroën became the first multinational car manufacturer in India to export domestically made electric vehicles to the international market. Citroën is the company of which country?

A) South Korea

B) Israel

C) France

D) Russia

Answer : C

- ✓ Citroën becomes the first multinational carmaker to export EVs from India



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- ✓ French carmaker Citroën became the first multinational car manufacturer in India to export domestically made electric vehicles to the international market.
- ✓ Initial shipment of 500 units of the Made-in-India Citroën ë-C3 to Indonesia was ceremonially flagged from Kamarajar Port.
- ✓ The move aligned with Citroën's global ambitions of democratising electric mobility to increase the adoption of sustainable and clean modes of transportation.
- ✓ The ë-C3, crafted with modern design and innovation, offers a 320 km range certified by ARAI MIDC, along with 100 per cent DC Fast Charge and 15 AMP Home Charging options for convenience. It is available in 13 exterior colour combinations and 47 customisation options.
- ✓ Citroën's export of the ë-C3 from India not only showcases the company's manufacturing and engineering prowess but also contributes significantly to India's goal of a sustainable and globally competitive EV manufacturing ecosystem

Q. Which bank has appointed Murali Ramakrishnan as Non-Executive Independent Director for four years in April 2024?

A) IDFC First Bank

B) Yes Bank

C) HDFC Bank

D) RBL Bank

Answer : D

- ✓ Private sector lender RBL Bank has appointed Murali Ramakrishnan as Non-Executive Independent Director with immediate effect for four years.
- ✓ Earlier, Ramakrishnan served as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of South Indian Bank.
- ✓ He has 37 years of experience in the Banking and Financial Service Industry (BFSI) sector.
- ✓ He joined South Indian Bank as an Advisor on July 1, 2020, and was appointed as Managing Director & CEO of the Bank on October 1, 2020, until September 2023.

NEWLY BANK MD & CEO IN NEWS 2023-24

- RBL Bank has appointed Murali Ramakrishnan as Non-Executive Independent Director with immediate effect for four years.
- M.V. Rao, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the public sector bank, Central Bank of India, has been elected as the new chairman of the Indian Bank Association (IBA) for 2023-24.



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- SBM Bank India has appointed Ashish Vijayakar as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of the Bank for a period of 3 years.
- Praveen Achuthan Kutty appointed as MD & CEO of DCB Bank.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Ashok Vaswani as the Managing Director & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) for a period of three years.
- South Indian Bank has appointed P R Seshadri as its MD & CEO .
- Ashwani Kumar is new MD & CEO of UCO Bank.
- Karnataka Bank Appoints Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma as MD & CEO.
- Rajneesh Karnatak Named As New MD and Chairman Of Bank Of India.
- Debadatta Chand named as new Managing Director of Bank of Baroda.
- Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been elevated as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.
- K Satyanarayana Raju named as new MD and CEO of Canara Bank.

Q. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, recently seen in news, is located in which state?

- A) Kerala
- B) Telangana
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Karnataka

Answer : A

- ✓ Close to 100 hectares of forest were recently destroyed by fire in the Sulthan Bathery forest range within the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS), located in Wayanad, Kerala. Established in 1973, the sanctuary spans approximately 344.44 sq. km and is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. It shares borders with protected areas in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Q. Who has become the first Indian monk to be honoured with the American President's Gold Volunteer Service award?

- A) Acharya Lokesh Muni
- B) Raghaveshwara Bharathi
- C) Vijayendra Saraswati
- D) Bharathi Tirtha

Answer : A



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- ✓ Jain Acharya Lokesh Muni is the first Indian monk to receive the American President's Gold Volunteer Service award in 2024.
- ✓ He is the founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati and World Peace Centre, and is recognized for his contributions to humanity and the public good.
- ✓ He has said that receiving the award is a matter of pride, and that it honors Indian culture, spiritual values, and Jain principles of Lord Mahavir.

AWARDS AND HONOURS IN NEWS 2023- 24

- Nishant, a young poet and critic, is awarded the 29th Devi Shankar Awasthi Award in 2023 for his book 'Kavita Pathak Aalochna'.
- Narendra Modi receives Bhutan's Order of the Druk Gyalpo Award.
- Amitav Ghosh has been awarded the 'Erasmus Prize' 2024 for highlighting the climate change crisis
- Bharti Enterprises founder and chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal has become the first Indian to be awarded an honorary knighthood by Britain's King Charles III
- Shashi Tharoor, a prolific author and a diplomat-turned-politician, was conferred France's highest civilian honour 'Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur'.
- PV Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and MS Swaminathan are set to receive India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna.
- Karpoori Thakur, a renowned socialist leader and former Chief Minister of Bihar, is set to be posthumously conferred with the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.
- Another recipient of the Bharat Ratna Award for the year 2024 is Lal Krishna Advani.
- Dr. Bina Modi, the esteemed Chairperson of Modi Enterprises, has been honored with the prestigious 'Outstanding Business Woman of the Year' Award.
- REC Secures Best Green Bond – Corporate Award At The Asset Triple A Awards 2024.
- PT Usha Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award by SJFI and DSJA
- Priest Ishwari Prasad Namboodiri Honored with the Shankar Smriti Award
- The 69th edition of the Filmfare Awards 2024 took place in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- Best Film 12th Fail
- Best Director Vidhu Vinod Chopra (12th Fail)
- Best Actor in a Leading Role (Male) Ranbir Kapoor (Animal)



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- Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female) Alia Bhatt (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani)
- Australia skipper Pat Cummins was announced as the winner of the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year 2023.
- Veteran Indian batter Virat Kohli was crowned the ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year 2023.
- Skyways Air Services wins Best Cargo Services Award at Wings India Awards.
- REC Limited Wins ICAI Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting FY 2022-23.
- US Air Force Officer Madison Marsh Becomes First Active-Duty Winner Of Miss America 2024
- Savita Kanswal Posthumously Honored With Tenzing Norgay Award
- Singapore's Changi Airport Earns The Title Of World's Best Airport For 2023
- Hero MotoCorp's facility wins CII National Award for water management
- Prof B R Kamboj Honoured With M S Swaminathan Award
- Poet Sukrita Paul Kumar Wins Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize for 'Salt & Pepper'
- Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport Terminal 2 Recognized Among UNESCO's 'Most Beautiful Airports'
- IREDA's Pradip Kumar Das Wins 'CMD Of The Year' For The Second Straight Year.
- Poonam Khetrapal Singh Honored with Bhutan's National Order of Merit.
- Indira Gandhi Peace Prize Awarded to Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad"
- Noted Hindi Writer Pushpa Bharati to Receive 33rd Vyas Samman for her 2016 memoir, "Yaadein, Yaadein aur Yaadein."
- Federal Bank Titled "Bank of the Year 2023" in India : The Banker
- Argentina's football icon, Lionel Messi, has been named Time magazine's Athlete of the Year for 2023
- Abdullahi Mire, a Somali refugee, has been named the 2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award
- Paul Lynch who is an Irish author won the 2023 Booker prize for his fifth novel 'Prophet Song'
- Tamil writer Perumal Murugan's 'Fire Bird' Wins 2023 JCB Prize for Literature



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Q. Which of the following has been designated as the Nodal Centre for the 'Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START) programme by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)?

- A) Manav Rachna International University
- B) University of Delhi
- C) IISc Bengaluru
- D) Gujarat Council on Science and Technology

Answer : D

- ✓ The Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUJCOST) has been designated as the Nodal Centre for the 'Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)' programme by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ✓ The START programme, a brainchild of ISRO, offers an introductory-level online training platform.
- ✓ Encompassing a vast spectrum of space science research areas, including planetary exploration, astronomy, heliophysics, atmospheric science, and microgravity research.
- ✓ Under the START programme, GUJCOST will host live classes, serving as the central hub for knowledge dissemination. Additionally, four Regional Science Centres located in Rajkot, Patan, Bhavnagar, and Bhuj will play a pivotal role in coordinating and facilitating the programme, thereby amplifying its reach across the region.

Q. Larsen & Toubro Ltd has completed the sale of its entire equity stake in L&T Infrastructure Development Projects Ltd (L&T IDPL) to which company in April 2024?

- A) Torrent Power
- B) ReNew Power
- C) Epic Concesiones Pvt Ltd
- D) Adani Enterprises

Answer : C

- ✓ Larsen & Toubro Ltd has completed the sale of its entire equity stake in L&T Infrastructure Development Projects Ltd (L&T IDPL) to Epic Concesiones Pvt Ltd.
- ✓ It is a joint venture between L&T and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPP Investments) holding 51 per cent and 49 per cent shares, respectively.



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✓ The transaction is the culmination of a long journey for L&T that started in the early 2000s in the Developmental Projects business and I have no doubt that the portfolio of good quality assets and team of IDPL will add value to the Infrastructure Yield Strategy of Edelweiss Alternatives platform going forward.

Q. Who has been awarded the 2024 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award for her achievements in global health research?

A) Dr. Tapan Saikia

B) Dr. Gagandeep Kang

C) Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi

D) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy

Answer : B

✓ India's Dr Gagandeep Kang has been awarded the 2024 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award for her achievements in global health research.

✓ This was part of the Gairdner Foundation's announcement of its 2024 Canada Gairdner Award winners, that recognised some of the world's most significant biomedical and global health research and discoveries.

✓ Dr Kang was awarded for "extensive cohort-based epidemiological, environmental and clinical trial research on enteric diseases in children and their effects on life course, with significant impact on vaccine development and health policy in India and internationally.

✓ Dr Kang is Adjunct Professor, Christian Medical College, (Vellore) and Director, Enteric, Diagnostics, Genomics and Epidemiology, with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Q. Who has won the 51st National Women's Carrom Championship 2024 Title?

A) Rashmi Kumari

B) Sheyphali Sharan

C) Anshika Singh

D) Maushami Chakraborty

Answer : A

✓ Three-time World Champion Rashmi Kumari beat K Nagajothi 25-8, 14-20, 25-20 in the women's final of the 51st National carrom championship organised by the Madhya Pradesh Carrom Association.

✓ It was a record 12th national women's singles title for Rashmi, employed as the Chief Manager at the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

✓ The men's title was bagged by K Srinivas as he beat S Aditya 25-0, 19-6 in the final. It was the fourth national men's singles title for Srinivas who was brilliant in the tournament, executing seven white slams.

✓ The championship, sponsored by the Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) and SYNCO carrom company, had 237 men and 174 women participants from 12 institutions and 27 States.



Q. Dr Reddy's Laboratories has launched the drug-free, non-invasive migraine management wearable device in Germany through its step-down subsidiary, betapharm. What is the name of this device?

- A) Migr CE B) BetaMig
C) Ciara D) Nerivio

Answer : D

- ✓ Dr Reddy's Laboratories has launched the drug-free, non-invasive migraine management wearable device 'Nerivio' in Germany through its step-down subsidiary, betapharm.
- ✓ The launch marks the company's entry into digital therapeutics in Europe.
- ✓ Nerivio is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) and is CE-mark certified in Europe.
- ✓ Nerivio was presented in 2023 by Dr Reddy's at the DGN Kongress organised by the German Association of Neurology in Berlin and the 17th European Headache Congress held in Barcelona, Spain
- ✓ Migraine is a global health challenge, affecting around 30% of adults on 15 or more days per month, impacting 1.7% to 4% of the population

Q. Global Trade Outlook and Statistics Report, recently released by which organization?

- A) World Trade Organization B) World Health Organization
C) World Bank D) International Monetary Fund

Answer : A

- ✓ The World Trade Organization's Global Trade Outlook and Statistics Report indicates early signs of trade fragmentation. In 2023, intermediate goods trade decreased by 6%, contrasting with stagnant non-intermediate trade.
- ✓ China's share of Asian trading partners for parts and accessories slightly dropped.
- ✓ Disruptions in key shipping routes, such as the Panama and Suez Canals, are challenging global trade resilience.
- ✓ Traffic diversion via the Cape of Good Hope adds approximately 10 days to Asia-Europe journeys.

Q. Which institution secured the 45th rank in Engineering and Technology of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2024?

- A) IIT Bombay B) IIT Kanpur
C) IIT Madras D) IIT Roorkee



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Answer : A

- ✓ IIT Bombay climbed to 45th in Engineering and Technology in the 2024 QS World University Rankings, scoring 79.1/100.
- ✓ The QS ranks universities in 55 disciplines; results released by the UK-based agency highlight IIT Bombay's strengths in various fields including Minerals and Mining (25th), Data Science and AI (30th), Civil and Structural Engineering (42nd), and others.
- ✓ Notably, it improved by two places from 2023 in Engineering and Technology.

Q. Tons River, recently seen in news, is the largest and most important tributary of which river?

- A) Yamuna
- B) Indus
- C) Narmada
- D) Kaveri

Answer : A

- ✓ Two people drowned in the Tons River while bathing in UP's Ballia, the largest tributary of the Yamuna. Originating from Bandar Punch Mountain in Uttarakhand, it traverses through Garhwal and Himachal Pradesh. Spanning 200 km, it cuts through gorges and valleys, ending at the Yamuna near Kalsi. Despite being a tributary, Tons contributes more water than the Yamuna itself.

Q. India has signed a protocol to amend the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with which country?

- A) Singapore
- B) Maldives
- C) Indonesia
- D) Mauritius

Answer : D

- ✓ India and Mauritius recently amended their Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to combat tax evasion and avoidance.
- ✓ The revision covers all incomes including capital gains and dividends.
- ✓ It introduces the Principal Purpose Test (PPT) to prevent misuse of treaty benefits like reduced withholding taxes.
- ✓ The preamble now emphasizes eliminating double taxation without enabling tax evasion.
- ✓ The amendment impacts cross-border investments via Mauritius, requiring consideration of BEPS MLI implications.



- ✓ However, it doesn't address the status of past investments.

SIGNS MoU IN NEWS 2023-24

- India and Mauritius recently amended their Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to combat tax evasion and avoidance.
- India and Nepal agree to promote Sanskrit research and education.
- India and Bhutan signed MoU in the field of Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation Measures.
- India, Colombia sign MoU on Cooperation in the field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions.
- 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.
- 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.



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On 13 April 1984, the Indian Army launched 'Operation MEGHDOOT' to secure Bilafond La and other passes on the Salto Ridge, from Pakistani aggression

Q. April 13 is observed as the International Turban Day to mark the birth anniversary of which Sikh Guru?

- A) Guru Hargobind Singh B) Guru Ram Das
C) Guru Nanak Dev D) Guru Gobind Singh

Answer : C

- ✓ The International Turban Day is celebrated every year on April 13 since 2004 to bring awareness of the strict requirement on Sikhs to put the turban as a mandatory part of their religion.
- ✓ The 2024 Turban Day marks the 555th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev and the festival of Baisakhi.
- ✓ The turban, also known as "dastar" or "pagri" or "pag" refer to the garment worn by both men and some women to cover their heads.

Q. 'Dustlik' joint military exercise, recently seen in news, conducted between which two countries?

- A) India and Uzbekistan B) India and Russia
C) India and Tajikistan D) Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan

Answer : A

- ✓ The 5th edition of the 'Dustlik' joint military exercise between India and Uzbekistan begins in Uzbekistan.
- ✓ The 14-day exercise will be conducted in Termez District of Uzbekistan from 15 to 28 April 2024.
- ✓ During the 14-day exercise, soldiers from the Indian Armed Forces and the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan will undergo comprehensive joint training sessions.
- ✓ The fourth edition of the joint military exercise between the two countries was held on February 20 last year at the Foreign Training Node, Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand. The training exercise focused on sharing best practices in subconventional operations under UN mandates.
- ✓ The inaugural edition of this exercise was held in Uzbekistan in November 2019

EXERCISE IN NEWS 2023-24

- The 5th edition of the 'Dustlik' joint military exercise between India and Uzbekistan begins in Uzbekistan
- Recently, a two-day 'Sagar Kavach' exercise was organised in the Lakshadweep Islands.



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- A bilateral tri-service exercise Tiger Triumph-24 between India and the US will be held on the Eastern Seaboard in the US from March 18 to 31.
- An Indian Army contingent on Monday departed for Seychelles to participate in the 10th edition of joint military exercise "LAMITIYE-2024" with Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF). The joint exercise will be conducted in Seychelles from March 18-27, 2024.
- The naval forces of China, Iran, and Russia recently launched a joint exercise called the "Maritime Security Belt-2024" near the Gulf of Oman.
- The joint exercise 'Bharat-Shakti' of the three armies of India (Army, Navy and Air Force) will be organized in Asia's largest field firing range located in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- The United States Coast Guard's (USCG) Bertholf ship reached Port Blair ahead of the 'Sea Defenders-2024' joint exercise.
- Exercise Samudra Laksamana kicked off on February 28 and will continue until March 2, taking place at or off the coast of Visakhapatnam
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) started its largest military exercise in Europe, the Steadfast Defender 2024, recently.
- The 5th edition of the joint military exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' is being organized at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan.
- Indian and Sri Lankan coast guard ships reached the Maldives recently to take part in the trilateral coast guard exercise Dosti 16
- 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



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- 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
- 2023 in Fort Wainwright, Alaska, USA.

Q. An entrepreneur and a pilot, Gopi Thotakura is set to become the first Indian to venture into space as a tourist on Blue Origin's NS-25 mission. Who is the founder of Blue Origin?

A) Richard Branson

B) Jeff Bezos

C) Steve Jobs

D) Elon Musk



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- ✓ The acquisition will be executed at a valuation of around five times the book value of HDB Financial Services. HDB Financial Services is expected to fetch a valuation in the range of USD 9 billion to USD 12 billion (₹75,000 crore to ₹1 lakh crore) during its upcoming initial public offering (IPO).

HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (MUFG) will to acquire a 20 per cent stake in HDB Financial Services, a non-banking subsidiary of HDFC Bank, at a valuation of \$9-10 billion.
- HDFC becomes first private bank to open branch in Lakshadweep.
- HDFC Bank proposes to sell 100% stake in its subsidiary HDFC Education.
- HDFC Bank has appointed Sumant Rampal as Group Head of Mortgage Business, in the place of Arvind Kapil.
- HDFC Bank Raises \$300 Million via Bond Issue to Fund Green Loans.
- HDFC Bank to acquire up to 9.5% stake in ICICI Bank.
- LIC gets RBI nod for 9.99% stake buy in HDFC Bank.
- HDFC Bank first lender to issue 20 million credit cards.
- HDFC Bank approves re-appointment of Atanu Chakraborty as chairman for 3 years.
- HDFC Bank has recently raised Rs 7,425 crore through infrastructure bond issue.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved the reappointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan as HDFC Bank MD & CEO for a period of three years.
- HDFC Bank Launches India's First Co-Branded Hotel Credit Card named 'Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card' in partnership with Marriott International.
- HDFC Bank's Sashidhar Jagdishan is highest paid bank CEO in FY23 with Rs 10.55 crore pay.
- HDFC Bank overtakes SBI in CRISIL's corporate banking ranking for 2023.
- Food delivery platform Swiggy has joined hands with HDFC Bank to launch a co-branded credit card.
- HDFC BANK
- Founded : 1994
- Founder : Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline : We understand your world



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- NASA has been tasked with establishing Coordinated Lunar Time (LTC) as a unified standard for timekeeping on the Moon and other celestial bodies
- American space agency NASA has discovered a “super-Earth” planet, dubbed TOI-715 b, that could potentially support life. It is located 137 light-years away and was found by NASA’s planet-hunting Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) mission.
- 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.
 - 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.



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- 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. Khavda Renewable Energy Park, recently seen in the news, is located in which of the following States?

A) Rajasthan

B) Odisha

C) Gujarat

D) Tamil Nadu

Answer : C

- ✓ Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) recently established the world's largest renewable energy park in Gujarat's Khavda region.
- ✓ About Khavda Renewable Energy Park:
- ✓ It is the world's largest renewable energy park.
- ✓ It is located at Khavda in Gujarat's Kutch region, boasting an impressive 45 GW capacity predominantly fueled by solar energy.
- ✓ The region has the second-best solar radiation in the country after Ladakh and wind speeds five times that of the plains.
- ✓ Situated just one kilometer from the international border with Pakistan, the energy park maintains a buffer zone manned by the Border Security Force (BSF).
- ✓ It is being built by Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL), India's largest renewable energy company.
- ✓ Investment: AGEL will invest about Rs 1.5 lakh crore to generate 30 megawatts of clean electricity. It would comprise 26 GW of solar and 4GW of wind capacity.
- ✓ The Khavda Park, at its peak, is projected to generate 81 billion units of electricity, a quantity capable of powering entire nations such as Belgium, Chile, and Switzerland.



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Q. Defense Ministry has issued a tender worth over Rs 65,000 crore to which company for the purchase of 97 LCA Mark 1A fighter aircraft manufactured in India?

- A) Bharat Electronics Limited B) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited D) Tata Advanced Systems

Answer : C

- ✓ Defence Ministry issues 65,000cr tender to HAL for buying 97 LCA Mark 1A Fighter Jets
- ✓ The Defence Ministry has issued a tender to the public sector firm Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for purchasing made-in-India 97 LCA Mark 1A fighter jets expected to be worth over Rs 65,000 crore.
- ✓ This is set to be the largest order for indigenous military hardware to be placed by the Indian government ever.
- ✓ The programme will help the IAF to replace its fleet of MiG- 21s, MiG-23s and MiG-27s which have been either phased out or are set to be phased out or are set to be phased out in near future.
- ✓ The LCA Mark 1A plane has more advanced avionics and radars than the initial 40 LCAs being supplied to the Air Force.
- ✓ The HAL is also set to bag deals for buying over 200 LCA Mark 2s and similar number of fifth generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft.

Q. Shrinkflation occurs in an economy when there is a/an:

- A) increase in aggregate demand B) rise in cost of production
C) increase in aggregate supply D) decrease in cost of production

Answer : B

- ✓ As input prices, which were benign for a few quarters, turn inflationary, the spectre of shrinkflation looms large within the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) segment.
- ✓ It occurs when goods shrink in size but consumers pay the same price. It occurs when manufacturers downsize products to offset higher production costs but keep retail prices same.
- ✓ It is basically a form of hidden inflation.
- ✓ Instead of increasing the price of a product, producers reduce the size of the product while maintaining the same price.
- ✓ The absolute price of the product doesn't go up, but the price per unit of weight or volume has increased.
- ✓ Reasons: The reasons for shrinkflation are rising production costs and market competition.



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- ✓ Impacts:
- ✓ Shrinkflation runs the risk of turning customers away from a product or brand if they notice they are getting less for the same price.
- ✓ Another downside of shrinkflation is that it makes it harder to accurately measure price changes or inflation.
- ✓ The price point becomes misleading since the product size cannot always be considered in terms of measuring the basket of goods.
- ✓ What are Fast-Moving Consumer Goods?
- ✓ These are products sold quickly and at a relatively low cost. The FMCG industry is characterized by high-volume sales, quick inventory turnover, and various products catering to consumer needs.
- ✓ These goods include essential everyday items such as food and beverages, toiletries, cleaning supplies, and other low-cost household items.
- ✓ They have a short shelf life because of high consumer demand (e.g., soft drinks and confections) or because they are perishable (e.g., meat, dairy products, and baked goods).

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Paharia Tribe:

1. They mainly reside in Jharkhand and West Bengal.

2. They speak the language called Malto.

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

- ✓ Jharkhand's Pahariya tribe aims to achieve seed independence by depositing native varieties in community-led banks.
- ✓ The community name Paharia is "believed to have been derived from the word pahar meaning hills.
- ✓ They live mainly in the states of Jharkhand and West Bengal. There are also scattered groups of them in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha.
- ✓ They practise jhum or shifting cultivation which involves clearing land by burning vegetation for farming for a few years.
- ✓ In Jharkhand, there are two types of Pahariyas.



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- ✓ Mal Pahariya: These people live in the southern hills of Damin-i-koh and in the south and east of Santhal Parganas. They are a race of Proto-Ostroloid.
- ✓ Shauria Pahariya (or Maler Paharia): They are mostly found in Santhal Parganas.
- ✓ Their main residential place was in the area of Karnataka. At present, they live in mountains of Rajmahal and Santhal Pargana. Their own language is "Malto".
- ✓ Language: The Paharia people speak their own Pahariya language at home. Their language is influenced by Havli and Chharisgarhi.

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to Special Olympics Bharat:

1. It is a National Sports Federation recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

2. It is involved in development of Sports for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities.

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

- ✓ Special Olympics Bharat (SOB), a National Sports Federation of India is forming district units across Tamil Nadu through elections on April 22.
- ✓ It is a National Sports Federation registered under the Indian Trust Act 1882 in 2001 and is accredited by Special Olympics International to conduct Special Olympics Programs in India.
- ✓ It is recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India as a National Sports Federation in the Priority Category, for development of Sports for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities.
- ✓ It is a designated Nodal Agency for all disabilities on account of its national presence and experience, especially in rural areas which account for nearly 75 per cent of the disabled population in India.
- ✓ It is a social inclusion movement using sports, health, and education and leadership programs to empower people with intellectual disabilities.
- ✓ Key facts about the Special Olympics International
- ✓ It is a program to provide individuals with intellectual disabilities who are eight years of age or older with year-round sports training and athletic competition in more than 20 Olympic-type summer and winter sports.
- ✓ It was inaugurated in 1968 and was officially recognized by the International Olympic Committee in 1988.



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✓ Headquarters : Washington, D.C. USA

Q. With reference to Exo-atmospheric interceptors' missile, consider the following statements:

1. It is a surface-to-air missile designed to counter incoming ballistic missiles.
2. It can be used to counter Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs).
3. It uses a three-stage solid rocket booster to propel itself out of Earth's atmosphere.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently, Israel said its air-defence system involving exo-atmospheric interceptors destroyed '99% of missiles' fired by the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- ✓ These are also known as anti-ballistic missiles (ABMs).
- ✓ Features
- ✓ These are surface-to-air missiles designed to counter incoming ballistic missiles.
- ✓ They are designed to intercept and destroy any type of ballistic threat during the mid-course or terminal phase of their trajectory.
- ✓ However, they are specifically designed to counter Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs). The anti-ballistic missiles operate beyond the Earth's atmosphere.
- ✓ These missiles travel at a hypersonic speed advanced and sophisticated guidance missile systems to accurately manoeuvre and intercept targets travelling at very high speeds

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Global Forest Watch:

1. It is an open-source web application to monitor global forests in near real-time using satellite data.
2. According to the latest data from Global Forest Watch, India has lost more than one-third of total tree cover since 2000.

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



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- ✓ India has lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000, according to the latest data from the Global Forest Watch monitoring project.
- ✓ About Global Forest Watch (GFW):
- ✓ It is an open-source web application to monitor global forests in near real-time using satellite data and other sources.
- ✓ It is a project of the Washington-based nonprofit research organization, the World Resources Institute (WRI). Most of the data is compiled by the University of Maryland researchers.
- ✓ It is free and simple to use, enabling anyone to create custom maps, analyze forest trends, subscribe to alerts, or download data for their local area or the entire world.
- ✓ It refers to tree cover when talking about forest extent, loss, and gain.
- ✓ Highlights of the GFW's annual forest loss data.:
- ✓ The loss of primary forests—those untouched by people and sometimes known as old-growth forests – in the tropics declined 9% last year compared to 2022.
- ✓ The world last year lost about 37,000 square kilometers (14,000 square miles) of tropical primary forest, an area nearly as big as Switzerland.
- ✓ Brazil, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Bolivia topped the ranking of tropical countries with the most primary forest losses.
- ✓ Deforestation globally rose by 3.2% in 2023.
- ✓ India has lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000, equivalent to a six percent decrease in tree cover during this period.
- ✓ The country lost 4,14,000 hectares of humid primary forest (4.1 percent) from 2002 to 2023, making up 18 per cent of its total tree cover loss in the same period.
- ✓ The data showed that 95 percent of the tree cover loss in India from 2013 to 2023 occurred within natural forests.
- ✓ The GFW data showed that five states accounted for 60 percent of all tree cover losses between 2001 and 2023.
- ✓ Assam had the maximum tree cover loss at 324,000 hectares, compared to an average of 66,600 hectares. Mizoram lost 312,000 hectares of tree cover, Arunachal Pradesh 262,000 hectares, Nagaland 259,000 hectares, and Manipur 240,000 hectares.



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Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB):

1. It recommends persons for appointment to senior positions at financial institutions owned by the government.

2. The final decision on the FSIB recommendation would be taken by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister.

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

- ✓ FSIB recently recommended the name of IFCI Managing Director Manoj Mittal as SIDBI Chairman and Managing Director.
- ✓ About Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB):
- ✓ It's a government body set up under the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance.
- ✓ The primary role of FSIB is to identify manpower capabilities and ensure proper selection of talent for senior positions at financial institutions owned by the government.
- ✓ It replaced the Bank Board's Bureau (BBB), which was declared an incompetent authority.
- ✓ Structure:
- ✓ FSIB would be headed by a chairman, a central government nominee.
- ✓ The board would comprise the Secretaries of the DFS, the chairman of IRDAI, and a deputy governor of the RBI.
- ✓ Additionally, it will have three part-time members who are experts in banking and three more from the insurance sector.
- ✓ Functions:
- ✓ To recommend persons for appointment as Whole-Time Directors (WTDs) and Non-Executive Chairpersons (NECs) on the Boards of Directors in Public Sector Banks (PSBs), financial institutions (FIs) and Public Sector Insurers (PSIs).
- ✓ It would also issue guidelines for selecting general managers and directors of public sector general insurance companies.



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- ✓ The final decision on the FSIB recommendation would be taken by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister.

Q. BharatPe co-founder and former Managing Director Ashneer Grover will launch a new app called 'ZeroPe'. What is the purpose of this app?

- A) Provide education loans B) Provide startups loans
C) Provide agriculture loans D) Provide medical loans

Answer : D

- ✓ BharatPe co-founder and former Managing Director Ashneer Grover will launch a new app called 'ZeroPe', an app designed for medical loans.
- ✓ ZeroPe, currently in its testing phase, has been developed by Third Unicorn, according to its Google Playstore listing.
- ✓ The ZeroPe app is set to provide instant pre-approved medical loans of up to Rs 500,000 in collaboration with Delhi-based Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) Mukut Finvest. The service is exclusively available at partnered hospitals.
- ✓ Grover's entry into this arena adds to a growing trend, with businesses like SaveIn, Qube Health, Arogya Finance, Neodocs, Fibe, Kenko, and Mykare Health already offering instant financing solutions for medical bills and elective treatments

Q. Which Indian has been re-elected to the International Narcotics Control Board for a third time?

- A) Jagjit Pavadia B) Arindam Bagchi
C) Smita Sarangi D) Jagadesh Kumar

Answer : A

- ✓ A former Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, Jagjit Pavadia has been re-elected to the Vienna-based International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).
- ✓ India scored the highest number of votes among all the elected members of the anti-narcotics body.
- ✓ Pavadia (70), who has already served as President of the Board from 2021 to 2022, has been re-elected for the term 2025-2030.
- ✓ Pavadia held several senior positions in the Indian Revenue Service for 35 years



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- ✓ She has been a member of the INCB since 2015, and also held the posts of Second Vice-President and Chair (2015, 2017 and 2020), Vice-Chair (2018) and member (2019 and 2023) of the Standing Committee on Estimates.
- ✓ In 2016, she served as the First Vice-President of the Board, and then President from 2021-2022.
- ✓ About International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)
- ✓ INCB was set up in 1968 by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961.
- ✓ Headquarters – Vienna, Austria
- ✓ INCB has 13 members elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of five years.
- ✓ 10 members are elected from a list of government nominees.
- ✓ The other 3 members are experts in medical, pharmacological, or pharmaceutical experience from a list nominated by WHO.
- ✓ INCB basically cooperates with the world governments to ensure that adequate supplies of drugs are available for medical and scientific uses.

Q. Who has stepped down as the Chef-de-Mission for the Indian contingent at the Paris Olympics citing “personal reasons”?

A) Karnam Malleswari

B) Saina Nehwal

C) P. T. Usha

D) Mary Kom

Answer : D

- ✓ Olympic bronze medalist and six times World champion boxer M.C. Mary Kom stepped down as the Chef-de-Mission for the Indian contingent at the Paris Olympics citing “personal reasons”.
- ✓ Mary, who is also the chairperson of the IOA’s Athletes Commission, was named as the Chef-de-Mission in March 2024.
- ✓ In March 2024, Mary was chosen as the chef de mission, winter Olympian Shiva Keshavan was named her deputy.

Q. According to Plastic Overshoot Day Report, which country has one of the lowest per capita plastic waste production rates globally?

A) Myanmar

B) India

C) China

D) Russia

Answer : B



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- ✓ A recent report by Switzerland's EA Earth Action reveals India as one of the top twelve contributors to 60% of the world's mismanaged plastic waste.
- ✓ Released on April 12, 2024, the Plastic Overshoot Day report highlights Eritrea as the worst in the Mismanaged Waste Index, with Bermuda at the bottom.
- ✓ India's per capita plastic waste production is the world's lowest at 8 kg per year, yet its expected mismanaged waste in 2024 is "very high" at 7.4 million tons.

Q. Who has been selected for the prestigious John Dirks Prize in global health?

- A) Dr. SK Bose
- B) Dr. Gagandeep Kang
- C) Dr. Randeep Singh
- D) Dr. Sushovan Banerjee

Answer : B

- ✓ Dr. Gagandeep Kang, an Indian researcher, earns the 2024 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award for her pioneering work in enteric diseases.
- ✓ Her cohort-based research has influenced vaccine development and health policy globally.
- ✓ The Gairdner Foundation celebrates her significant contributions to biomedical and global health research, highlighting her impact on understanding childhood diseases' effects on life course.

Q. Mount Etna, recently seen in news, is located in which region of Italy?

- A) Sardinia
- B) Aosta Valley
- C) Sicily
- D) Tuscany

Answer : C

- ✓ Mount Etna, Europe's largest and most active volcano, recently produced rare volcanic vortex rings, where gas, mainly water vapor, forms perfect circles when released from its crater.
- ✓ This phenomenon, first noted in 1724, can last up to 10 minutes.
- ✓ Etna's circular vent is a key characteristic.
- ✓ Similar events have been observed at various volcanoes worldwide. Situated on Sicily's east coast, Etna boasts Italy's highest peak south of the Alps.



Q. Lee Hsien Loong is the Prime Minister of which country who has announced to resign from his post?

- A) Japan
B) Malaysia
C) Singapore
D) Vietnam

Answer : C

- ✓ Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong announced he will step down on May 15 after nearly 20 years as part of a long-planned leadership change.
- ✓ In his place, his deputy Lawrence Wong will be the next PM of the country.
- ✓ Lee, 72, was sworn in as the third Prime Minister of Singapore on 12 August 2004.

Q. Who has been recently appointed as Joint Director in CBI?

- A) Adesh Kumar Pandey
B) Anurag Kumar
C) Naman Ojha
D) Abhishek Sinha

Answer : B

- ✓ Senior IPS officer Anurag Kumar has been appointed as the Joint Director in Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- ✓ Kumar, a 2004 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre, is currently working in the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D).
- ✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment as the Joint Director (JD) in the CBI for a tenure upto February 24, 2027.

Q. Who was the CEO of Byju's India who has resigned from his post?

- A) Arjun Mohan
B) Vineet Saxena
C) Alakh Pandey
D) Vivek Agnihotri

Answer : A

- ✓ Byju's India CEO Arjun Mohan has resigned from the post of CEO of the edtech company.
- ✓ Byju's India will now be led by founder Byju Ravindran.
- ✓ Arjun Mohan has resigned after just seven months amid the edtech company's growing struggles.
- ✓ About 1,500 employees have left the company in recent months



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Q. Who was recently named South Asian Person of the Year by Harvard University?

A) Preeti Shah

B) Sunita Williams

C) Gracy Singh

S) Avantika Vandanpu

Answer : D

- ✓ Recently, Indian-American actor and 'Mean Girls' star Avantika Vandanapu was named South Asian Person of the Year by Harvard University.
- ✓ 19-year-old Avantika has been given this honour in recognition of her outstanding achievements and her impact in the international and Indian entertainment world.

Q. When is World Art Day celebrated every year?

A) 12th April

B) 13 April

C) 14 April

D) 15 April

Answer : D

- ✓ World Art Day is celebrated every year on 15 April all over the world.
- ✓ The day is celebrated with the aim of raising awareness about the diversity of artistic expressions and strengthening the relationship between artistic works and society.
- ✓ World Art Day was officially established on April 15, 2012 during a meeting of the International Association of Art (IAA) in Mexico.



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KALIYAMCORTHY
ROLL NO - 2120035944
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
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STATE - TAMILNADU



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ROLL NO - 2603003299
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GRAMIN BANK CLERK
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



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ROLL NO - 2283004123
STATE - PUNJAB
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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NAME - PRAVEEN
ROLL NO - 1801005776
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
KARNATAKA GRAMMENA
BANK
STATE - KARNATAKA



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

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



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NAME - NISHU SHARMA
ROLL NO - 1523008901
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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NAME - GURIVA KUMARI
ROLL NO - 1373006773
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN
BANK



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NAME - GURPREET KAUR
ROLL NO - 2283002821
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



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NAME - MANU YARGHESE
ROLL NO - 2110710970
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN
BANK CLERK