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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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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 - Relsha 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 May 3rd Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts

By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q. Who is investing €4 billion to expand its artificial intelligence and cloud infrastructure in France?

A) Google

B) Amazon

C) Microsoft

D) Apple

Answer : C

- ✓ Microsoft invests €4 billion to drive AI growth in France.
- ✓ Microsoft is investing €4 billion (\$4.3 billion) to expand its artificial intelligence and cloud infrastructure in France, deliver AI training to one million people and support 2,500 French startups.
- ✓ First, Microsoft will supply up to 25,000 graphics processing units to expand its data centre sites in the Paris and Marseille regions by the end of 2025.
- ✓ New data centre facilities will also be built in the Grand Est Region in Mulhouse to provide Microsoft cloud and AI services to private and public sector organisations in these areas

MICROSOFT IN NEWS 2023-24

- Microsoft invests €4 billion to drive AI growth in France.
- Microsoft unveiled the latest version of its 'lightweight' AI model – the Phi-3-Mini.
- Microsoft announces VASA-1 AI model to turn images into videos.
- Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella pledges to skill 2 million Indians by 2025
- Microsoft Hits The \$3 Trillion Valuation Mark But Apple Still Remains Most Valuable Company.
- Microsoft India has unveiled the 'AI Odyssey' initiative, aiming to train 100,000 Indian developers in the latest AI technologies.
- Microsoft Completes \$69 Billion Acquisition of Activision Blizzard
- Microsoft has appointed Puneet Chandok as the new Corporate Vice President of Microsoft India and South Asia.
- Infosys And Microsoft Collaborate For Adoption Of Generative Artificial Intelligence.
- Microsoft has recently announced the appointment of Aparna Gupta as the new Global Delivery Center (GDC) leader
- Meta and Microsoft have jointly announced the expansion of their artificial intelligence partnership by introducing their new large language model (LLM) called "Llama 2".



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- MICROSOFT
- Founded : 1975
- Founders : Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- Headquarters : Washington DC
- Chairman : Satya Nadella
- CEO : Satya Nadella
- President : Brad Smith

Q. Public sector banks' cumulative profit crossed ____ in the financial year ended March 2024.

- A) ₹1.6 lakh crore B) ₹1.5 lakh crore
C) ₹1.4 lakh crore D) ₹1.7 lakh crore

Answer : C

- ✓ Public sector banks' total profit crosses ₹1.4 lakh crore in FY24
- ✓ Public sector banks' cumulative profit crossed ₹1.4 lakh crore in the financial year ended March 2024, recording a growth of 35 per cent over the previous year on a high base of ₹1 lakh crore.
- ✓ The 12 public sector banks (PSBs) together had earned a net profit of ₹1,04,649 crore in 2022-23. Out of the total profit of ₹141,203 crore earned during the FY24, market leader State Bank of India (SBI-₹61,077 crore) alone contributed over 40 per cent of the total earnings, as per the published numbers on exchanges.
- ✓ In percentage terms Delhi-based Punjab National Bank had the highest net profit growth with 228 per cent to ₹8,245 crore, followed by Union Bank of India with a 62 per cent rise to ₹13,649 crore and Central Bank of India with a 61 per cent increase to ₹2,549 crore.
- ✓ Among the banks which recorded over 50 per cent jump in net profit included Bank of India with a 57 per cent growth to ₹6,318 crore while Bank of Maharashtra with a 56 per cent rise to ₹4,055 crore and Chennai-based India Bank recorded a 53 per cent improvement to ₹8,063 crore

Q. Which bank has introduced the 'ARISE ComeAsYouAre' talent acquisition programme to recruit individuals from the LGBTQIA+ community across India for careers in banking?

- A) Yes Bank B) Axis Bank
C) HDFC Bank D) ICICI Bank

Answer : B



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- ✓ Axis Bank to groom LGBTQIA+ talent for careers in banking
- ✓ Axis Bank has introduced the 'ARISE ComeAsYouAre' talent acquisition programme to recruit individuals from the LGBTQIA+ community across India for careers in banking. The initiative focuses on skills-based hiring, offering equal opportunities to fresh graduates and professionals up to 5 years of experience.
- ✓ The 'ARISE ComeAsYouAre' open campus programme is focused on skills-based hiring that prioritises skill set and potential of an individual over traditional factors such as a specific degree or college pedigree.
- ✓ Fresh graduates and professionals with up to 5 years of experience will get an equal opportunity to launch their career in a dynamic and inclusive environment that focuses on their skills, potential, and fresh perspective. It will also provide them with ample learning opportunities to help develop their skills and knowledge of the banking sector.

AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- Axis Bank to groom LGBTQIA+ talent for careers in banking.
- Axis Bank has recently reappointed Amitabh Chaudhry as the MD and CEO of the bank.
- Axis Bank has launched the digital US dollar Fixed Deposits (FD) tailored for Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers at the IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) situated in GIFT City, Gujarat.
- Axis Bank to support Tata Memorial-supported National Cancer Grid.
- Axis Bank has appointed Pranam Wahi as an additional independent director of the bank for four years.
- Axis Bank signed MoU with IRMA to promote financial inclusion and literacy in India.
- Axis Bank and Fibe Partner to launch India's First Numberless Credit Card.
- Axis Bank Launched 'NEO For Business' Banking Platform For MSMEs.
- Axis Bank Introduces 'Infinity Savings Account' with Zero Domestic Transaction Fees.
- Axis Bank partners with RBI Innovation Hub to launch Kisan Credit cards.
- Axis Bank Partners with Kiwi to Bolster 'Credit on UPI' on RuPay Credit Cards.
- Axis Bank has launched the 'one-view' feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts.
- Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as non-executive chairman.
- Axis Bank launches Digital Onboarding platform 'Sarathi' for POS Terminals.



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- Axis Bank and India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd announce strategic partnership under the co-lending model.
- Axis Bank completes deal to buy Citibank's India consumer business.
- Axis Bank Partners with OPEN to Launch a Fully Digital Current Account.
- AXIS BANK
- Founded : 1993
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO : Amitabh Chaudhary
- Tagline : Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

Q. In which country has PhonePe recently launched UPI services?

- A) Nepal
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Thailand

Answer : C

- ✓ PhonePe launches its UPI in SriLanka in collaboration with LankaPay.
- ✓ PhonePe has announced that it has enabled UPI payment acceptance in collaboration with online payment platform LankaPay across LankaQR merchant points.
- ✓ This alliance is facilitated through LankaPay's partnership with NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL).
- ✓ Their account will be debited in INR, showing the currency exchange rate. These transactions are facilitated by the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and LankaPay National Payment Network.

Q. Which bank has launched its first virtual credit card 'PIXEL Play' and 'PIXEL Go'?

- A) Axis Bank
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) Yes Bank
- D) ICICI Bank

Answer : B

- ✓ HDFC Bank launches Pixel Play, India's First Virtual Credit Card with Cashback



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- ✓ HDFC Bank has launched a new digital credit card called Pixel Play Credit Card that allows you to customize benefits to fit your lifestyle and select merchants of your choice to earn cashback, choose card design, and select your preferred billing cycle date.
- ✓ It comes with a benefit of 5% of annual Cashback and Rs 500 Annual Fees. It is 100% digital. No documentation, email, or calling required.
- ✓ The card is available in two variants: PIXEL Play and PIXEL Go and allows users to build their own cards with personalised benefits, offers, etc
- ✓ Simply convert to EMI and manage EMI repayments fully from your Payzapp. You can easily apply for the PIXEL Play Credit Card through the Payzapp

HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- HDFC Bank launches Pixel Play, India's First Virtual Credit Card with Cashback.
- HDFC Bank, Atal Innovation Mission empower social sector startups with Rs 19.6 crore grants.
- 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.



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- 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. Bulava, an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), is developed by:

- A) Iran
- B) North Korea
- C) Russia
- D) China

Answer : C

- ✓ Russian President has bolstered the country's military capabilities by ordering the addition of a new nuclear-capable missile known as the Bulava into the Russian military arsenal.
- ✓ About Bulava Missile:
- ✓ RSM-56 Bulava (NATO reporting name: SS-N-32) is a Russian submarine-launched intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
- ✓ Designed by the Moscow Institute of Thermal Technology, development of the missile was launched in the late 1990s, and is designed to be deployed on Russia's Borei-class submarines.
- ✓ Bulava represents a core component of Russia's future strategic nuclear force.
- ✓ Bulava has a maximum range of 8,300 km (5,160 miles) and a payload of up to 10 multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles, or MIRVs, capable of delivering nuclear warheads to different targets.



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Q. With reference to Insurance Surety Bond, recently seen in the news, consider the following:

1. It is a financial instrument where insurance companies act as 'Surety' and provide the financial guarantee that the contractor will fulfil its obligations as per the agreed terms.

2. In case the contractor fails to deliver his promise, monetary compensation is paid to the obligee by the insurer.

3. Unlike a bank guarantee, the insurance surety bonds do not require large collateral from the contractor.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer : C

- ✓ Insurance companies have issued about 700 insurance surety bonds valued about ₹3,000 crore after Centre makes the instrument on par with bank guarantees for all government procurements.
- ✓ What is a Surety Bond?
- ✓ A surety bond is a promise to be liable for the debt, default, or failure of another.
- ✓ It is a three-party contract in which one party (the surety) guarantees the performance or obligations of a second party (the principal) to a third party (the obligee).
- ✓ About Insurance Surety Bonds:
- ✓ It is a financial instrument, where insurance companies act as 'Surety' and provides the financial guarantee that the contractor will fulfil its obligation as per the agreed terms.
- ✓ It is a risk transfer mechanism wherein an insurer provides a guarantee to a beneficiary or obligee that the principal or contractor will meet his contractual obligations.
- ✓ In case the principal fails to deliver his promise, a monetary compensation is paid to the obligee by the insurer.
- ✓ There are 3 parties involved:
- ✓ The Surety (Insurance Companies) will provide the financial guarantee to the Obligee /beneficiary.
- ✓ Obligee or Beneficiary (example-Government, Infrastructure Development Authorities etc.) -the party that needs the surety and is often the beneficiary of the surety bond.
- ✓ Principal (could be the owner or contractor)-the party that purchases the Surety bond from an insurer as a guarantee and undertakes a commitment to perform the obligations as per the contract entered.



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Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Global Report on Internal Displacement 2024:

1. It is an annual report published by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).

2. As of 2023, the number of people internally displaced due to disasters significantly outnumber the number of people internally displaced due to conflict and violence.

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

- ✓ In 2023, the number of internally displaced people increased to 75.9 million, from 71.1 million in the preceding year, according to the Global Report on Internal Displacement 2024 (GRID-2024) released recently.
- ✓ About Global Report on Internal Displacement 2024:
- ✓ It is an annual report published by the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).
- ✓ It records internal displacements due to conflict and violence and disasters.
- ✓ Highlights of GRID-2024:
- ✓ In 2023, the number of internally displaced people (IDP) increased to 75.9 million, from 71.1 million in the preceding year.
- ✓ Report says 7.7 million displaced by disasters (one-fourth of it was caused by earthquakes) and 68.3 million by conflict and violence.
- ✓ Sudan, Syria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Colombia, and Yemen host nearly half of the world's IDPs.
- ✓ At 9.1 million, Sudan has the highest number of IDPs recorded for a single country.
- ✓ Most of the new displacement this year happened in Sudan, the Palestinian territories, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, accounting for almost two-thirds of all new displacement.
- ✓ South Asia:
- ✓ The IDMC said around 5.3 million people were living in internal displacement as a result of conflict and violence across South Asia at the end of 2023, 80 percent of whom were in Afghanistan.
- ✓ Conflict and violence triggered 69,000 displacements in South Asia in 2023, with Manipur violence alone accounting for 67,000.
- ✓ It is the highest number of displacements triggered by conflict and violence in India since 2018.



- ✓ There is a sharp decline in IDP in 2023 from 2.5 million internal displacements due to natural disasters in India in 2022. Internal displacements by natural disasters in 2023 was 528,000.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Igla-S defence system:

- 1. It is a hand-held defence system that can be operated by an individual or crew.**
- 2. It has a capacity of attacking targets up to an altitude of 3.5 kilometres.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ The Army is all set to begin receiving another set of Russian Igla-S very short range air defence systems (VSHORAD) by the end of May or early next month.
- ✓ It is a man-portable air defence system (MANPADS) developed by Russia.
- ✓ Capabilities:
- ✓ It is a hand-held defence system that can be operated by an individual or crew.
- ✓ It is designed to bring down low-flying aircraft and can also identify and neutralise air targets such as cruise missiles and drones.
- ✓ It comprises the 9M342 missile, the 9P522 launching mechanism, the 9V866-2 mobile test station, and the 9F719-2 test set. These components work together to provide a comprehensive air defence solution.
- ✓ A VSHORAD is the soldier's last line of defence against enemy combat aircraft, helicopters and UAVs in the multilayered air defence network.
- ✓ Range: It has a range of 500 metres to 6 kilometres and attack targets up to an altitude of 3.5 kilometres. The speed of the missile is 400 metres per second and the deployment time is 13 seconds.
- ✓ Significance: The acquisition of the Igla-S MANPADS marks a significant step in enhancing India's air defence capabilities, particularly in mountainous regions.



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Q. Indian Pavilion inaugurated at Cannes Film Festival 2024, where is it being held?

- A) France
B) Canada
C) Germany
D) Australia

Answer : A

- ✓ The 77th Cannes Film Festival is being organised in France where the Indian Pavilion was also inaugurated.
- ✓ The Indian Pavilion at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival is organised every year by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.
- ✓ It was inaugurated by Information and Broadcasting Ministry Secretary Sanjay Jaju and Indian Ambassador to France Javed Ashraf

Q. Which famous Indian footballer has announced his retirement from international football?

- A) Sunil Chhetri
B) Sahal Abdul Samad
C) Lalengmawia Ralte
D) Manveer Singh

Answer : A

- ✓ India's most famous footballer Sunil Chhetri has announced his retirement from international football.
- ✓ The FIFA World Cup qualifier against Kuwait on June 6 in Kolkata will be his last match for the national team.
- ✓ Chhetri started his playing career with Mohun Bagan in 2002.
- ✓ Chhetri made his international debut in 2005 and scored his first goal against Pakistan.

Q. Which company's agricultural drone has recently received certification from DGCA?

- A) AITMC Ventures Limited
B) NewSpace Research and Technologies
C) Skylark Drone
D) Marut Drone

Answer : A

- ✓ AITMC Ventures Limited (AVPL International) has received DGCA certification for agricultural drone VIRAJ.
- ✓ Company CEO Himanshu Sharma said that AVPL's Viraj UAS (agricultural drone) has received the first type certification.



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Q. Which of the following has been granted a three-year extension from SEBI to achieve 10% public shareholding?

A) IRDAI

B) SIDBI

C) LIC

D) FICCI

Answer : C

- ✓ LIC gets 3-yr extension from Sebi to achieve 10% public shareholding
- ✓ Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has been granted a three-year extension by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to achieve a 10 per cent public shareholding, the state-owned firm announced to the exchanges.
- ✓ LIC is required to increase its public shareholding to 10 per cent on or before May 16, 2027.
- ✓ According to SEBI norms, a company must attain a 10 per cent public shareholding within three years from the date of listing. LIC was listed on May 17, 2022.
- ✓ As of March 31, 2024, public shareholding in LIC stands at 3.5 per cent. The government still needs to divest another 6.5 per cent in the next three years for LIC to achieve the 10 per cent shareholding.

LIC IN NEWS 2023-24

- LIC gets 3-yr extension from SEBI to achieve 10% public shareholding
- LIC has emerged as the strongest insurance brand globally, according to a report Brand Finance Insurance 100 2024.
- LIC gets RBI nod for 9.99% stake buy in HDFC Bank.
- LIC emerged as the most valued Indian PSU firm, surpassing SBI.
- (LIC) is planning to acquire up to 10 percent equity stake in a company promoted by the National Housing Bank (NHB)
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has appointed S Sundar Krishnan as Chief Risk Officer (CRO), replacing Pratap Chandra Paikarai
- LIC has launched a special scheme, named Jeevan Utsav.
- Siddhartha Mohanty appointed as Chairman of LIC Until June 2024.
- LIC Raises Stake in Tech Mahindra to 8.88% Through Open Market Transactions.
- LIC to divest 60.72% share in IDBI Bank.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)



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- Founded : 1956
- Headquarters : Mumbai
- Chairman : Siddhartha Mohanty
- It is India's largest life insurance company and also the country's largest investment company.
- Authorised Capital of LIC - Rs 25,000 Crore

Q. New York-based private equity firm Warburg Pincus will acquire which company in a deal valued at ₹4,630 crore for equity and convertible instruments?

- A) PNB Housing Finance Limited B) LIC Housing Finance
C) Shriram Housing Finance D) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services

Answer : C

- ✓ New York-based private equity firm Warburg Pincus will acquire Shriram Housing Finance Ltd (SHFL) in a deal valued at ₹4,630 crore for equity and convertible instruments.
- ✓ Warburg Pincus will acquire the stake through its affiliate Mango Crest Investment Ltd.
- ✓ At present Shriram Finance Ltd holds a controlling stake in SHFL while private equity firm Valiant Partners L.P. (Valiant), Mauritius, holds the remaining ownership.
- ✓ As a part of this transaction, Valiant and Shriram Finance will completely divest its equity stake to Warburg Pincus.
- ✓ The company has a pan-India presence with 155 branches with an AUM of ₹13,762 crore, net worth of ₹1,924 crore and revenues of ₹1,430 crore, as of March 31, 2024.

Q. Who has been honoured with the Global Excellence Award 2024 for Outstanding Contributions in Education?

- A) Chandrakant Satija B) Rekha Srivastava
C) Shivani Sharma D) Pallavi Gupta

Answer : A

- ✓ Chandrakant Satija wins the Global Excellence Award 2024 for being the “Most Trusted Admission Consultant in Vidarbha Region”.
- ✓ He is the founder and CEO of Chandra Admission Consultants.
- ✓ The award was presented to him by the famous Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty Kundra. He was adjudged as the Most Trusted Admissions Consultant in Vidarbha Region.



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Q. Abha Khatua, who was seen in news in May 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Abha Khatua has set a national record and won gold medal in Women's Shot Put with a massive throw of 18.41 metres at National Federation Cup Athletics Competition in Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ While Uttar Pradesh's Kiran Baliyan finished second and Delhi's Srishti Vig stood at third position.
- ✓ Representing Maharashtra at the event, Abha was the joint record holder of 18.06 metres with Manpreet Kaur before this event.
- ✓ Abha was the joint record holder of 18.06 metres with Manpreet Kaur before this event

Q. Kamla Beniwal, who died recently, belongs to which field?

- A) Politician
B) Actress
C) Social Worker
D) Historian

Answer : A

- ✓ Rajasthan's first woman minister, Kamla Beniwal, passed away on 15 May 2024 in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- ✓ She was 97 years old. During her long political career, Kamla Beniwal, who was associated with the Congress party, held many constitutional posts
- ✓ About Kamla Beniwal
- ✓ Kamla Beniwal was born in 1927 in Jhunjhunu district's Gaurir village in a Jat family,
- ✓ In 1954, at the age of 27, she was appointed a minister in the Mohanlal Sukhadia government. Thus, she became the first woman to become a minister in Rajasthan. She later held various portfolios as a minister in different Congress governments in the state.
- ✓ In 2003, she was appointed the deputy chief minister in the Ashok Gehlot government.
- ✓ Kamal Beniwal also held the constitutional post of State Governor. She was Governor of Tripura, Gujarat and Mizoram. Her tenure as the Governor of Gujarat was controversial. Narendra Modi was the Chief Minister of Gujarat who, in 2011



Q. When is the International Day of Living Together in Peace observed in the world?

- A) 13 May B) 15 May
C) 16 May D) 14 May

Answer : C

- ✓ Every year, 16 May is observed as the International Day of Living Together in Peace.
- ✓ The Day is observed to highlight the importance of peace and living together in peace by the people of the world.
- ✓ The day also underscores the fact that though people in the world belong to different cultures and backgrounds, they can live together by accepting their differences and by developing the ability to recognise, listen and appreciate others..
- ✓ The Day aims to promote the desire to live and act together despite differences and diversity to build a sustainable world of peace, solidarity and harmony.
- ✓ The first International Day of Living Together in Peace was observed on 16 May 2018.

Q. Which day is observed as the International Day of Lights?

- A) 16 May B) 15 May
C) 13 May D) 14 May

Answer : A

- ✓ Every year, 16 May is observed as the International Day of Light.
- ✓ The day recognises the importance of light in the life of an ordinary human being and the role it plays in shaping innovation,creativity, and technology.
- ✓ Light plays a crucial role in the understanding of science and the development of technology.
- ✓ Background to the International Day of Light
- ✓ On 16 May 1960, Physicist and Engineer Theodore Maiman of the United States of America created the first working Laser at the Hughes Research Laboratories in California, the United States of America.
- ✓ To mark the momentous discovery, the United Nations Educational and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) passed a resolution in 2017 to observe 16 May as the International Day of Light.
- ✓ The first International Day of Light was observed worldwide on 16 May 2018



Q. Ambaji White Marble, recently seen in the news, is predominantly quarried from which one of the following States?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Haryana
- C) Gujarat
- D) Odisha

Answer : C

- ✓ Marble mined in Gujarat's Ambaji has recently been awarded the Geographical Indication, or GI tag, by the Central Government.
- ✓ About Ambaji White Marble:
- ✓ It is a type of marble known for its stunning white appearance and unique natural patterns.
- ✓ It is named after the town of Ambaji in the state of Gujarat, where it is predominantly quarried.
- ✓ It is also known as Amba White Marble and Ambe White Marble.
- ✓ It is characterized by its pristine white color, which often features subtle gray or beige veining.
- ✓ The veins can vary in intensity, ranging from fine and delicate to bold and pronounced, giving each slab a distinct and individualistic appearance

GI TAG IN NEWS 2023-24

- Marble mined in Gujarat's Ambaji has recently been awarded the Geographical Indication, or GI tag, by the Central Government.
- The famous silver filigree (Rupa Tarakasi) of the millennium Cuttack city in Odisha recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Tripura's traditional tribal attire 'risa' gets received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently.
- Kachchhi Kharek, the indigenous variety of dates of Kutch, has become the second fruit of Gujarat to get a geographical indication (GI) tag.
- On December 4, 2023, Uttarakhand became the 1st state in the country to get GI certificates for a maximum of 18 products in a single day.
- Till now, a total of 27 products of Uttarakhand have received GI tag.
- West Bengal achieves Geographical Indication tags for distinctive products, including 'Mouban' honey from Sunderbans, 'Prince of Rice' Black Nunia rice, and traditional Tangail, Gorod, etc.



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1. Recognition of Sunderbans Honey – ‘Mouban’

2. Black Nunia Rice – ‘Prince of Rice’

3. Distinctive Sarees – Tangail, Gorod, and Kadiyal.

- As a part of the National GI Drive Mission, 'Kadiyal Sarees' of West Bengal have been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Ladakh secures 4th GI tag for Sea Buckthorn.
- The famous Kadaknath chicken meat from Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh has now got a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Goan cashew (Fruit and Nut) was recently granted the geographical indication (GI) tag.
- Basohli Pashmina, a more than 100-year-old traditional craft from Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, has got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Tamil Nadu's Salem Sago gets GI tag.
- Bhaderwah Rajmash and Sulai honey of Doda and Ramban districts of Jammu and Kashmir, have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- Chokuwa rice of Assam recently earned a GI (Geographical Indication) tag for its exquisiteness.
- The Matti banana variety, native to Kanniyakumari district was recently granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Mushkbudji rice, which was granted the GI tag along with eight other products from Jammu and Kashmir.
- GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS (GI) :-
- GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Darjeeling Tea was the first Indian product to get the geographical indication tag in 2004.
- The second GI tag in India was given to Aranmula Kannadi (Handicraft) which is a mirror and made in Kerala.
- A GI is registered for an initial period of ten years, which must be renewed after 10 years.



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Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Swachhata Pakhwada:

1. It is an initiative launched under the Swachh Bharat Mission in 2016.

2. It is monitored closely using the online monitoring system of Swachhata Samiksha.

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 Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) has taken a significant step towards promoting cleanliness and environmental sustainability with the launch of Swachhata Pakhwada and it will run from 16th May to 31st May 2024.
- ✓ It is an initiative launched in April, 2016 under the Swachh Bharat Mission.
- ✓ Objective: It was launched with the objective of bringing a fortnight of intense focus on the issues and practices of Swachhata by engaging the central government ministries/departments.
- ✓ Aim: It aims to include all ministries and departments through a common programme to contribute for Swachh Bharat Mission.
- ✓ The ministries observing Swachhata Pakhwada are monitored closely using the online monitoring system of Swachhata Samiksha where action plans, images, videos related to Swachhata activities are uploaded and shared.
- ✓ For the Pakhwada fortnight, observing ministries are considered as 'Swachhata Ministries' and are expected to bring qualitative swachhata improvements in their jurisdictions.
- ✓ Key facts about Swachh Bharat Mission
- ✓ The Indian government launched the swachh bharat mission on October 2, 2014.
- ✓ The mission covered all rural and urban areas.
- ✓ The urban component of the mission is implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development, and the rural component by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- ✓ The programme includes elimination of open defecation, conversion of unsanitary toilets to pour flush toilets, eradication of manual scavenging, municipal solid waste management and bringing about a behavioural change in people regarding healthy sanitation practices.



TUNNEL IN NEWS 2023-24

- Sela Tunnel, constructed by BRO India, is officially recognized as the highest tunnel in the country by the International Book of Honour, England.
- Prime Minister Inaugurates Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Sela tunnel is an engineering feat that connects Tawang with the Balipara-Chariduar-Tawang road in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The Border Roads Organization has built the world's longest bi-lane tunnel at an altitude of over 13,000 feet at a cost of Rs 825 crore.
- The Shinku La tunnel, located at an altitude of 15,800 feet, will serve as a crucial link between Manali and Leh Ladakh.
- The Indian Army inaugurated its first Vertical Wind Tunnel (VWT) at the Special Forces Training School (SFTS) in Himachal Pradesh.
- Border Roads Organisation will build the world's highest tunnel at Shinku La Pass, at 16,580 feet, to connect Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh.
- India's First Underwater Metro Train Service Launched in Kolkata by PM Modi.
- The underwater metro route is part of the extensive 16.6 km Howrah Maidan-Esplanade section, remarkable for its passage beneath the Hooghly River.

Q. Lawrence Wong has been elected as the new Prime Minister of which country?

A) Malaysia

B) Indonesia

C) Singapore

D) Hong Kong

Answer : C

- ✓ Lawrence Wong to be Sworn in as Singapore's fourth PM
- ✓ Singapore's deputy leader Lawrence Wong is set to be sworn in as the nation's fourth Prime Minister.
- ✓ 51-year-old US-trained economist Wong will succeed 72-year-old Lee Hsien Loong, who stepped down after two decades at the helm.
- ✓ Lee's resignation marked the end of a family dynasty led by his father Lee Kuan Yew.
- ✓ Since becoming an independent nation in 1965, Singapore has only had three Prime Ministers – all from the ruling People's Action Party.
- ✓ SINGAPORE



- ✓ Capital : Singapore City
- ✓ Currency : Singapore dollar
- ✓ President : Tharman Shanmugaratnam
- ✓ Prime Minister : Lawrence Wong

NEWLY PRIME MINISTER IN NEWS

- Lawrence Wong : Singapore
- Ahmed Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah : Kuwait
- 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. Which country has become the country with the highest data center capacity in the Asia-Pacific region, surpassing major countries like Australia, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Singapore, and Korea?

- A) India
- B) China
- C) Russia
- D) USA



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Answer : A

- ✓ India overtakes Australia, Japan and Singapore in data centre capacity
- ✓ India has become the country with the highest data center capacity in the Asia-Pacific region, surpassing major countries like Australia, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Singapore, and Korea.
- ✓ The country is expected to record the highest capacity addition of 850 MW during the 2024-2026 period, higher than major APAC countries.
- ✓ In 2023, there was an addition of 255 MW of new supply, resulting in a total stock of approximately 1,030 MW by the end of the year.

Q. Which defence force has launched Operation Sadbhavana' to provide essential aid and healthcare in North Sikkim?

A) Indian Navy

B) Indian Army

C) Indian Air Force

D) Indian Coast Guard

Answer : B

- ✓ 'Operation Sadbhavana': Army's support for North Sikkim's communities
- ✓ The Indian Army's Trishakti Corps under Operation Sadbhavana provided essential aid and healthcare to North Sikkim's Naga and Rangrang villages post-GLOF.
- ✓ Over 150 villagers received medical attention, and youths participated in educational sessions linked to the Agniveer Scheme for empowerment.
- ✓ These efforts, rooted in compassion, highlight the Army's commitment to fostering community development and strengthening bonds with border populations, ensuring sustained harmony and solidarity in the region.

IMPORTANT OPERATION & CODE NAME IN NEWS 2023-24

- **OPERATION SADBHAVANA**
- Indian Army's Trishakti Corps demonstrate unwavering support for North Sikkim's remote communities in Naga, Rangrang villages.
- **OPERATION INDRAVATI**
- India has started Operation Indravati to evacuate its nationals from Haiti to the Dominican Republic.
- **OPERATION SANKALP**



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- Indian Navy has launched 'Operation Sankalp' in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman with the aim of ensuring the security of Indian ships.
- **OPERATION RISING SUN**
- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) busted a big syndicate involved in smuggling of foreign-origin gold worth around Rs. 40 crore in its operation code named 'Rising Sun' on 12th and 13th March, 2024
- **OPERATION KAMDHENU**
- Jammu and Kashmir police launched Operation Kamdhenu to curb cattle smuggling.
- **OPERATION PROSPERITY GUARDIAN**
- Operation Prosperity Guardian is a United States-led military operation by a multinational coalition formed in December 2023 to respond to Houthi-led attacks on shipping in the Red Sea.
- **OPERATION AJAY**
- India has launched 'Operation Ajay' to facilitate the return from Israel of those Indians who wish to come back home.
- **OPERATION IRON SWORD**
- Israel has named the ongoing fight against Hamas as Operation Iron Sword. Hamas is a Palestinian militant group that controls some areas of the Gaza Strip.
- **OPERATION SAJAG**
- Indian Coast Guard conducted 'Operation Sajag,' a comprehensive drill along the west coast, aimed at enhancing coastal security.
- **OPERATION BROADER SWORD**
- India and the USA, jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to stop the illegal shipment of drugs through the International Mail System.
- **OPERATION KARUNA**
- India launched "Operation Karuna" to provide humanitarian assistance for people in Myanmar, which is affected by Cyclone Mocha.
- **OPERATION KAVERI**
- India launches Operation Kaveri to evacuate Indian citizens stranded in Sudan
- **OPERATION DOST**



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- Due to the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria, India has launched a campaign named 'Operation Dost' to help the affected people.
- **OPERATION GARUDA**
- Central Bureau of Investigation has launched a multi-phase 'Operation Garuda' against illicit drug trafficking network.
- **OPERATION YATRI SURAKSHA**
- To give assurance of the safety to the passengers, the Indian railways with the coordination of Railway Protection Force has launched a pan India drive under the code name Operation Yatri Suraksha.
- **OPERATION "NARCOS"**
- Railway Protection Force (RPF) recently recovered narcotic products worth Rs 7.40 crore under "Operation Narcos".
- **OPERATION SANKALP**
- Indian Navy's stealth Frigate, INS Talwar is presently deployed for Op-Sankalp commemorating the 3rd continuous year of Indian Navy's presence in the Gulf.
- **OPERATION SATARK**
- Railway Protection Force (RPF) has recently started "Operation Satark" taking action against illicit liquor, fake currency circulation, etc.
- **OPERATION GANGA**
- India launches mission named Operation Ganga to evacuate Indian nationals from Ukraine

Q. What significant milestone has the Indian Army achieved in Eastern Ladakh?

- A) Deployment of over 500 tanks and infantry combat vehicles
- B) Establishment of the world's highest tank repair facilities
- C) Introduction of advanced combat training facilities
- D) Construction of the longest military road in the region

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian Army sets up one of world's highest tank repair facilities near China border.



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- ✓ With over 500 of its tanks and infantry combat vehicles deployed in Eastern Ladakh, the Indian Army has created a record of sorts by setting up two of world's highest tank repair facilities in that area to support its operations there.
- ✓ The Indian Army has set up two armoured vehicle maintenance and repair facilities near the China border in Nyoma and the DBO Sector in that region to at altitudes of over 14,500 feet in the area, which is the world's highest battlefield for tanks and infantry combat vehicles along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh

Q. Who inaugurated the IndiaSkills Competition 2024, which is aimed at showcasing the highest standards of skilling in India?

A) Narendra Modi

B) Atul Kumar Tiwari

C) Ramesh Pokhriyal

D) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer : B

- ✓ Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, inaugurated the IndiaSkills Competition 2024 – the country's biggest skill competition designed to demonstrate the highest standards of skilling.
- ✓ The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) organised an inauguration ceremony at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi which witnessed the participation of over 900 students from more than 30 states and Union Territories and over 400 industry experts.
- ✓ For the next three days, the participants will be competing in a variety of skills from Construction and Building Technology, Creative Arts and Fashion to Information and Communication Technology, Manufacturing and Engineering Technology, and Transportation and Logistics. The event will close on 19th May with a grand closing ceremony.
- ✓ Winners of IndiaSkills, with the help of the best industry trainers, will prepare for the WorldSkills Competition scheduled to take place in Lyon, France in September 2024 and will bring together 1,500 competitors from over 70 countries.

Q. Which two countries are collaborating to develop interceptors capable of shooting down hypersonic missiles by the 2030s?

A) Russia and China

B) Japan and South Korea

C) United States and Russia

D) Japan and the United States

Answer : D



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- ✓ Japan, US sign agreement to develop hypersonic missile interceptor.
- ✓ Japan and the United States are planning to develop interceptors to shoot down hypersonic missiles by the 2030s under a contract signed by the two countries.
- ✓ The plan, which will reportedly cost more than \$3 billion, was first announced in August when the nations' leaders met at a summit with South Korea in Camp David outside Washington.
- ✓ The Japanese government has already included 75 billion yen (\$480 million) in its 2024 budget for development of the interceptors. The 75 billion yen is part of a record defence budget of 7.95 trillion yen approved last year, as tensions rise with China and North Korea.

Q. For how long are India's Public Sector Banks (PSBs) planning to identify and concentrate efforts on one specialised "champion sector" as part of their business plans?

- A) Until 2030-31 B) Until 2025-26
C) Until 2026-27 D) Until 2035-36

Answer : C

- ✓ PSBs to identify one 'champion sector' in their business plans.
- ✓ India's Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are set to identify and concentrate efforts on one specialised "champion sector" each as part of their business plans until 2026-27.
- ✓ This strategic move aims to enable PSBs to expand their presence significantly in their chosen sectors by developing tailored capabilities.
- ✓ The banks will design segment-specific lending products and build internal capacities such as stress testing models and early warning signal systems for these champion sectors.
- ✓ This initiative falls under the 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) strategy for PSBs. It involves onboarding sector-specific advisors and developing credit underwriting models to expedite loan approvals in the identified champion sectors.

Q. Who won the first leg of the Grand Chess Tour (GCT) by defeating Grandmaster Wei Yi in the Superbet Poland Rapid & Blitz tournament?

- A) Viswanathan Anand B) Magnus Carlsen
C) Fabiano Caruana D) Hikaru Nakamura

Answer : B

- ✓ World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen Wins Superbet Poland Rapid & Blitz



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- ✓ The first leg of the Grand Chess Tour (GCT) came to a thrilling conclusion as five-time World Champion and World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen beat tournament leader Grandmaster (GM) Wei Yi to win Superbet Poland Rapid & Blitz and \$40,000 for the first place finish.
- ✓ Carlsen delivered a brilliant performance which included ten blitz wins in a row, defeating each of his competitors before overtaking Wei Yi in the final standings.

Q. Who has been appointed as the managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of IndiaFirst Life Insurance for a term of five years, effective from July 1, 2024?

- A) Rushabh Gandhi B) Anand Mahindra
C) Nirmala Sitharaman D) Ratan Tata

Answer : A

- ✓ IndiaFirst Life Insurance appoints Rushabh Gandhi as MD & CEO
- ✓ IndiaFirst Life Insurance's board has approved the appointment of Rushabh Gandhi as the managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) for five years effective July 1, 2024, or the date of regulatory approvals, whichever is earlier.
- ✓ Gandhi is the deputy chief executive officer of the insurer. Gandhi has over 29 years of experience in the financial services industry and across national and international markets.
- ✓ R M Vishakha, the current MD and CEO of the life insurer, will retire on June 30, 2024.

Q. What is the name of the guided multi-launch rocket system recently launched by Pakistan, capable of engaging targets with high precision up to a range of 400 kilometres?

- A) Fatah-I B) Fatah-II
C) Ghaznavi D) Shaheen

Answer : B

- ✓ Pakistan conducts successful training launch of 'Fatah-II' rocket system.
- ✓ Pakistan conducted a successful training launch of guided multi-launch rocket system 'Fatah-II', which is capable of engaging targets with high precision up to a range of 400 kilometres, the army said.
- ✓ The launch of Fatah-II Guided Rocket System was aimed at perfecting the launch drills and procedures, the army said.
- ✓ Equipped with state-of-the-art navigation system, unique trajectory and manoeuvrable features, Fatah-II is capable of engaging targets with high precision and defeating any missile defence system



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Q. Which space agencies plan to continue operating an instrument on an X-ray astronomy satellite despite an issue affecting one of its instruments?

- A) NASA and ESA B) NASA and CNSA
C) NASA and Roscosmos D) NASA and JAXA

Answer : D

- ✓ NASA and JAXA to operate XRISM as-is despite instrument issue
- ✓ NASA and the Japanese space agency JAXA plan to operate an instrument on an X-ray astronomy satellite as-is for at least the next year and a half despite an issue affecting one of its instruments.
- ✓ JAXA launched the X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission (XRISM) in September 2023 and the spacecraft, whose instruments were developed in collaboration with NASA, has started its prime science mission. XRISM carries two instruments to conduct X-ray astronomy.
- ✓ That project, called CMB-S4, had planned to establish an observatory at the South Pole to study the cosmic microwave background, a signature of the Big Bang at microwave wavelengths, to better understand the early history of the universe as well as dark matter and dark energy.

Q. Asset protection firm, Aurm has partnered with which insurance company to provide comprehensive insurance coverage to its customers for their valuables?

- A) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance B) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
C) Tata AIG General Insurance D) Go Digit General Insurance

Answer : C

- ✓ Aurm, an asset protection firm has partnered with Tata AIG General Insurance to provide comprehensive insurance coverage to its customers for their valuables.
- ✓ Under this partnership, Aurm's vaults will be fully insured for up to Rs 2.5 million, courtesy of TATA AIG, India's leading general insurance provider.
- ✓ Aurm partners with banks and real estate companies to offer state-of-the-art safe deposit storage facilities that are fully automated and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- ✓ Aurm vaults are equipped with military-grade security infrastructure, active surveillance and intrusion detection system.



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Q. Canadian author and Nobel laureate Alice Munro passed away recently at the age of 92. In which year did he receive the Nobel Prize?

- A) 2011
- B) 2013
- C) 2014
- D) 2019

Answer : B

- ✓ Canadian author Alice Munro and Nobel laureate passed away at the age of 92.
- ✓ She wrote short stories for more than 60 years, often focusing on life in rural Canada. She was often compared to Russian writer Anton Chekhov for the insight and compassion found in her stories.
- ✓ Munro was recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2013. The Nobel committee called Munro a “master of contemporary short stories”.
- ✓ Her first major breakthrough came in 1968, when her short story collection, *Dance of The Happy Shades*, about life in the suburbs of western Ontario, won Canada’s highest literary honour, the Governor General’s Award. It was the first of three Governor General’s Awards she would win in her lifetime.

Q. When is the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) observed?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is observed every year on 17 May since 1969, to commemorate the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- ✓ The ITU was founded on 17 May 1865, when the first International Telegraph Convention was signed in Paris.
- ✓ The main objective of the day is to raise global awareness of the changes brought about by the Internet and new technologies in societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.
- ✓ International Telecommunication Union
- ✓ The International Telecommunication Union was established on 17 May 1865 as the International Telegraph Union.
- ✓ Members of the ITU: 193 countries
- ✓ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ Secretary General: Doreen Bogdan-Martin (USA)



Q. World Hypertension Day (WHD) is observed on which day of the year?

- A) 17 May
- B) 14 May
- C) 15 May
- D) 16 May

Answer : A

- ✓ The World Hypertension Day (WHD) is celebrated on 17 May worldwide to promote public awareness of increasing high blood pressure (BP) and to encourage citizens of all countries to prevent and control this silent killer.
- ✓ The day was held for the first time in May 2005.
- ✓ World Hypertension Day (WHD) is an initiative of the World Hypertension League (WHL), an affiliated section of the International Society of Hypertension.
- ✓ Hypertension is also popularly known as high blood pressure. When a person's blood pressure is 140/90 mmHg or higher, they are diagnosed as having hypertension
- ✓ The theme for 2024 World Hypertension Day is "Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer!"

Q. National Dengue Day is celebrated in India on which day?

- A) 17 May
- B) 16 May
- C) 14 May
- D) 15 May

Answer : B

- ✓ In India, the National Dengue Day is observed every year on 16 May.
- ✓ The day is an initiative by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to raise awareness about dengue and its preventive measures, and preparedness for control of the vector-borne disease before the transmission season begins.
- ✓ Dengue is caused by the bite of Aedes mosquito



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Q. United Arab Emirates has recently launched a new visa program offering long-term residency to individuals who significantly contribute to environmental protection and sustainability efforts. What is the name of this Visa?

A) Green Visa

B) Green Residency Visa

C) Golden Visa

D) Blue Residency Visa

Answer : D

- ✓ United Arab Emirates has launched a 10-year Blue Residency visa for individuals who have made 'exceptional efforts and contributions to protecting the environment, whether marine or land'.
- ✓ The 10-year Blue Residency Visa aims to attract and retain global leaders in environmental research, activism, and technological solutions.
- ✓ This visa category extends beyond the UAE's borders, welcoming those who champion sustainability initiatives worldwide.
- ✓ This initiative strengthens the UAE's position as a global leader in sustainability and environmental stewardship.

UAE IN NEWS 2023-24

- Indian Prime Minister will attend the World Government Summit 2024 as a guest of honour in UAE.
- World Government Summit (WGS) 2024: Theme: "Shaping Future Governments".
- The joint military exercise 'Desert Cyclone' of India and United Arab Emirates is being organized in Mahajan, Rajasthan
- India, UAE ink MoU to strengthen educational cooperation for students, faculty.
- India, UAE sign MoU on linking of India's Unified Payments Interface with Instant Payment Platform of UAE.
- UAE becomes first Arab country to get observer status on Asia-Pacific money laundering.
- United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the fourth largest investor in India during 2022-23.
- Dubai Emerges as India's Top Choice for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- UAE to Host World's Largest IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
- Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has been named the Environmental Airline of the Year 2023 for the second year in a row at the Airline Rating Awards.
- UAE India's second largest export destination and third largest source of imports.



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- The first conference of I2U2 Business Forum, a joint initiative of India, Israel, the US and the United Arab Emirates, was held on 22 February 2023 in Abu Dhabi (UAE).
- United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host the 13th World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial meeting in February 2024.
- UAE will host the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) in November 2023.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed an agreement to set up its first overseas office in Abu Dhabi Global Market.
- UAE and India launched the UAE India Business Council - UAE Chapter (UIBCUC) to strengthen economic ties and enhance bilateral trade and investment.
- EDGE, UAE's leading defence group signed a Memorandum of Understanding with India's aerospace firm Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) at the International Defence Exhibition and Conference (IDEX).
- India, France, UAE Establish Trilateral Cooperation Initiative, in fields including Energy, Defence & Economy.
- India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is shortly to be connected to comparable networks in Indonesia, Mauritius, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- RBI, Central Bank of UAE sign MoU to promote innovation in financial products and services.
- Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan appointed President of UAE.
- Emaar, a Dubai-based real estate developer, has become the first foreign company to invest in a mega-mall spread over one million square feet in Srinagar.
- Indian Air Force contingent of 110 Air Warriors reached Al Dahfra airbase of United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 25 February for participating in Exercise 'Desert Flag VIII'.
- President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, has appointed Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, his brother, as the Vice President of the country.
- The 'Study in India Pavilion' at the Global Education & Training Exhibition (GETEX) in Dubai, UAE.
- HDFC Bank and UAE-based financial services company Lulu Exchange, have partnered to strengthen cross-border payments between India and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.
- About UAE



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- ✓ Accessible: It can be easily bought from any post office on submission of the required KYC documents. Also, it is easy to transfer the certificate from one POTO to another, as well as from one person to another, without impacting the interest accrual/maturity of the original certificate.
- ✓ Loan Collaterals: NSC certificates are accepted as collateral or security for secured loans in Banks and NBFCs.
- ✓ Nomination: The investor can nominate any family member (even a minor) so that they can inherit it in the unfortunate event of the investor's demise.
- ✓ Premature Withdrawal: Generally, one cannot exit the scheme early except on the death of an investor, on a court order, or on forfeiture by a pledgee who is a Gazetted Government Officer for it.
- ✓ Eligibility Criteria for NSC:
- ✓ Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs), Trusts, and Private and public limited companies are not eligible to invest in NSC.
- ✓ The individual must be a resident Indian citizen. Non-resident Indians (NRIs) are not eligible to invest in NSC.
- ✓ There is no age limit for individuals to purchase an NSC

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Bond Buyback:

1. It is a process in which central and state governments buy back their existing securities from holders by redeeming them prematurely.

2. It is aimed to decrease the liquidity in the market.

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 Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has responded to tight liquidity conditions in the banking system by announcing a significant reduction in the government's treasury bill sales and introducing a new selection of bonds for the Centre's buyback operations.
- ✓ Bond Buyback is a process whereby the central government and state governments buy back their existing securities, by redeeming them prematurely, from the holders.
- ✓ Bond buybacks is a liability management tools widely used in government securities markets to manage refinancing and liquidity risks.



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- ✓ It enables issuers to retire an outstanding debt before its maturity date against a cash payment.
- ✓ The objectives of buyback can be
- ✓ Reduction of cost (by buying back high coupon securities),
- ✓ Reduction in the number of outstanding securities and improving liquidity in the G-Secs market (by buying back illiquid securities) and
- ✓ Infusion of liquidity in the system.
- ✓ What is a Bond?
- ✓ It is a debt instrument in which an investor loans money to an entity (typically corporate or government) which borrows the funds for a defined period of time at a variable or fixed interest rate.
- ✓ Bonds are used by companies, municipalities, states and sovereign governments to raise money to finance a variety of projects and activities. Owners of bonds are debt holders, or creditors, of the issuer.

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Materiovigilance Programme of India (MvPI) platform:

1. It is launched to monitor the safety of medical devices.

2. The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission functions as National Coordination Centre.

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 Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) directed all medical device licence holders and manufacturers to report any adverse events related to life-saving medical equipment on the government's Materiovigilance Programme of India (MvPI) platform.
- ✓ It was launched on July 6, 2015 to monitor the safety of medical devices in the country.
- ✓ It aims to collect data on medical device related adverse events systematically and scientifically analyze them to aid in regulatory decisions and recommendations on safe use of medical devices.
- ✓ Objective: To improve Indian patient safety by monitoring, recording and analysing the root cause of adverse events or risks associated with the use of medical devices including in-vitro diagnostics by healthcare professionals or patients/users and suggesting regulatory bodies for appropriate action with the sole intention of improving patient safety.



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- ✓ It is an important program for reporting of adverse events, coordinated analysis etc related to the medical devices including in-vitro diagnostic devices.
- ✓ The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) functions as National Coordination Centre (NCC) since 2018.
- ✓ It is regulated by the Central Drugs Standards Control Organization (CDSCO).
- ✓ Currently, all medical devices in India are regulated by the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Medical Device Rule, 2017.
- ✓ At present, India is 80% dependent on imports for medical devices.
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry Of Health and Family Welfare

Q. How much financing has the International Finance Corporation (IFC) provided to HDFC Bank for extending microloans to underserved women in rural and semi-urban India?

A) \$100 million

B) \$250 million

C) \$500 million

D) \$750 million

Answer : C

- ✓ International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided \$500 million loan to HDFC Bank for extending microloans to “underserved women” in rural and semi-urban India.
- ✓ HDFC Bank said it would use IFC’s financing for on-lending as microloans to self-help groups (SHGs) and joint liability groups (JLGs) enrolled in the Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative (SLI).
- ✓ IFC’s loan will further enable the Bank to grow its microcredit and microlending to women, especially allowing SHG and JLG borrowers to graduate to individual lending schemes

HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided \$500 million loan to HDFC Bank for extending microloans to “underserved women” in rural and semi-urban India.
- HDFC Bank launches Pixel Play, India’s First Virtual Credit Card with Cashback.
- HDFC Bank, Atal Innovation Mission empower social sector startups with Rs 19.6 crore grants.
- 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.



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- 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. Which sports organization did Puma India officially sign up as the official kit sponsor?

- A) Indian Olympic Association (IOA)
- B) Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
- C) Athletics Federation of India (AFI)
- D) All India Football Federation (AIFF)

Answer : C



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- ✓ Puma India signs up as official kit partner for Athletics Federation of India , will equip over 400 Indian athletes
- ✓ In a strategic move, Puma India has signed up as the official kit sponsor of sports body, Athletics Federation of India (AFI).
- ✓ Under this multi-year deal, the sports brand will exclusively supply performance kits, speed suits and travel gear to all athletes under AFI and who represent India in track & field, jumps, throws, cross country running and marathons at both domestic and international tournaments.

Q. Which company has signed a deal with the Athletics Federation of India to become its official kit sponsor?

A) PUMA India

B) Adidas

C) Reebok

D) Red Tape

Answer : A

- ✓ PUMA India has signed a deal with the Athletics Federation of India to become its official kit sponsor.
- ✓ Puma signed a multi-year deal to exclusively supply performance kits, speed suits and travel gear to every athlete under AFI representing India in track & field, jumps, throws, cross country running and marathons at both domestic and international tournaments.
- ✓ With the partnership, several international stars such as Neeraj Chopra (javelin throw), Kishore Kumar Jena (javelin throw), Parul Chaudhary (steeplechase), Subha Venkatesan (4x 400 m relay), Murali Sreeshankar (long jump), Jyothi Yarraji (hurdle), Priyanka Goswami (race walk) and Jeswin Aldrin (long jump) will benefit from PUMA's gear across sporting events.
- ✓ Kitting under this partnership does not include Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games.

SPONSOR IN NEWS 2024

- Puma signs deal with Athletics Federation of India for official kit sponsor
- Sri Lanka has announced Amul, one of India's iconic diary brands with a global footprint, as their sponsor for the ICC T20 World Cup 2024
- Amul will be the lead arm sponsor for USA's cricket team that will participate in ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 which commences on June 1
- Aramco company would sponsor major FIFA tournaments until 2027.



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- ✓ Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla handed over certificates under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 to the first 14 people in New Delhi. Digitally signed certificates are also being issued to other applicants through email.
- ✓ The process involves granting Indian nationality to undocumented non-Muslims migrants, including Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis and Christians from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh
- ✓ The CAA was enacted in December 2019 but the rules under which the citizenship was granted were issued only on March 11 this year, marking nearly four years of delay

Q. Which UK-based institution has AIIMS New Delhi partnered with to enhance medical research, innovation, and education?

- A) University of Oxford
- B) University of Cambridge
- C) University of Bolton Institute of Medicine
- D) Imperial College London

Answer : C

- ✓ AIIMS New Delhi Signed MoU With University Of Bolton Institute Of Medicine
- ✓ AIIMS New Delhi has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UK based University of Bolton Institute of Medicine to collaborate in the field of medical research, innovation and education.
- ✓ This strategic collaboration brings together two esteemed institutions renowned for their commitment to excellence in medical training, research, and patient care.
- ✓ These partnerships will encompass various initiatives such as staff/student exchanges, educational conferences and collaborative degree programmes, aiming to enrich the medical education landscape in both countries.

Q. How long has the Indian government extended the ban on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)?

- A) Two years
- B) Three years
- C) Four years
- D) Five years

Answer : D

- ✓ Centre Extends Ban Imposed On LTTE For Five More Years.
- ✓ The Centre has extended the ban on Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for further five years.



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- ✓ The central government has taken the decision in view of the activities of the LTTE that continues to pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India, particularly in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The union home ministry imposed the ban invoking the sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. In a notification, the home ministry said the central government is of the opinion that the LTTE is still indulging in activities which are prejudicial to the integrity and security of the country.

Q. Who recently became the first Indian woman to break into the top 25 of the world Women's singles rankings in table tennis?

A) Pooja Sahasrabudhe

B) Mouma Das

C) Manika Batra

D) Madhurika Patkar

Answer : C

- ✓ Table Tennis, Manika Batra Becomes First Indian Woman To Break Into Top 25 Of World Women's Singles Rankings
- ✓ India's ace women's table tennis player Manika Batra became the first Indian woman paddler to break into the top 25 of the world Women's singles rankings. She rose to her career-best ranking of 24, following her success in the Saudi Smash, last week.
- ✓ She also equalled G. Sathyan's five year old record for the highest rank achieved by an Indian in singles table tennis. G Sathiyam, Manika's longtime mixed doubles partner, achieved world No. 24 in men's singles in 2019.
- ✓ The 28-year-old Khel Ratna awardee, who was in 39th spot before the tournament, jumped 15 spots following her run in Jeddah, where she reached the quarterfinals.

Q. Who recently assumed the role of Director General of Akashvani?

A) Ramesh Kumar

B) Maushumi Chakravarty

C) Sunil Sharma

D) Priya Singh

Answer : B

- ✓ Senior Indian Information Service officer, Maushumi Chakravarty assumed the charge as Director General of Akashvani.



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- ✓ A 1991 batch IIS officer, Ms Chakravarty has a vast experience of working in several media organisations of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, including Press Information Bureau and Central Bureau of Communication

Q. What was the total value of India's exports in the financial year 2023-24?

- A) USD 776.3 billion B) USD 800 billion
C) USD 778 billion D) USD 755 billion

Answer : C

- ✓ India Registers Record Export At USD 778 Billion In 2023-24
- ✓ India registered record exports in the just concluded financial year 2023-24 at USD 778 billion, commerce ministry said. In the financial year 2022-23, the combined value of exported goods and services stood at USD 776.3 billion.
- ✓ In 2023-24, services exports increased from USD 325.3 billion to USD 341.1 billion, while merchandise exports marginally declined from USD 451.1 billion to USD 437.1 billion
- ✓ China, Russia, Iraq, UAE, and Singapore are among the countries where India's exports in the just-concluded financial year have risen substantially, though with a low base. The other countries in the Top 10 list are the UK, Australia, Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, and South Africa.
- ✓ Meanwhile, there was a decline in overall imports from USD 898.0 billion in 2022-23 to USD 853.8 billion in 2023-24.

Q. In which year did FIFA officially announce the scheduled dates for the inaugural Women's Club World Cup tournament?

- A) 2026 B) 2028
C) 2027 D) 2030

Answer : A

- ✓ FIFA Confirm First Ever Women's Club World Cup Will Kick Off In 2026
- ✓ FIFA has officially announced the scheduled dates for the inaugural Women's Club World Cup tournament, slated to take place in January and February of 2026. The tournament's first edition is expected to feature 16 teams.



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- ✓ The Women's Club World Cup would likely allow top European teams from the UEFA Women's Champions League to face clubs from the United States' National Women's Soccer League, as well as sides from countries where the women's game is less developed.

Q. Who has been approved as the Whole Time Director on the Board of IDFC FIRST Bank by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A) Ravi Venkatesan B) Pradeep Natarajan
C) Deepak Parekh D) Vishwavir Ahuja

Answer : B

- ✓ RBI approves appointment of Pradeep Natarajan as IDFC FIRST Bank's Whole Time Director.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Pradeep Natarajan as Whole Time Director on the Board of IDFC FIRST Bank for a period of three years.
- ✓ The bank further said it will take the necessary steps to complete the formalities for the appointment of Natarajan as Executive Director.

Q. Which organization received the Geospatial World Forum (GWF) Leadership Award for "Public Policy: Enabling Industry Development" at the 2024 event in Rotterdam, Netherlands?

- A) ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)
B) IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre)
C) DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation)
D) BARC (Bhabha Atomic Research Centre)

Answer : B

- ✓ IN-SPACe honoured with Geospatial World Forum Leadership Award.
- ✓ The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) has been honoured with the Geospatial World Forum (GWF) Leadership Award for "Public Policy: Enabling Industry Development" at the 2024 event in Rotterdam, Netherlands.
- ✓ The award recognizes their groundbreaking efforts in advancing India's space sector and supporting non-government entities.
- ✓ GWF Leadership Awards commend innovation and contributions to the global geospatial field since 2007



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Q. Which companies have collaborated to accelerate the adoption of generative AI (GenAI)?

- A) Tech Mahindra and Google B) IBM and Infosys
C) Tech Mahindra and IBM D) IBM and TCS

Answer : C

- ✓ Tech Mahindra, IBM collaborate to accelerate adoption of GenAI
- ✓ IT company Tech Mahindra said it has collaborated with IBM to assist businesses worldwide in responsibly accelerating the adoption of generative AI (GenAI).
- ✓ Under the partnership, Tech Mahindra's amplifAI and IBM watsonx will integrate to bring new GenAI and governance capabilities to enterprises, according to a company statement.

Q. Which country will host the 2027 Women's World Cup, as declared at the FIFA Congress?

- A) Brazil B) Belgium
C) Netherlands D) Germany

Answer : A

- ✓ Brazil to host 2027 Women's World Cup
- ✓ Brazil was declared the host of the 2027 Women's World Cup at the FIFA Congress, beating the joint bid of Belgium, Netherlands and Germany to become the first South American country to hold the tournament.
- ✓ The Brazil bid received the backing of 119 member associations of the FIFA Congress to host the 10th edition of the competition, compared to 78 votes for the European bid.
- ✓ The race was whittled down to two last month after the United States and Mexico withdrew their joint bid to pursue the 2031 tournament instead

Q. Which company has signed an initial pact with European bank Societe Generale for up to \$1 billion financing as debt and advisory solutions over the next three years?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ Energy firm ReNew has signed an initial pact with European bank Societe Generale for up to \$1 billion financing as debt and advisory solutions over the next three years.



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- ✓ The MoU aims to support the financing and development of the company's various strategic energy transition projects both in India and globally.
- ✓ Both parties will leverage their respective expertise to strengthen the collaboration on utility-scale energy projects including solar, wind, complex renewables, green hydrogen, energy storage and solar modules manufacturing.

Q. Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) has acquired how much per cent stake in Essar Transco Limited for an Enterprise Value of INR 1,900 crore after obtaining necessary clearances?

- A) 40% B) 60%
C) 80% D) 100%

Answer : D

- ✓ Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) has acquired 100 per cent stake in Essar Transco Limited for an Enterprise Value of INR 1,900 crore after obtaining necessary clearances.
- ✓ This share acquisition follows agreements signed in June 2022.
- ✓ The acquisition covers the fully operational 400 kV, 673 circuit kilometres inter-state transmission line linking Mahan in Madhya Pradesh to Sipat pooling substation in Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ The project, which operates under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission-regulated return framework, was commissioned in 2018.
- ✓ Adani Energy Solutions completed the acquisition through its wholly owned subsidiary Adani Transmission Step-Two Limited (ATSTL).

Q. Name the operation launched Uttarakhand police for the smooth conduct of Kedarnath Dham Yatra 2024 in Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand?

- A) Operation Sadbhavana B) Operation Maryada
C) Operation Shraddha D) Operation Darshan

Answer : B

- ✓ Police launched Operation 'Maryada' for the smooth conduct of Kedarnath Dham Yatra 2024 in Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand.
- ✓ Under Operation Maryada, the police request pilgrims and tourists who consume drugs to maintain decorum in this area. Along with challan, the police is also registering a case against the rioters and drug users.



- ✓ Guptkashi DSP Harshvardhini Suman said, "Under Operation Maryada, we are taking strict action against those who are using any kind of intoxicants, it is not good for the temple and the Dham.

Q. Homegrown logistics services platform Porter has become ___ unicorn in India of 2024.

- A) second
B) third
C) fourth
D) fifth

Answer : B

- ✓ Porter becomes India's 3rd Unicorn of 2024
- ✓ Homegrown logistics services platform Porter has become the third unicorn (with a valuation of \$1 billion and above) in India this year.
- ✓ Earlier this year, fintech firm Perfios and Ola's AI venture Krutrim had turned unicorns.
- ✓ As per Tracxn, there were 113 unicorns in India as of earlier this month.
- ✓ PeakXV-backed Porter's earlier valuation was \$514 million, after it raised \$101 million in a Series E round from investors such as Tiger Global, Vitruvian Partners, Lightrock India and more. Till date, it has raised \$150 million over nine rounds, according to Tracxn data.

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX):

1. It is a collaborative endeavor between ISRO and NASA.

2. It aims to explore the moon's southern polar region and investigate the presence of water and other elements.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The India-Japan partnership for their joint moon mission, Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX), is likely to take flight in a few years, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) said in an interview recently.
- ✓ About Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX):
- ✓ It is a collaborative endeavor between ISRO and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
- ✓ The mission is scheduled to launch in 2025.



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- ✓ This mission will take off aboard Japan's H3 rocket.
- ✓ Primary Goal: To explore the moon's southern polar region, investigating the presence of water and other elements, potentially in the form of surface ice.
- ✓ It aims to showcase innovative surface exploration technologies. The special focus is on vehicular transport and lunar night survival.
- ✓ It features both a lander and a rover. JAXA is responsible for developing and operating the rover, and ISRO for developing and operating the lander that will carry the rover.
- ✓ The rover will be equipped with instruments for measuring the water content of regolith (lunar sand), drilling, and sampling, as well as with other world-first and world-leading technologies for the driving system and batteries.
- ✓ The rover will carry not only the instruments of ISRO and JAXA but also those of the US space agency NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA).

Q. Which of the following is the name of the premium banking services program recently launched by Yes Bank, specifically targeting affluent customers?

- A) Yes Privilege B) Yes Excellence
C) Yes Prestige D) Yes Grandeur

Answer : D

- ✓ Yes Bank launches premium services under 'Yes Grandeur' for affluent, elite customers
- ✓ Yes Bank has launched premium banking services under the label 'Yes Grandeur' targeting elite and rising affluent class to drive business growth.
- ✓ So, only banking customers with an average monthly balance (AMB) of Rs 5 lakh or a net relationship value (NRV) of Rs 20 lakh will be eligible for the program, with additional consideration to loan relationships.
- ✓ YES Grandeur is aimed at enhancing and personalising the customer experience by offering unique banking, travel and lifestyle privileges

YES BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- Yes Bank launches premium services under 'Yes Grandeur' for affluent, elite customers.
- YES Bank collaborates with ANQ to launch 2 co-branded credit cards Pi, Phi.
- YES Bank has partnered with the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) as the Official Banking Partner for Team India at the Paris Olympics 2024.



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- Yes Bank becomes first Indian bank to conduct export finance transactions on RXIL's ITFS.
- Yes Bank Launches SmartFin With Veefin Solutions, An Advanced Digital Platform To Boost MSMEs.
- Yes Bank becomes first lender to offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'.
- Yes bank partnered with fintech Zaggle for next-gen corporate credit card.
- YES Bank goes live with UPI interoperability on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC).
- Yes Bank Launches All-In-One 'IRIS' Mobile App.
- Reliance General Insurance becomes first insurer to accept Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) e-Rupee (₹) in tie-up with YES Bank
- YES Bank announced the unveiling of its new logo, which forms part of its "refreshed brand identity." YES BANK launches new logo, to roll out campaign 'Life Ko Banao Rich'.
- Yes Bank is an Indian bank headquartered in Mumbai, India and was founded by Rana Kapoor and Ashok Kapoor in 2004.
- YES BANK
- Founded : 2004
- Founder : Rana Kapoor and Ashok Kapoor
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Sunil Mehta
- MD & CEO : Prashant Kumar
- YES BANK launches new logo, to roll out campaign 'Life Ko Banao Rich'.

Q. Which Indian public sector companies are set to actively search for critical mineral assets overseas, according to the government announcement?

A) Coal India, NTPC, Indian Oil Corporation

B) NMDC, ONGC Videsh Ltd, GAIL (India) Limited

C) Coal India, NMDC, ONGC Videsh Ltd

D) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Oil India Limited, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

Answer : C

- ✓ Coal India, NMDC, ONGC Videsh to actively scout for critical mineral assets abroad: Govt



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- ✓ The government said public sector companies Coal India, NMDC and ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), will start looking actively for critical mineral assets overseas.
- ✓ ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) is the overseas investment arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation. These PSUs already have some kind of presence abroad.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (KABIL) is a joint venture of three PSUs formed to scout for mineral assets overseas. It is owned by three public sector undertakings National Aluminium Company Ltd (Nalco), Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL) and Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Ltd (MECL).
- ✓ The government-backed initiative ONDC (open network for digital commerce) has started getting traction in the e-commerce sector and so far five lakh sellers have been onboarded on the platform
- ✓ Five lakh sellers have on-boarded of which 70 per cent are small and medium sellers. In April, ONDC facilitated 7.22 million transaction

Q. By how many basis points (bps) did State Bank of India (SBI) increase interest rates on retail domestic term deposits of less than one year tenor?

- A) 10-50 bps B) 50-100 bps
C) 75-125 bps D) 25-75 bps

Answer : D

- ✓ SBI raises short-term retail fixed deposit rates by up to 75 bps
- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has increased interest rates on retail domestic term deposits (Below ₹2 crore) by 25-75 basis points on deposits of less than one year tenor.
- ✓ India's largest bank also increased interest rates on domestic bulk term deposits (₹2 crore and above) by 10-50 basis points on five out of eight maturity buckets.
- ✓ The new interest rates are effective from May 15, 2024. This deposit rate hike comes against the backdrop of credit growth outstripping deposit growth.
- ✓ On retail domestic TDs, SBI has upped the interest rate on deposits of 46 days to 179 days from 4.75 per cent to 5.50 per cent (or by 75 basis points/bps); on deposits of 180 days to 210 days from 5.75 per cent to 6 per cent (up 25 bps); and deposits of 211 days to less than 1 year from 6 per cent to 6.25 per cent (up 25 bps).

SBI IN NEWS 2023-24

- State Bank of India (SBI) has increased interest rates on retail domestic term deposits (Below ₹2 crore) by 25-75 basis points on deposits of less than one year tenor.



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- State Bank of India (SBI) recently announced it has become the first trading-cum-clearing member at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX).
- SBI partners with HCLSoftware for digital transformation.
- Aurionpro secures a significant deal with SBI for iCashpro+, a cash management platform. Valued at Rs 100 crore, it involves phased delivery over 12 months, followed by 6-year maintenance.
- LIC emerged as the most valued Indian PSU firm, surpassing SBI.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a Line of Credit (LOC) of Euro 70 million (about Rs 630 crore) with German development bank KfW to promote solar projects in the country.
- SBI Mutual Fund got permission from the RBI to buy up to a 9.99% share in Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates SBI branch in Sri Lanka.
- State Bank of India ropes in MS Dhoni as brand ambassador.
- SBI has launched a 'Mobile Handheld Device' as part of its financial inclusion drive in a bid to improve accessibility and convenience.
- The tenure of State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Khara has been extended till August 2024.
- State Bank of India has introduced a digital facility for Non-Resident Indians to effortlessly open Non-Residential External and Non-Resident Ordinary accounts through its mobile app YONO.
- State Bank of India has launched its 'Nation First Transit Card', a RuPay prepaid instrument under the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) that can be used nationwide.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance.
- STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI)
- Founded : 1 July 1955
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Dinesh Kumar Khara
- Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI
- The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.
- Tagline of State Bank of India
 - (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
 - (2) With you all the way
 - (3) A bank of the common man



(4) The banker to every Indian

(5) The Nation banks on us.

- It is one of the largest and oldest banks in India.

Q. Cristiano Ronaldo topped Forbes' list of highest-paid athletes for the fourth time in his career. He is from which country?

A) Portugal

B) Spain

C) Norway

D) Netherlands

Answer : A

- ✓ Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo topped Forbes' list of highest-paid athletes for the fourth time in his career while Spanish golfer Jon Rahm moved up to second following his sensational switch to Saudi-backed LIV Golf.
- ✓ Ronaldo became the world's highest-paid athlete after his move to Saudi Arabian side Al-Nassr and Forbes said the 39-year-old's estimated total earnings were in the region of \$260 million, an all-time high for a soccer player.
- ✓ His on-field earnings amounted to \$200 million while his off-field earnings were \$60 million thanks to sponsorship deals where brands make use of his 629 million Instagram followers
- ✓ Third on the list is record eight-times Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi, who made a lucrative switch to Major League Soccer side Inter Miami, helping the Argentine World Cup winner earn \$135 million. The 36-year-old has earned \$65 million in on-field earnings but \$70 million off it thanks to deals with major sponsors such as Adidas and Apple.
- ✓ Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James is fourth at \$128.2 million and although the 39-year-old.
- ✓ World's top 10 highest paid athletes 2024
 1. Cristiano Ronaldo, football: \$260m
 2. Jon Rahm, golf: \$218m
 3. Lionel Messi, football: \$135m
 4. LeBron James, basketball: \$128.2m
 5. Giannis Antetokounmpo, basketball: \$111m
 6. Kylian Mbappe, football: \$110m
 7. Neymar, football: \$108m



8. Karim Benzema, football: \$106m
9. Stephen Curry, basketball: \$102m
10. Lamar Jackson, American football: \$100.5m

Q. Which organization recently unveiled the carbon reduction initiative of SFO Technologies?

- A) DRDO B) BHEL
C) ISRO D) CSIR

Answer : C

- ✓ ISRO Chairman S Somanath unveiled SFO Technologies' carbon reduction initiative, aiming for a 50% reduction by 2035 and zero emissions by 2040.
- ✓ At NeST HiTek Park, he planted a sapling and unveiled a Chandrayaan replica, highlighting SFO's cooperation with ISRO.
- ✓ Somanath also discussed the Indian space sector's growth, projecting it to reach USD 9-10 billion in 5-10 years from its current USD 2 billion.

ISRO IN NEWS 2023-24

- ISRO Chairman S Somanath unveiled SFO Technologies' carbon reduction initiative, aiming for a 50% reduction by 2035 and zero emissions by 2040.
- ISRO achieved yet another milestone in design and manufacturing by successfully conducting a long duration test of the PS4 engine of the PSLV stage.
- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) Chairman S Somanath announced on 16 April 2024 that India aims to achieve debris-free space by 2030.
- Proba-3 Mission of Proba-3 Mission of ESA to Study Sun will be Launched by ISRO
- to Study Sun will be Launched by ISRO
- 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.



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- 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.
- Vyommित्रा (Woman Robot Astronaut) is going to fly into Space ahead of ISRO's "Gaganyaan" Mission
- ISRO has completed all key tests on Insat-3DS satellite before the final review which will be followed by its shipping to the spaceport in Srihari Kota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched the PSLV-C58 X-ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat) mission.
- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is planning to send Indian astronauts to the moon for the first time by 2040.
- ISRO's Next Moon Mission in Collaboration with Japan Gathers Steam. This mission, called LUPLEX, 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



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- ✓ A rare hemi-parasitic terrestrial plant named *Phtheiospermum lushaiorum* has been found in Phawngpui National Park in Mizoram.
- ✓ About *Phtheiospermum lushaiorum*:
- ✓ It is a new species of hemi-parasitic terrestrial plant.
- ✓ These hemi-parasitic plants lack a fully developed root system and form connections with another plant, from which they obtain some or all of their water and minerals.
- ✓ Such plants have chlorophyll and produce their own food by photosynthesis, and in some cases, are capable of limited growth in the absence of the host plant.
- ✓ They tap into the sap-conducting tissue of the host by means of specialized structures called haustoria.
- ✓ The new species has been found in Phawngpui National Park of Mizoram.
- ✓ Key Facts about Phawngpui National Park:
- ✓ It is located in the Lawngtlai district under the Lai Autonomous District Council of Mizoram, towards the southeast bordering Myanmar.

Q. With reference to India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), consider the following:

1. It will provide a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network to supplement existing maritime routes.

2. It will comprise two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Gulf to Europe.

3. Beyond the transport infrastructure, undersea cables and long-distance hydrogen pipelines are also part of the project.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer : C

- ✓ An Indian delegation recently paid a visit to the UAE for the first time to hold discussions with the key entities there on the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC).
- ✓ About India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC):
- ✓ It was announced on the sidelines of the G20 meeting in New Delhi when a memorandum of understanding was signed between the European Union and seven countries, namely India, the US, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), France, Germany, and Italy.



- ✓ The corridor will provide a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network to supplement existing maritime routes.
- ✓ The IMEEC will comprise two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Gulf to Europe.
- ✓ The corridor will include a shipping route connecting Mumbai and Mundra (Gujarat) with the UAE, and a rail network connecting the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan with the Israeli port of Haifa to reach the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

Q. In which one of the following Wildlife Sanctuary, Sri Lankan golden-backed frog was recently rediscovered?

- A) Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary B) Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary
C) Nilgiri Wildlife Sanctuary D) Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary

Answer : D

- ✓ Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India, in partnership with the Andhra Pradesh Biodiversity Board, rediscovered the Sri Lankan golden-backed frog (*Hylarana gracilis*) after two centuries in the Koundinya wildlife sanctuary in the Chittoor district.
- ✓ It is located in Palamner - Kuppam forest ranges of Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ It is the only sanctuary in the whole state housing Asian elephants.
- ✓ This Sanctuary comes under Project elephant - a Country wide Elephant Conservation Project taken up by Government of India

Q. With reference to Calcium carbide, consider the following statements:

1. It is commonly used for ripening of fruits.
2. It is a highly reactive compound and releases acetylene gas.
3. It causes serious health issues such as dizziness and frequent thirst.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

- A) One Only B) Two only
C) All three D) None

Answer : C



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- ✓ The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has alerted traders'/fruits handlers/Food Business Operators (FBOs) operating ripening chambers to strictly ensure compliance with the prohibition on calcium carbide for artificial ripening of fruits, particularly during the mango season.
- ✓ It is a compound with the chemical formula CaC_2 and also known as 'masala'.
- ✓ It is commonly used for ripening fruits like mangoes, releases acetylene gas which contains harmful traces of arsenic and phosphorus.
- ✓ Manufacturing: It is manufactured by heating a lime and carbon mixture to 2000 to 2100°C (3632 to 3812°F) in an electric arc furnace.
- ✓ It has been prohibited as per the provision in the sub-regulation of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulation, 2011.
- ✓ Application
- ✓ It is used in mining and metal industries as well as in the production of acetylene gas.
- ✓ It is a highly reactive compound and releases acetylene gas which is used to artificially ripen fruits
- ✓ Health impacts
- ✓ It can cause serious health issues such as dizziness, frequent thirst, irritation, weakness, difficulty in swallowing, vomiting and skin ulcers, etc

Q. Which company will invest Rs 600 crore for setting up two ethanol manufacturing plants in the country?

A) Torrent Power

B) JSW Energy

C) Nayara Energy

D) ReNew Power

Answer : C

- ✓ Nayara Energy, a private downstream company, is planning to invest Rs 600 crore for setting up ethanol manufacturing plants in the country.
- ✓ The move is in line with the government's target of 20% ethanol blending for FY26.
- ✓ The company plans to set up two ethanol manufacturing plants, each with a production capacity of 200 kiloliters per day (KLPD), in Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

Q. Which country has become the first country to lose all Glaciers?

A) Argentina

B) Peru

C) Caracas

D) Venezuela



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Answer : D

- ✓ Venezuela becomes first country to lose all Glaciers
- ✓ Venezuela is the first modern country to lose all of its glaciers, which is a huge change in the environment.
- ✓ New research shows that the Humboldt glacier in the Andes, which used to be very big, has shrunk to less than 2 hectares, which means it is no longer a glacier but an ice field.
- ✓ The Sierra Nevada de Mérida Mountain range in Venezuela used to have six glaciers. As of 2011, five of these glaciers had melted away, leaving only the Humboldt glacier.

Q. Nandini Dairy will sponsor which country's cricket team in the ICC T20 World Cup 2024?

A) Ireland

B) Bangladesh

C) Scotland

D) South Africa

Answer : C

- ✓ Nandini dairy to sponsor for Scotland for T20 World Cup
- ✓ Scotland cricket team has unveiled its new ICC T20 World Cup jersey with Karnataka Milk Federation's (KMF) Nandini logo.
- ✓ The Nandini logo is featured in the leading arm of the jersey in both English and Kannada. The jersey was launched in Edinburgh by members of the playing squad.
- ✓ The Nandini brand, which is a household name in Karnataka, is sponsoring Scotland and Ireland teams in the forthcoming T20 World Cup.
- ✓ The tournament is set to begin from June 2 in the West Indies and the USA.
- ✓ The sponsorship amount is around Rs 2.5 crore per team. Further, the KMF is also launching Nandini Splash, a whey-based energy drink in the US during the tournament.

Q. Noted storyteller and Padma Shri awardee Malti Joshi passed away at the age of 90 years. In which year was he honored with the Padma Shri?

A) 2018

B) 2022

C) 2023

D) 2021

Answer : A

- ✓ Noted storyteller and Padma Shri awardee Malti Joshi passed away at the age of 90 years.
- ✓ Malti Joshi was known for her work in Hindi and Marathi language. She was awarded Padam Shri in 2018.



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- ✓ Several of Joshi's stories were adapted for television by Doordarshan, and she made appearances in television shows such as 'Saat Phere,' produced by Jaya Bachchan, and 'Kirdaar,' produced by Gulzar
- ✓ Her stories were translated into multiple languages, including Marathi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Punjabi, Malayalam, Kannada, English, Russian, and Japanese, expanding her reach and influence across diverse audiences

Q. Who was crowned Miss Pink Nepal 2024 in a gala event held in Kathmandu, and will go on to represent Nepal at the Miss International Queen 2024 competition in Thailand?

- A) Aaroahi Basnet B) Sarosy Neupane
C) Anmol Rai D) Aaroahi Rai

Answer : C

- ✓ Anmol Rai, a transwoman, was crowned Miss Pink Nepal 2024 in a gala event held in Kathmandu. Sarosy Neupane and Aaroahi Basnet were named first and second runners-up, respectively.
- ✓ Rai will represent Nepal at the Miss International Queen 2024 competition in Thailand later this year. The event highlighted Nepal's advancements in LGBTQ rights

Q. Which Indian table tennis duo clinched the mixed doubles title at the WTT Cappadocia Feder tournament in Turkey?

- A) Anirban Ghosh and Swastika Ghosh
B) Poymantee Baisya and Akash Pal
C) Sathiyam Gnanasekaran and Manika Batra
D) Sharath Kamal and Mouma Das

Answer : B

- ✓ In Table Tennis Poymantee Baisya And Akash Pal Clinch Mixed Doubles Title At WTT Cappadocia Feder In Turkey
- ✓ The Indian table tennis duo of Poymantee Baisya and Akash Pal clinched mixed doubles title at World Table Tennis (WTT) Feder tournament held in Cappadocia, Turkey.
- ✓ The duo secured their triumph after a fierce battle against fellow Indians Anirban Ghosh and Swastika Ghosh. In a nail-biting encounter Baisya and Akash emerged triumphant with a hard-fought 3-2 victory, securing the prestigious title.



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- ✓ This was the second WTT title for Pal and Baisya. The Indian table tennis pair had stunned their senior compatriots Sathiyana Gnanasekaran and Manika Batra to win the mixed doubles crown in Beirut in March.
- ✓ In the men's singles, national champion Harmeet Desai lost to Yuta Tanaka 3-1 (11-8, 7-11, 11-6, 11-8) in the round of 16. Harmeet Desai will represent India at the Paris Olympics in the men's singles and team events.

Q. What is the name of the mission unveiled by ISRO that aims to land a rover and helicopter on Mars, potentially making India the third nation to achieve this feat?

- A) Chandrayaan-3 B) Gaganyaan
C) Vikram-2 D) Mangalyaan-2

Answer : D

- ✓ India's renowned space agency, the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro), is on the verge of a historic milestone: a mission to land a rover and helicopter on Mars.
- ✓ This ambitious endeavour, a feat so far accomplished only by the US and China, aims to firmly establish India's place as a significant player in the realm of space exploration.
- ✓ The details about the upcoming ambitious project by Isro, named Mangalyaan-2, were made public during a presentation on National Technology Day (May 11) at the Space Application Centre.

Q. Which two Indian boxers clinched gold medals at the Elorda Cup 2024 in Kazakhstan?

- A) Mary Kom and Pooja Rani B) Nikhat Zareen and Minakshi
C) Sarita Devi and Lovlina Borgohain D) Simranjit Kaur and Saweety Boora

Answer : B

- ✓ Nikhat Zareen And Minakshi Clinch Gold Medals At Elorda Cup In Kazakhstan.
- ✓ In Boxing, India's reigning world champion, Nikhat Zareen and another boxer Minakshi clinched gold medals at the Elorda Cup 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- ✓ Nikhat in the women's 52 kg category, triumphed over Zhazira Urakbayeva of Kazakhstan with a 5-Nil victory, while Minakshi defeated another Uzbekistan boxer Rahmonova Saidahon, 4-1 in the women's 48 kg event.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Anamika in the 50kg and Manisha in the 60kg suffered losses to end their campaigns with silver medals.



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- ✓ The Indian pugilists concluded their Elorda Cup 2024 campaign with 12 medals, including two gold, two silver and eight bronze medals

Q. Who recently passed away at the age of 85, and had served as the former Vice-Chairman of Tech Mahindra?

- A) Anand Mahindra B) Vineet Nayyar
C) None of these D) C.P. Gurnani

Answer : B

- ✓ Vineet Nayyar, former Vice-Chairman of Tech Mahindra passed away at the age of 85.
- ✓ A former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, Nayyar also worked with the World Bank for over 10 years in a series of senior assignments, including the Chief for the Energy, Infrastructure and the Finance Divisions for East Asia and Pacific. He was the first Chairman of state-owned GAIL (India) Ltd from 1986 to 1991.
- ✓ In the private sector, he served as the Managing Director of HCL Corporation and as the Vice Chairman of HCL Technologies. He was also the founder & CEO of HCL Perot Systems.

Q. Who won the Thailand Open Super 500 badminton tournament in the men's doubles category?

- A) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty
B) Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi
C) Kento Momota and Hiroyuki Endo
D) Viktor Axelsen and Anders Antonsen

Answer : A

- ✓ Indian shuttlers Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the Thailand Open Super 500 badminton tournament with a straight-game win over Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi of China
- ✓ The Thailand Open title was the eighth title for Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty pai on the BWF World Tour. The Indian pair had won the Swiss Open, the Indonesia Open and the Korea Open in 2023.
- ✓ Men Singles Title :
- ✓ Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia defeated Ng Ka Long Angus of Hong Kong in the final to win the men's singles title.
- ✓ Women's Single Title



- ✓ Supanida Katethong of Thailand defeated Han Yue of China to win the women's single title.
- ✓ Women's Doubles title:
- ✓ Jongkolphan Kititharakul and Rawinda Prajongjai pair of Thailand, defeated the Indonesian pair of Fabriana Dwipuj Kusuma and Amallia Cahaya Partiw.
- ✓ Men's Doubles :
- ✓ Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated the Chinese duo of Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi in the final.

Q. When is the International Museum Day observed globally?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ The International Museum Day is celebrated on 18 May, since 1977, to raise awareness about the fact that "Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples."
- ✓ Theme of International Museum Day 2024 : "Museums for Education and Research"
- ✓ It is coordinated by the International Council of Museums (ICOM).

Q. The World AIDS Vaccine Day is marked on __ annually

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

Answer : D

- ✓ World AIDS Vaccine Day, (also known as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day), is observed annually on May 18 to promote the continued urgent need for a vaccine to prevent HIV infection and AIDS.
- ✓ The concept of World AIDS Vaccine Day was proposed on May 18, 1997, during commencement speech at Morgan State University made by then-President Bill Clinton, which underlined the need of a vaccine to curb the spread of HIV.
- ✓ The first World AIDS Vaccine Day was thus observed on May 18, 1998 to commemorate the anniversary of Clinton's speech.



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Q. The World Bee Day is observed on which day of the year?

- A) 20 May
B) 19 May
C) 18 May
D) 17 May

Answer : A

- ✓ The World Bee Day is celebrated every year on May 20 to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the ecosystem.
- ✓ The theme for World Bee Day 2024 is "Bee Engaged with Youth."
- ✓ The day marks the birth anniversary of Anton Jansa in 1734, who in the 18th century pioneered modern beekeeping techniques in his native Slovenia.
- ✓ The day was proposed by Slovenia and proclaimed by UN Member States in December 2017.
- ✓ The first World Bee Day was observed in 2018.

Q. What substance did the FSSAI warn traders and food businesses against using for artificial fruit ripening during the mango season?

- A) Ethylene
B) Calcium carbide
C) Potassium permanganate
D) Sodium nitrate

Answer : B

- ✓ FSSAI warns traders, food businesses against use of calcium carbide for artificial fruit ripening during mango season.
- ✓ Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a stern reminder to fruit traders, handlers, and Food Business Operators (FBOs) managing ripening chambers to adhere strictly to the prohibition of using calcium carbide for artificial fruit ripening.
- ✓ This alert comes at a critical time, particularly during the mango season, to safeguard public health and ensure compliance with the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011.
- ✓ Calcium carbide, often used for ripening fruits like mangoes, releases acetylene gas containing harmful traces of arsenic and phosphorus, also referred to as 'Masala'. These substances pose severe health risks, including dizziness, frequent thirst, irritation, weakness, difficulty in swallowing, vomiting, and skin ulcers. Additionally, acetylene gas poses hazards to handlers, with potential for direct contact with fruits, leaving dangerous residues.



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FSSAI IN NEWS 2023-24

- FSSAI warns traders, food businesses against use of calcium carbide for artificial fruit ripening during mango season.
- FSSAI to check Spices after Singapore & Hong Kong Ban Indian Spices.
- 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



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- Chairperson : Rajesh Bhusan
- CEO : G Kamala Vardhana Rao

Q. Which state-owned bank recorded the highest growth rate in total business and deposit mobilisation among public sector lenders in FY24?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) Punjab National Bank
- C) Bank of Baroda
- D) Bank of Maharashtra

Answer : D

- ✓ Bank of Maharashtra tops among PSU banks in business growth in FY24
- ✓ State-owned Bank of Maharashtra recorded the highest growth rate last fiscal in terms of total business and deposit mobilisation among public sector lenders at a time when most banks are facing difficulty in achieving double-digit growth.
- ✓ The Pune-headquartered lender has registered a 15.94 per cent rise in the total business (domestic) in FY24, followed by State Bank of India (SBI) with 13.12 per cent growth, according to published financial numbers of the public sector banks (PSBs).
- ✓ BoM continued to maintain its top spot in terms of growth in deposit mobilisation, with a 15.66 per cent rise in FY24. It was followed by SBI (11.07 per cent), Bank of India (11.05 per cent) and Canara Bank (10.98 per cent). Out of 12 public sector banks, only these four lenders could log a double-digit growth in deposits in the financial year 2023-24.
- ✓ In terms of low-cost CASA deposits, the Bank of Maharashtra continued to top the chart with 52.73 per cent growth, followed by the Central Bank of India with a 50.02 per cent rise at the end of March 2024.
- ✓ With regard to loan growth, the Kolkata-based UCO Bank was a tad higher at 16.38 per cent, followed by BoM at 16.30 per cent. SBI also reported 16.26 per cent growth in advances in FY24.
- ✓ In terms of capital adequacy ratio, the Bank of Maharashtra was leading PSBs at 17.38 per cent, followed by Indian Overseas Bank at 17.28 per cent and Punjab & Sind Bank at 17.16 at the end of FY24.



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Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI):

1. It is the principal financial institution for promotion, financing and development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector in India.

2. At present, it is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).

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

- ✓ Airbus Helicopters and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for financing the purchase of Airbus' helicopters in India.
- ✓ About Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI):
- ✓ It was set up on 2nd April, 1990, under an Act of the Indian Parliament.
- ✓ Purpose: To act as the principal financial institution for promotion, financing, and development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector, as well as for the co-ordination of functions of institutions engaged in similar activities.
- ✓ It is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Finance, GoI.
- ✓ It was incorporated initially as a wholly owned subsidiary of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).
- ✓ Currently, the shares of SIDBI are held by the Government of India (GoI) and 22 other institutions/PSBs/insurance companies owned or controlled by the Central Government.
- ✓ Headquarters: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ SIDBI helps MSMEs in acquiring the funds they require to grow, market, develop, and commercialize their technologies and innovative products.

SIDBI IN NEWS 2023-24

- Airbus Helicopters and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for financing the purchase of Airbus' helicopters in India.
- SIDBI inks MOU with Jeevika Bihar, UMED Maharashtra to extend Prayaas to rural livelihood mission.



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- FSIB recently recommended the name of IFCI Managing Director Manoj Mittal as SIDBI Chairman and Managing Director.
- SIDBI partners fintech platform KarmaLife for micro loans to gig workers.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has received \$24.5 million from Green Climate Fund (GCF) for its maiden anchored project 'Avaana Sustainability Fund (ASF)' valued at \$120 million.
- Bihar state government has signed an MoU with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to promote the startup ecosystem in the state
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- Founded : 2 April 1990
- Headquarteres : Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Chairman & MD : Siva S Ramann

Q. Which countries have been confirmed as the hosts for the 2026 and 2029 AFC Women's Asian Cup?

A) Japan and South Korea

B) China and India

C) Australia and Uzbekistan

D) Thailand and Vietnam

Answer : C

- ✓ Australia and Uzbekistan confirmed as 2026 and 2029 AFC Women's Asian Cup hosts.
- ✓ Australia and Uzbekistan have been confirmed as the hosts of the 2026 and 2029 editions of the AFC Women's Asian Cup respectively, the Asian Football Confederation said.
- ✓ The AFC Executive Committee ratified the AFC Women's Football Committee's recommendations at its third meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✓ Australia will host the continent's premier women's national team competition for the second time in history, having staged the 2006 edition. Uzbekistan will become the first Central Asian nation to organize the tournament

UPCOMING SPORTS VENUE IN NEWS 2024

- Australia and Uzbekistan confirmed as 2026 and 2029 AFC Women's Asian Cup hosts.
- Brazil was declared the host of the 2027 Women's World Cup at the FIFA.
- India will host the BWF World Junior Championships 2025 at the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati.



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- ✓ Dubai's DP World, a global provider of supply chain solutions, announced the launch of operations at Integrated Chennai Business Park, the company's free trade warehouse zone (FTWZ) at Manali, about 30 km north of Chennai.
- ✓ The Chennai facility is the company's second FTWZ in India after the one in Mumbai, which is 18 months old, said Ranjit Ray, Vice President-Economic Zones, Middle East, North Africa, and Subcontinent. The third, inside the Kochi Port container terminal, which is operated by DP World, will be ready soon, he told mediapersons at the facility in Manali.
- ✓ The unit in Chennai is the largest of the three, at 125 acres and 2 million sq ft of warehouse space; in Mumbai it is 85 acres (also 2 million sq ft) and in Kochi 10 acres (0.2 million sq ft).

Q. Following the tragic death of Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash, who is set to assume the role of interim president?

A) Ali Khamenei

B) Mohammad Mokhber

C) Hassan Rouhani

D) Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

Answer : B

- ✓ Iran President Raisi dies in helicopter crash; Mohammad Mokhber to become as interim president.
- ✓ Iran's hardline President Ebrahim Raisi tragically died in a helicopter crash in the mountainous northwestern region of Iran. Alongside President Raisi, several other significant figures were on the helicopter, all of whom are presumed dead.
- ✓ Ebrahim Raisi, 63, was a conservative cleric and former judiciary chief. He had a reputation for his hardline stance and was known for his involvement in severe crackdowns on political dissent. He was dubbed "the butcher" by Iran's opposition due to his role in the execution of thousands of political prisoners in the late 1980s.
- ✓ For the time being, First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber will take over Raisi's duties. Mokhber is a former head of Setad, a powerful conglomerate fund that supports Khamenei's hold on power.

Q. Who recently made history as the first Indian space tourist and the second Indian to venture into space?

A) Rakesh Sharma

B) Kalpana Chawla

C) Gopi Thotakura

D) Sunita Williams

Answer : C



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- ✓ Gopi Thotakura makes history, becomes 1st Indian to go to space as tourist.
- ✓ Indian expatriate Gopi Thotakura made history as the first Indian space tourist and the second Indian to venture into space, joining the crew for Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin's NS-25 mission.
- ✓ Blue Origin successfully completed its seventh human spaceflight and the 25th flight for the New Shepard program.
- ✓ Gopi Thotakura was one of six crew members. The astronaut crew also included Mason Angel, Sylvain Chiron, Kenneth L. Hess, Carol Schaller, and former Air Force Captain Ed Dwight. Dwight was selected by President John F. Kennedy in 1961 as the nation's first black astronaut candidate but never had the opportunity to fly.

Q. Who has been approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to join IDFC FIRST Bank Ltd. as its Whole Time Director for a three-year term?

A) Rajesh Kumar

B) Pradeep Natarajan

C) Anil Sharma

D) Deepak Jain

Answer : B

- ✓ RBI approves appointment of Pradeep Natarajan as IDFC FIRST Bank's Whole Time Director
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved Mr. Pradeep Natarajan's joining IDFC FIRST Bank Ltd. as Whole Time Director Mr. Natarajan will serve a three-year term in this role.
- ✓ The bank further said it will take the necessary steps to complete the formalities for the appointment of Natarajan as Executive Director.

Q. How much money has the government recovered under the amnesty scheme for exporters for one-time settlement of defaults in export obligation by holders of advance and EPCG authorizations?

A) Rs 652 crore

B) Rs 752 crore

C) Rs 852 crore

D) Rs 952 crore

Answer : C

- ✓ Govt recovers Rs 852 crore under amnesty scheme for exporters
- ✓ The government has recovered about Rs 852 crore under the amnesty scheme for exporters for one-time settlement of default in export obligation by the holders of advance and EPCG authorisations.
- ✓ The figures are likely to increase further as the exercise is on for the compilation of the data. The government has fixed March 31 as the last date for payment of customs duty plus interest.



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- ✓ Under the scheme, 6,705 applications were filed and as per the provisional figures, an amount of about Rs 852 crore has been recovered. This figure is further expected to increase.

Q. Who received the first stamp released to commemorate the completion of 200 years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka?

- A) Narendra Modi B) Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
C) Senthil Thondaman D) Ram Nath Kovind

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar received the first stamp released commemorating the completion of 200 years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka. Governor of the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka Senthil Thondaman presented the stamp to Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.
- ✓ Mr. Thondaman said the stamp is a way to attain recognition for the community which has been neglected for decades. He thanked the Indian government as well as the Sri Lankan government for the assistance given to the IOT community.

Q. Which banking group has partnered with Pine Labs to revamp payment solutions in the MENAT region?

- A) HSBC
B) Standard Chartered
C) Emirates NBD
D) Citibank

Answer : C

- ✓ Emirates NBD Join hands with Pine Labs to Revamp Payment Solutions in MENAT Region
- ✓ Emirates NBD, a leading banking group in the Middle East, North Africa, and Turkey (MENAT) region, has partnered with Pine Labs, a prominent merchant commerce omnichannel platform.
- ✓ This collaboration aims to provide companies across the region with the latest and best payment solutions, significantly enhancing digital payment systems for both online and in-store transactions.
- ✓ As part of its ambitious growth plans, Emirates NBD is leveraging Pine Labs' Credit+ platform to offer its corporate and institutional clients state-of-the-art merchant acquiring processing solutions. The rollout will begin in the UAE and subsequently extend to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Egypt.



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Q. Which bank has become eligible to apply for a universal banking license due to meeting the stringent asset quality norms set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank B) Equitas Small Finance Bank
C) Bandhan Bank D) AU Small Finance Bank

Answer : A

- ✓ Ujjivan Small Finance Bank becomes eligible for universal banking license
- ✓ Due to the stringent asset quality norms set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Ujjivan Small Finance Bank meets the eligibility criteria to apply for a universal banking licence.
- ✓ Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has met all the criteria established by the regulatory authority. The bank's gross non-performing assets ratio stood below 3% and net NPA ratio below 1% for two consecutive years, making it entitled to apply for a licence

Q. Where was the Yachting Association of India (YAI) Senior National Championship 2024 held?

- A) Goa B) Chennai
C) Mumbai D) Kolkata

Answer : C

- ✓ YAI Senior National Championship 2024 held in Mumbai
- ✓ The Yachting Association of India (YAI) Senior National Championship 2024 concluded after intense competition at the Indian Naval Watermanship Training Centre (INWTC) in Mumbai.
- ✓ The championship featured all eight Olympic classes of boats and attracted 82 participants from 10 sailing clubs nationwide. A total of 94 races, including four medal races, determined the champions.
- ✓ Teams from Army and Navy combined won the largest medal haul.

Q. Which platform has surpassed INR 1 trillion (1 lakh crore) in invoice financing for MSMEs?

- A) NSE Emerge B) RXIL TReDS
C) SIDBI D) NABARD

Answer : B

- ✓ RXIL TReDS Surpasses INR 1Trillion (1 Lakh Crore) in Invoice Financing for MSMEs
- ✓ RXIL TReDS Surpasses INR 1Trillion (1 Lakh Crore) in Invoice Financing for MSMEs. MSME contributing over 30% to GDP, faces estimated credit gap of around Rs.28.2 lakh crores.



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- ✓ RXIL's Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platform has achieved a milestone by facilitating financing of over 50 lakh invoices worth ₹1,00,000 crore since its inception
- ✓ This milestone underscores the platform's role in providing accessible working capital financing solutions to MSMEs, crucial for economic growth and India's journey towards achieving a Rs. 5 trillion economy.
- ✓ In fiscal year 2024, RXIL witnessed exponential growth in monthly invoice financing volumes, currently enabling financing of over INR 6,000 crores monthly. With a target of financing INR 75,000 crore worth of invoices in FY 25, RXIL aims to further elevate its performance, demonstrating its commitment to fostering the growth and prosperity of MSMEs nationwide

Q. Which country has become the first modern nation to lose all of its glaciers, as confirmed by climate scientists?

- A) Peru
B) Chile
C) Argentina
D) Venezuela

Answer : D

- ✓ Venezuela becomes the first nation to lose all of its glaciers
- ✓ Venezuela is the first modern country to lose all of its glaciers, after the Latin American country lost its last remaining glacier on the Pico Humboldt peak was downgraded by climate scientists as an ice field.
- ✓ The International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI), a scientific advocacy organisation, said the La Corona glacier was now too small to be considered as a glacier, which may spark wider concerns over the effects of climate change.
- ✓ Venezuela had been home to six glaciers in the Sierra Nevada de Mérida mountain range, which lies at about 5,000m above sea level, but lost five of them by 2011.

Q. The government is expected to receive approximately what percentage more in dividends from public sector banks (PSBs) compared to FY23?

- A) 20%
B) 25%
C) 30%
D) 35%

Answer : C

- ✓ Govt will receive 30% more dividend from public sector banks in FY24
- ✓ The government will get about 30 per cent more dividends from public sector banks (PSBs) in FY24 vis-a-vis FY23 due to handsome payouts declared by them on the back of strong financial performance.



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- ✓ A back-of-the-envelope calculation shows that PSBs will pay dividends aggregating ₹18,013 crore to the government in FY24 against ₹13,804 crore in the preceding financial year.
- ✓ This calculation does not take into account the 15 per cent dividend distribution tax as the same also goes to the government. Out of 12 PSBs, 10 have declared dividends.
- ✓ The top four PSBs to pay rich dividends (relative to face value) in FY24 are – State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of Baroda (BoB), Canara Bank and Indian Bank. Central Bank of India and Indian Overseas Bank did not declare dividend.

Q. The second edition of India, Australia, Indonesia Trilateral Maritime Security Workshop (TMSW) conducted in which city?

- A) Chennai
B) Kochi
C) Visakhapatnam
D) Mumbai

Answer : B

- ✓ The second edition of India, Australia, Indonesia Trilateral Maritime Security Workshop (TMSW) concluded after discussing the ongoing maritime security challenges and opportunities for collaboration between the three maritime neighbours in the region.
- ✓ The theme of the workshop was 'Indian Ocean Region: Collaborative Efforts to Enhance Regional Maritime Security'.
- ✓ The exercise was conducted at INS Dronacharya, Kochi, India.

Q. Which bank has executed transaction documents to acquire a 6.125 per cent stake in CCIL IFSC Limited for ₹6.125 crore?

- A) Canara Bank
B) Punjab National Bank
C) State Bank of India
D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer : C

- ✓ State Bank of India has executed transaction documents to acquire a 6.125 per cent stake in CCIL IFSC Limited for ₹6.125 crore.
- ✓ CCIL IFSC, which will be incorporated with an authorized and paid-up capital of ₹200 crore and ₹100 crore, respectively, will operate the foreign currency settlement system and act as a clearing house and system operator at the IFSC within GIFT City.



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Answer : C

- ✓ The United Nations recognised International Tea Day is observed annually on May 21 by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to raise awareness of the deep cultural and economic significance of tea around the world and promote its importance in fighting hunger and poverty.
- ✓ The day was adopted by United Nations on December 21, 2019.

Q. When is the World Metrology Day observed?

- A) 21 May
- B) 20 May
- C) 18 May
- D) 19 May

Answer : B

- ✓ The World Metrology Day is observed on 20 May to celebrate the International System of Units.
- ✓ Metrology is the study of measurement.
- ✓ The theme for World Metrology Day 2024 is 'Sustainability',.
- ✓ 20 May marks the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875, by representatives of seventeen nations.

Q. Which day of the year is marked as the National Anti Terrorism Day in India?

- A) May 21
- B) May 19
- C) May 20
- D) May 18

Answer : A

- ✓ In India, the National Anti Terrorism Day is observed on May 21 to commemorate the death anniversary of former Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi.
- ✓ The day is also observed to spread the message of peace, harmony, and humankind and to promote unity among the people.
- ✓ Rajiv Gandhi was India's youngest Prime Minister. He was appointed as the sixth Prime Minister of the country and served the nation from 1984 to 1989.
- ✓ Mr Gandhi was assassinated on May 21, 1991 by a human bomb.



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Q. When is the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development celebrated?

A) May 18

B) May 19

C) May 20

D) May 21

Answer : D

- ✓ The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is held every year on May 21.
- ✓ The day aims to celebrate the richness of the world's cultures and highlight the significance of its diversity as an agent of inclusion and positive change for achieving peace and sustainable development.
- ✓ In 2001, UNESCO adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and in December 2002, the UN General Assembly declared May 21 to be the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

Q. What is the rank of India in World Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2024 of WEF?

A) 28

B) 36

C) 45

D) 34

Answer : B

- ✓ India jumps to 39 rank in WEF Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024.
- ✓ India was ranked 36 out of 119 countries in the recently released Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024 by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- ✓ The United States of America was ranked no.1, while India was the topmost-ranked country in South Asia.
- ✓ Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024
- ✓ The Travel and Tourism Development Index is a biennial report released by the World Economic Forum(WEF). The first Index was released in 2022.
- ✓ Earlier, the WEF used to publish the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI), biennially since 2007. The Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index was replaced by the Travel and Tourism Development Index.
- ✓ The Travel and Tourism Development Index benchmarks and measures the set of factors and policies that enable the sustainable and resilient development of the Travel and tourism sector, which plays a role in a country's development.



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- ✓ The 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index was prepared in collaboration with the University of Surrey, England.
- ✓ This year, 119 countries have been ranked on the Index.
- ✓ The Travel and Tourism Development Index gives scores to a country based on 17 pillars and 102 individual indicators. The maximum score is 7, while the lowest score is 1.
- ✓ The top five ranked countries in the world according to the 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index are as follows:
 1. United States of America -score of 5.24
 2. Spain -score 5.18
 3. Japan -score 5.09
 4. France -score 5.07
 5. Australia -score 5.00
- ✓ Bottom Ranked countries
 119. Mali score - 2.78
 118. Sierra Leone -Score 2.9
- ✓ World Economic Forum
- ✓ The World Economic Forum is a non-profit international think tank that was set up by German Klaus Schwab of Germany in 1971 to promote Public-Private Cooperation.
- ✓ According to the WEF, it is a platform that brings together the government, non-government, business, academics, and other stakeholders and to find common solutions to global issues.
- ✓ Headquarters of WEF: Cologne, Switzerland
- ✓ Report Released by WEF
- ✓ As a research organisation, it releases several reports. Some of the important reports released by WEF are as follows:
 - ✓ Global Gender Gap Report,
 - ✓ Global Competitiveness Report,
 - ✓ Energy Transition Index,
 - ✓ Global Travel and Tourism Report,
 - ✓ Global IT Report in collaboration with INSEAD and Cornell University.



Q. Which country has topped the WEF's World Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2024?

- A) Japan
B) Germany
C) France
D) United States

Answer : D

✓ The top five ranked countries in the world according to the 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index are as follows:

1. United States of America -score of 5.24
2. Spain -score 5.18
3. Japan -score 5.09
4. France -score 5.07
5. Australia -score 5.00

Q. Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024 was recently released by which organization?

- A) UNESCO
B) World Economic Forum
C) World Bank
D) UNDP

Answer : B

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the International Booker Prize:

1. It is awarded annually for the finest single work of fiction from around the world translated into English and published in the United Kingdom.
2. It is awarded only to the authors who belong to the United Kingdom.

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, 'Kairos' by Jenny Erpenbeck, translated by Michael Hofmann, has won the International Booker Prize 2024.
- ✓ It is awarded annually for the finest single work of fiction from around the world which has been translated into English and published in the UK and/or Ireland.
- ✓ This prize began life in 2005 as the Man Booker International Prize.



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- ✓ It was initially a biennial prize for a body of work, and there was no stipulation that the work should be written in a language other than English.
- ✓ This prize aims to encourage more reading of quality fiction from all over the world, and has already had an impact on those statistics in the UK.
- ✓ Eligibility: Eligible work of long-form fiction, written originally in English by an author of any nationality, and published in the UK and/or Ireland.
- ✓ Prize money
- ✓ The prize celebrates the vital work of translators, with the £50,000 prize money divided equally between the author and the translator.
- ✓ In addition, the shortlisted authors and translators each receive £2,500.

AWARDS AND HONOURS IN NEWS 2023- 24

- 'Kairos' by Jenny Erpenbeck, translated by Michael Hofmann, has won the International Booker Prize 2024.
- Chhattisgarh's environmental activist and convenor of Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan Alok Shukla has been selected for the 2024 Goldman Environmental Prize
- Noted Hindi film superstars Hema Malini and Saira Banu as well as other prominent personalities from the fields of art and culture, will be honoured with the prestigious Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Award
- Tata Group Chairman Ratan Tata was honoured with the prestigious KISS Humanitarian Award 2021.
- Amitabh Bachchan will receive Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award
- Kannada poet, Mamta Ji Sagar was honored with the World Literary Prize for her contribution to literature by the World Organization of Writers (WOW)
- India's premier national space agency, the 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.
- SJVN Limited was awarded the 15th CIDC Vishwakarma Award 2024 for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Contribution
- Renowned economist Utsa Patnaik receives the 2023 Malcolm Adiseshiah Award, an honor granted annually by the Malcolm & Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust.



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- 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)
- 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



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- 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

Q. Who among the following has won the men's single title at the 2019 Italian Open?

A) Rafael Nadal

B) Novak Djokovic

C) Alexander Zverev

D) Dominic Thiem

Answer : C

- ✓ Alexander Zverev won the single title of the Italian Open tennis tournament, while the women's singles title was won by the world no.1 player Iga Swiatek.
- ✓ This was the second Italian open title for Alexander Zverev, while it was the third Italian title for Iga Swiatek.
- ✓ German Alexander Zverev defeated the first-time Masters finalist Nicolas Jarry of Chile in straight sets 6-4, 7-5 to win the 2024 Italian Open Masters 1000 title. This was also Zverev's second Italian Open title.
- ✓ The 2024 Italian Open title was the overall eighth Masters title for Tokyo Olympic gold medal winner Alexander Zverev



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Q. Who has won the women's singles title of the 2024 Italian Open tennis tournament?

A) Iga Swiatek

B) Aryna Sabalenka

C) Elena Rybakina

D) Coco Gauff

Answer : A

- ✓ World no.1 Iga Swiatek of Poland defeated Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in straight sets 6-2 6-3 to win her 21st career title.
- ✓ This was the third Italian Open title for Iga Swiatek in the last four years. Last year she failed to qualify for the final.
- ✓ Doubles winner of Italian open
- ✓ In the men's doubles the pair of Marcell Granollers (Spain) and Horacio Zeballos (Argentina) defeated the pair of Mate Pavic(Croatia) and Marcelo Arevalo (El Salvador) in straight sets 6-2 6-2.
- ✓ In the women's doubles, the Italian pair of Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini defeated the
- ✓ pair of Coco Gauff (America) and Erin Routliffe (New Zealand) in the final

Q. Which institute has recently presented a research report on 'Air pollution and health effects in North India'?

A) IIT Mumbai

B) IIT Delhi

C) IIT Jaipur

D) IIT Varanasi

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently, researchers from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur have published a research in the journal Nature Communications, which describes the sources and composition of particulate matter (PM) harmful to human health in North India.
- ✓ In this research, the oxidative capacity of Indian PM has been found to be five times higher than that of Chinese and European cities.

IIT IN NEWS 2023-24

- Alliance of Digital India Foundation (ADIF) and IIT Guwahati incubation center sign MoU to boost startup ecosystem
- Experimental Licence Module for 100 5G Labs' launched at IIT Madras



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- President of India Draupadi Murmu launched India's first domestic gene therapy for cancer at IIT Bombay.
- French aerospace and defence firm Starburst Accelerator SARL has partnered with the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) to set up an innovative hub for start-ups with €100 million in funding support.
- IIT Madras has developed an indigenous electric standing wheelchair called 'NeoStand,' claimed to be India's most customizable wheelchair for the benefit of wheelchair users
- Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) and the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee (IIT Roorkee) have collaborated to establish a Centre of Excellence and Industry Accelerator in the automotive and electric vehicle (EV) sector.
- Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IIT Guwahati) transferred swine fever vaccine technology to BioMed Pvt. Ltd.
- Uttar Pradesh government will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IIT Roorkee for better disaster management in the state.
- Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT-K) has successfully established and tested India's first Hypervelocity Expansion Tunnel Test Facility .
- IREDA has entered into an agreement with IIT Bhubaneswar to promote innovation and research in the renewable energy sector.
- IIT Madras to open new campus at Kandy in Sri Lanka.
- ArcelorMittal and ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India materials and engineering resources being deployed to construct Asia's first Hyperloop testing facility at IIT Madras, Chennai, India
- Reliance Jio Infocomm, India's largest telecom service provider, is working with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay to launch 'Bharat GPT', a large language model specifically tailor for India's needs.
- IIT Guwahati recently developed an indigenous river model, BRAHMA-2D.
- IIT Kanpur, Indian Navy join forces to drive innovation through research partnership.
- SAMRIDHI conclave, a deeptech startup acceleration drive launched at IIT Ropar.
- The First Australia India Education and Skill Council (AIESC) meeting was held at IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- IIT Kanpur and Airbus to collaborate to boost aerospace talent base in India.



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- IIT Kanpur has signed an MoU with private lender ICICI Bank to support the startup ecosystem in the institute.
- IIT Guwahati have developed pharmaceutical and food products from tea factory waste.
- IIT Jodhpur scientists develop 'CODE' device for good air quality.
- IIT Madras-incubated space tech startup GalaxEye Space on 29 August 2023 launched their drone-based synthetic aperture radar (SAR) system, Ahead of their planned satellite launch in 2024.
- IIT Bombay has received a donation of \$18.6 million from an alumnus towards the establishment of a Green Energy and Sustainability Research Hub.
- IIT Guwahati has signed MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy.

Q. Who has been elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2024-25?

A) Sanjiv Puri

B) Rajiv Memani

C) Sanjay Nayar

D) Anish Shah

Answer : A

- ✓ Sanjiv Puri, ITC MD elected CII President for 2024-25.
- ✓ Chairman and Managing Director of ITC, Sanjiv Puri, has been elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2024-25. Sanjiv Puri replaces R Dinesh, Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions as the President of CII.
- ✓ Rajiv Memani has been appointed as the new President-Designate, and R Mukundan has been elected as the new Vice President of the CII for 2024-25
- ✓ Sanjiv Puri is currently the Chairman & Managing Director of ITC Ltd. Sanjiv Puri is an alumnus of IIT, Kanpur, and Wharton School of Business, United States of America.
- ✓ He was appointed Chairman of the Expert Group on agri-exports set up by the 15th Finance Commission. He has also been a member of the NITI Aayog Group on 'Farm to Table-driving India's agriculture sector digitally'.
- ✓ Sanjiv Puri was given the 'Best CEO Award' by Business Today in 2024. He was also honoured with the 'Transformational Leader Award 2022-23' by the Asian Centre for Corporate Governance and Sustainability.



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- ✓ R Mukundan as Vice President of Cii 2024-25
- ✓ About Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)
- ✓ The Confederation of Indian Industry is one of the oldest business lobby groups in India. It traces its origin to the setting up of the Engineering and Iron Trades Association in Bengal in 1895. After many changes in its name, it was renamed as Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI) in 1986.
- ✓ It assumed its present name, Confederation of Indian Industry, in 1992.
- ✓ It is an industry lobby group which represents business groups in India and puts pressure on the government to make business-friendly policies.
- ✓ Headquarters: New Delhi.
- ✓ Apart from the CII, the other important business lobby groups in India are
- ✓ Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)- President Sanjay Nayar
- ✓ Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) -Dr. Anish Shah is the President for 2023-2024
- ✓ National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)- Debjani Gosh, President of NASSCOM since 2018

Q. Who has been elected as the president of Vietnam?

- A) Bùi Thanh Sơn
- B) Lê Thành Long
- C) Phạm Thị Thanh Trà
- D) Lo Tam

Answer : D

- ✓ To Lam elected as the New President of Vietnam.
- ✓ General To Lam was elected as the new president of Vietnam by the Vietnamese parliament on 22 May 2024.
- ✓ To Lam, who was the public security minister, was removed from his post as minister by the Vietnamese parliament before being elected president.
- ✓ The appointment comes after Vietnam's former President Vo Van Thuong resigned two months back amid a corruption crackdown
- ✓ General To Lam to be president for 2021-2026 tenure



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- ✓ Vietnam is ruled by one party—the Communist Party of Vietnam. General To Lam who is a member of the Communist Party's politburo, was the only candidate for the president post. He was elected by Vietnam's parliament—the National Assembly—for a tenure till 2026.
- ✓ The National Assembly of Vietnam has 500 members who are elected for 5 years and sit two times a year. The National Assembly elects the president and vice president of Vietnam
- ✓ About Vietnam
- ✓ Vietnam is a communist country which lies in Southeast Asia.
- ✓ Capital : Hanoi
- ✓ Currency : Dong
- ✓ Prime Minister :Pham Minh Chinh
- ✓ President : To Lam

NEWLY PRESIDENT IN NEWS 2023-24

- William Lai Ching-te : Taiwan
- Lo Tam : Vietnam
- José Raúl Mulino : Panama
- 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
- Emmerson Mnangagwa : Zimbabwe
- Edgars Rinkevics : Latvian
- Tayyip Erdogan : Turkey
- Bola Tinubu : Nigeria



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- Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu : Bangladesh
- Ram Chandra Paudel : Nepal
- Xi Jinping : China (third term)

Q. The PM-WANI Scheme, recently seen in the news primarily aims to:

- A) establish fiber optic networks across the country
- B) encourage the use of digital payments and e-commerce in rural markets
- C) provide affordable and high-speed internet connectivity to the public in remote areas
- D) develop a centralized digital infrastructure for public services

Answer : C

- ✓ Public wifi hotspots under the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme are nearing the 2-lakh mark in the country.
- ✓ About PM-WANI Scheme:
- ✓ It was launched by the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) in December 2020 to provide affordable and high-speed internet connectivity to the public in rural and remote areas of the country.
- ✓ The scheme aims to establish a public Wi-Fi network across the country through the creation of Wi-Fi Access Points (WAPs) set up by public data offices (PDOs).
- ✓ The WAPs will operate on an open-architecture system, allowing multiple service providers to offer their services to the public through a single platform.
- ✓ PM-WANI ecosystem: It consists of four parts: Public Data Office (PDO), Public Data Office Aggregator (PDOA), App Provider, and Central Registry.
- ✓ PDO establishes Wi-Fi hotspots and provides internet access to users. There shall be no license required by PDOs from the DoT for providing broadband Internet through these public Wi-Fi networks.
- ✓ PDOA provides authorisation and accounting services to PDOs. PDOA provides user interface for the user to buy a plan and keep track of their data consumption. PDOA need not pay any license fees.
- ✓ The small shopkeepers can become PDOs as last-mile access service providers and take services from PDOAs for Internet and backend services



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Q. The 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index has been prepared by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with which institution?

- A) Surrey University, England.
- B) University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- C) University of Oxford, United Kingdom
- D) Harvard University, United States

Answer : A

- ✓ The 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index was prepared in collaboration with the University of Surrey, England.

Q. Which UN body has signed a MoU with the government of India for India's first animal vaccine supply chain management?

- A) UNEP
- B) UNDP
- C) WEF
- D) WHO

Answer : B

- ✓ DAHD & UNDP MoU on Digitalisation of Animal Vaccine Cold Chain Mgmt.
- ✓ Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India on Digitalization of Vaccine Cold Chain Management, Communication Planning and Capacity Building.
- ✓ The agreement was signed by Alka Upadhyay, Secretary of the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, and Caitlin Wiesen, UNDP Resident Representative in India in New Delhi
- ✓ India is the most populous country in the world with 142.86 Crore people, 53.57 Million farm animals and 85.18 Million poultry. To keep these animals healthy, the government has started a vaccination programme.
- ✓ Also, humans who are in close contact with infected animals can become infected with various Zoonotic diseases, such as bird flu and coronavirus.
- ✓ Zoonotic diseases refer to diseases caused in humans due to viruses, bacteria, etc., being transmitted from an infected animal to a human who is in close contact with the infected animal.
- ✓ The government has adopted a One Health Approach to deal with this problem.



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- ✓ The UNDP will support and strengthen India's first animal vaccine supply chain management system to protect communities and animals and prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases.
- ✓ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- ✓ The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was set up by the United Nations in 1965 by merging United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance with the United Nations Special Fund.
- ✓ The UNDP focus on three main areas:
 - ✓ Sustainable development
 - ✓ Democratic governance and peacebuilding
 - ✓ Climate and disaster resilience
- ✓ Headquarters: New York, the United States of America.
- ✓ Administrator : Achim Steiner.

Q. Who won the first gold medal for India at the 11th World Para Athletics Championship 2024?

- A) Deepthi Jeevanji B) Poonam Agrawal
C) Preethi Pal D) Ekta Bhyan

Answer : A

- ✓ Deepthi Jeevanji sets a world record in women's 400 m T20 event.
- ✓ Deepthi Jeevanji of Telangana has set a new world record in the 400-meter T 20 event at the World Para Athletics Championship 2024.
- ✓ She clocked a world record timing of 55.07 seconds.
- ✓ India has won five medals so far in the championships: 2 gold, 3 silver, and 2 bronze.
- ✓ First Gold medal for India at World Para Athletics Championship
- ✓ Tha Hangzhou Asian Games Paralympics champion Deepthi Jeevanji won the first gold for India at the World Para Athletics Championship.
- ✓ She broke the world record of American Breanna Clark's record of 55.12 seconds in 400 meters T 20 events. Deepthi Jeevanji broke the record with a time of 55.07 seconds.
- ✓ With this win, Deepthi Jeevanji also qualified for the 2024 Paris Summer Paralympics.
- ✓ T 20 events are for the 'mentally impaired' athletes
- ✓ Ekta Bhyan wins second gold for India



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- ✓ 38-year-old Ekta Bhyan won India's second gold medal at the World Para Athletics Championship in the women's F51 club throw competition. She threw 20.12 meters to win the gold.
- ✓ Ekta, a Haryana Civil Services (HCS) officer, had won a bronze medal in the 2018 Asian Para Games in China.
- ✓ The first medal for India in the 11th World Para Athletics Championships 2024 was won by Nishad Kumar. He won a silver medal in the men's high jump T47 event. He cleared the height of 1.99m.
- ✓ In the women's 200m T35 event.
- ✓ Preethi Pal won a bronze medal in the 200m T35 event, clocking 30.49, It is India's first-ever para track medal in the tournament.
- ✓ India won a record 10 medals—three gold, four silver, and three bronze—at the 10th World Para Athletics Championships 2023, held in Paris, France.
- ✓ The 11th World Para Athletics Championship is being held in the Japanese city of Kobe from 17 -25 May 2024.

Q. EKta Bhyan who was in recently, belongs to which field?

- A) Para-athlete
- B) Gymnastics
- C) Alpine skiing
- D) skating

Answer : A

- ✓ She is a para-athlete and won a gold medal in the World Para Athletics Championship 2024 in the women's F51 club throw event.

Q. Who won the first medal for India at the 11th World Para Athletics Championship 2024?

- A) Rampal Chahar
- B) Nikhil Chittarasu
- C) Vijay Singh Chauhan
- D) Nishad Kumar

Answer : D

- ✓ The first medal for India in the 11th World Para Athletics Championships 2024 was won by Nishad Kumar. He won a silver medal in the men's high jump T47 event. He cleared the height of 1.99m



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Q. William Lai Ching-te, who has become the new president of Taiwan, belongs to which political party?

- A) Kuomintang B) New Power Party
C) Democratic Progressive Party D) Taiwan People's Party

Answer : C

- ✓ William Lai Ching-te takes oath as the new President of Taiwan
- ✓ William Lai Ching-te was sworn in as the new president of the Republic of China or Taiwan on 20 May 2024. It marks the third consecutive term for the ruling Democratic Progressive Party. The outgoing president, Tsai-Ing Wen, was also from the Democratic Progressive Party. Lai Ching-te was the vice president under the Tsai-Ing Wen administration.
- ✓ Vice President Hsia Bi-khim also took the oath as the country's vice president
- ✓ Taiwan is an island country in the West Pacific Ocean. It lies around 160 km from the southeastern coast of China.
- ✓ China, officially known as the People's Republic of China, views Taiwan as a breakaway province that must become part of It. The Chinese government has not ruled out using force to integrate Taiwan into China.

Q. Who among the following has won the men's single title at the 2019 Italian Open?

- A) Rafael Nadal
B) Novak Djokovic
C) Alexander Zverev
D) Dominic Thiem

Answer : C

- ✓ Alexander Zverev won the single title of the Italian Open tennis tournament, while the women's singles title was won by the world no.1 player Iga Swiatek.
- ✓ This was the second Italian open title for Alexander Zverev, while it was the third Italian title for Iga Swiatek.
- ✓ German Alexander Zverev defeated the first-time Masters finalist Nicolas Jarry of Chile in straight sets 6-4, 7-5 to win the 2024 Italian Open Masters 1000 title. This was also Zverev's second Italian Open title.
- ✓ The 2024 Italian Open title was the overall eighth Masters title for Tokyo Olympic gold medal winner Alexander Zverev



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Q. Who has won the women's singles title of the 2024 Italian Open tennis tournament?

A) Iga Swiatek

B) Aryna Sabalenka

C) Elena Rybakina

D) Coco Gauff

Answer : A

- ✓ World no.1 Iga Swiatek of Poland defeated Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in straight sets 6-2 6-3 to win her 21st career title.
- ✓ This was the third Italian Open title for Iga Swiatek in the last four years. Last year she failed to qualify for the final.
- ✓ Doubles winner of Italian open
- ✓ In the men's doubles the pair of Marcell Granollers (Spain) and Horacio Zeballos (Argentina) defeated the pair of Mate Pavic(Croatia) and Marcelo Arevalo (El Salvador) in straight sets 6-2 6-2.
- ✓ In the women's doubles, the Italian pair of Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini defeated the pair of Coco Gauff (America) and Erin Routliffe (New Zealand) in the final

Q. Where was the 'India's Progressive Path in the Administration of Criminal Justice System conference organised recently?

A) Mumbai, Maharashtra

B) Guwahati, Assam

C) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

D) Hyderabad, Telangana

Answer : B

- ✓ Union Ministry of Law and Justice, in association with the Assam Government, has organised a two-day conference, 'India's Progressive Path in the Administration of Criminal Justice System', in Guwahati, Assam, on 18th- 19th May 2024.
- ✓ The aim of the conference was to create awareness about the recent changes made by the government in repealing British-era criminal law and the enactment of new laws related to the criminal justice system in the country
- ✓ The recently enacted three laws which seek to overhaul the criminal justice system of the country are as follows:
 - ✓ Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, which will replace the Indian Penal Code 1860,
 - ✓ Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, which will replace the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, and
 - ✓ Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023 which will replace the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.



- ✓ President of India has notified that these three new laws related to the Indian criminal justice system will be implemented on July 1, 2024.
- ✓ Thus to make the legal fraternity and other stakeholders aware of these three laws, the Conference has been organised by the Union Ministry of Law and Justice

Q. Which European country has recently granted country status to Palestine?

- A) Norway, Ireland and Spain B) Norway, Portugal and France
C) Germany, Greece and Italy D) Norway, Portugal and Spain

Answer : A

- ✓ Norway, Ireland and Spain recently granted statehood status to Palestine in a historic move. In protest against this decision, Israel has ordered the recall of its ambassadors from Norway and Ireland. Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre said in his decision that it will be officially announced from May 28

Q. Which day of the year is celebrated as the International Day for Biological Diversity?

- A) 20 May B) 22 May
C) 21 May D) 19 May

Answer : B

- ✓ The International Day for Biological Diversity (also known as World Biodiversity Day) is a United Nations–sanctioned international day held on May 22 every year to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.
- ✓ The theme of the 2024 International Day for Biodiversity is ‘Be part of the Plan’.

Q. Which Indian public sector company has been awarded third in the world at the ATD BEST Awards 2024?

- A) NTPC Limited
B) SJVN
C) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)
D) Power Finance Corporation (PFC)

Answer : A

- ✓ NTPC secures 3rd rank at ATD BEST Awards 2024.



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- ✓ The public sector company NTPC was awarded the third rank in the world at the ATD BEST Awards 2024. The award ceremony was held in New Orleans, United States of America, on 21 May 2024
- ✓ ATD BEST Awards
- ✓ The Association of Talent Development (ATD), USA, gives the ATD BEST Awards in the field of Learning and Development. The award was instituted in 2003.
- ✓ The award recognises small and large private, public and not-for-profit organisations that use talent development as a strategic business tool and demonstrate enterprise-wide success through effective employee development practices.

NTPC IN NEWS 2023-24

- NTPC was awarded the third rank in the world at the ATD BEST Awards 2024.
- NTPC inks pact with RINL for supply of limestone.
- 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.



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- 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.
- 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. What was the approximate average price per share at which HDFC Bank sold its stake in Protean eGov Technologies?

A) Rs 1,100.50

B) Rs 1,120.75

C) Rs 1,160.15

D) Rs 1,180.90

Answer : C

- ✓ HDFC Bank exits Protean eGov Technologies; sells entire stake for ₹150 crore.
- ✓ Private sector lender HDFC Bank sold its entire 3.20 per cent stake in Protean eGov Technologies for Rs 150 crore through an open market transaction.
- ✓ According to the bulk deal data available with the BSE, HDFC Bank sold 12,94,326 shares, amounting to a 3.20 per cent stake in Protean eGov Technologies. The shares were offloaded at an average price of Rs 1,160.15 apiece, taking the transaction value to Rs 150.16 crore.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Nippon India Mutual Fund purchased 12.78 lakh shares or 3.16 per cent stake in Protean eGov Technologies for Rs 148 crore.



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HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- HDFC Bank exits Protean eGov Technologies; sells entire stake for ₹150 crore.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided \$500 million loan to HDFC Bank for extending microloans to “underserved women” in rural and semi-urban India.
- HDFC Bank launches Pixel Play, India’s First Virtual Credit Card with Cashback.
- HDFC Bank, Atal Innovation Mission empower social sector startups with Rs 19.6 crore grants.
- 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



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➤ Tagline : We understand your world

Q. How much dividend will the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) pay to the government for the fiscal year ending March 31?

A) Rs 1.05 lakh crore

B) Rs 1.50 lakh crore

C) Rs 2.01 lakh crore

D) Rs 2.11 lakh crore

Answer : D

- ✓ Government gets Rs 2.11 lakh crore from RBI by way of dividend.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) will pay a record Rs 2.1 lakh crore dividend to the government for the fiscal ended March 31, more than double of what was budgeted expectation, helping shore up revenue ahead of a new government taking office. The RBI board approved the transfer of surplus, the central bank said.
- ✓ The government had budgeted a receipt of Rs 1.02 lakh crore as dividends from the RBI, public sector banks and financial institutions in the interim budget for the fiscal year 2024-25 (April 2024 to March 2025) presented in February this year.
- ✓ The dividend or surplus transfer by the RBI to the Centre was Rs 87,416 crore for the fiscal 2022-23. The previous high was Rs 1.76 lakh crore in 2018-19.

Q. What license has Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services received from the insurance regulator IRDAI?

A) Brokerage license

B) Corporate agency license

C) Underwriting license

D) Reinsurance license

Answer : B

- ✓ Mahindra & Mahindra Finance secures IRDAI license to offer tailored insurance plans.
- ✓ Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services said it has received corporate agency licence from insurance regulator IRDAI, which will enable it to sell life and general insurance policies offered by various insurers. The registration shall be valid from May 21, 2024 to May 20, 2027
- ✓ The registration as 'Corporate Agent (Composite)' will enable the company to undertake supplemental business activity of soliciting and procuring insurance business in the areas of life, health and general insurance — both group and individual.



Q. What was the main focus of Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024, which CDS Gen Anil Chauhan attended?

- A) Enhancing nuclear capabilities B) Strengthening cyber defence capabilities
C) Improving air force strategies D) Expanding naval operations

Answer : B

- ✓ CDS Gen Anil Chauhan attends Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024.
- ✓ Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan attended 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024', and underscored the importance of strengthening India's cyber defence capabilities.
- ✓ The comprehensive cyber defence exercise is being conducted by Defence Cyber Agency from 20 – 24 May 2024. It aims to further develop Cyber Defence Capability of all Cyber security organisations and promote synergy amongst all stakeholders. It focusses on enhancing collaboration and integration among participants from various military and prominent national organizations.
- ✓ Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024 aims to empower participants by enhancing their cyber defence skills, techniques and capabilities; share best practices, and work towards a unified and robust cyber defence posture

EXERCISE IN NEWS 2023-24

- Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan attended 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024', and underscored the importance of strengthening India's cyber defence capabilities
- Joint military Exercise Shakti between the Indian and the French forces will be held at the Joint Training Node of the Indian Army in Umroi, Meghalaya, from 13 -26 May 2024
- 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.
- 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.



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- 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
- 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.



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- 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. Which two entities recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide financial solutions to farmers for purchasing tractors and Farm Mechanisation products?

- A) Mahindra & Mahindra and HDFC Bank
- B) VST Tillers Tractors Limited (VST) and Axis Bank
- C) John Deere and ICICI Bank
- D) TAFE (Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited) and State Bank of India (SBI)

Answer : B

- ✓ VST ropes in Axis Bank to offer loan to farmers.



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- ✓ VST Tillers Tractors Limited (VST), a farm equipment manufacturer, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Axis Bank, to offer financial solutions to the farmers for purchasing tractors and Farm Mechanisation products.
- ✓ As per the agreement, Axis Bank will provide financial solutions to VST's prospective customers through its network of 5370 branches.
- ✓ As per the agreement, Axis Bank will provide financial solutions to VST's prospective customers through its network of 5370 branches.
- ✓ As per the MOU both the companies would leverage their extensive footprint to reach out to the farmers community to ensure that they have an easy access to credit facility for adapting farm mechanisation

AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- VST Tillers Tractors Limited (VST), a farm equipment manufacturer, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Axis Bank, to offer financial solutions to the farmers for purchasing tractors and Farm Mechanisation products.
- Axis Bank to groom LGBTQIA+ talent for careers in banking.
- Axis Bank has recently reappointed Amitabh Chaudhry as the MD and CEO of the bank.
- Axis Bank has launched the digital US dollar Fixed Deposits (FD) tailored for Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers at the IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) situated in GIFT City, Gujarat.
- Axis Bank to support Tata Memorial-supported National Cancer Grid.
- Axis Bank has appointed Pranam Wahi as an additional independent director of the bank for four years.
- Axis Bank signed MoU with IRMA to promote financial inclusion and literacy in India.
- Axis Bank and Fibe Partner to launch India's First Numberless Credit Card.
- Axis Bank Launched 'NEO For Business' Banking Platform For MSMEs.
- Axis Bank Introduces 'Infinity Savings Account' with Zero Domestic Transaction Fees.
- Axis Bank partners with RBI Innovation Hub to launch Kisan Credit cards.
- Axis Bank Partners with Kiwi to Bolster 'Credit on UPI' on RuPay Credit Cards.
- Axis Bank has launched the 'one-view' feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts.



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- Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as non-executive chairman.
- Axis Bank launches Digital Onboarding platform 'Sarathi' for POS Terminals.
- Axis Bank and India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd announce strategic partnership under the co-lending model.
- Axis Bank completes deal to buy Citibank's India consumer business.
- Axis Bank Partners with OPEN to Launch a Fully Digital Current Account.
- AXIS BANK
- Founded : 1993
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO : Amitabh Chaudhary
- Tagline : Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

Q. What is the name given by Microsoft to the new category of personal computers with AI features?

A) Copilot Plus PCs

B) AI-Integrated PCs

C) Microsoft Genius PCs

D) Windows AI PCs

Answer : A

- ✓ Microsoft Debuts 'Copilot+' PCs With AI Features.
- ✓ American technology major Microsoft debuted a new category of personal computers with AI features as it rushes to build the emerging technology into products across its business and compete with Alphabet and Apple.
- ✓ Microsoft calls them 'Copilot Plus PCs'. They come with a deeper integration of generative Artificial Intelligence (gen AI) and are touted to be the most powerful and efficient Windows devices to date. "Copilot Plus PCs provide a quantum leap in com.
- ✓ They boast a new generation Neural Processing Unit that can perform more than 48 trillion operations per second. The new devices promise faster and more efficient performance than their predecessors. Also, they can deliver smoother performance on Adobe Creative Cloud, Microsoft 365 and other productivity and creativity apps. The most notable aspect of Microsoft's latest Copilot+ PCs is the 'Recall' feature.



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- ✓ The new 2-in-1 Surface Pro sports a 13.8-inch PixelSense Flow display with 2880 x 1920p resolution and pixel density of 267 ppi (pixels per inch). The company is offering the device in both the LCD and OLED options

MICROSOFT IN NEWS 2023-24

- Microsoft Debuts 'Copilot+' PCs With AI Features.
- Microsoft invests €4 billion to drive AI growth in France.
- Microsoft unveiled the latest version of its 'lightweight' AI model – the Phi-3-Mini.
- Microsoft announces VASA-1 AI model to turn images into videos.
- Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella pledges to skill 2 million Indians by 2025
- Microsoft Hits The \$3 Trillion Valuation Mark But Apple Still Remains Most Valuable Company.
- Microsoft India has unveiled the 'AI Odyssey' initiative, aiming to train 100,000 Indian developers in the latest AI technologies.
- Microsoft Completes \$69 Billion Acquisition of Activision Blizzard
- Microsoft has appointed Puneet Chandok as the new Corporate Vice President of Microsoft India and South Asia.
- Infosys And Microsoft Collaborate For Adoption Of Generative Artificial Intelligence.
- Microsoft has recently announced the appointment of Aparna Gupta as the new Global Delivery Center (GDC) leader
- Meta and Microsoft have jointly announced the expansion of their artificial intelligence partnership by introducing their new large language model (LLM) called "Llama 2".
- MICROSOFT
- Founded : 1975
- Founders : Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- Headquarters : Washington DC
- Chairman : Satya Nadella
- CEO : Satya Nadella
- President : Brad Smith



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Q. What new role will Klaus Schwab assume at the World Economic Forum (WEF) by next January?

- A) CEO B) Executive chairman
C) Chairman of the Board of Trustees D) Chief Operating Officer

Answer : C

- ✓ WEF founder, executive chairman Klaus Schwab to step back from current role.
- ✓ Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF), will step back from his current role and become chairman of the board of trustees by next January, the organization said.
- ✓ The Geneva-based institution said in an emailed statement it was undergoing a planned “governance evolution” from a founder-managed organization to one where the president and the managing board assume full executive responsibility.
- ✓ Schwab’s goal was to create a forum for policymakers and top corporate executives to address major global issues and learn practices for leadership and management.

Q. What percentage of outsourced government contract jobs has the Karnataka state government reserved for women?

- A) 25% B) 30%
C) 27% D) 33%

Answer : D

- ✓ Karnataka state govt. mandates 33% reservation for women in all outsourced jobs.
- ✓ Karnataka state government issued an order mandating reservations for outsourced govt contract jobs across all its departments, with 33% of these posts reserved for women.
- ✓ This decision was made during a cabinet meeting in December, 2023. The government said it aims to ensure social justice and equal employment opportunities. The new rules apply to outsourced posts like vehicle drivers, data entry operators, cleaning staff, and Group D employees in state government offices.
- ✓ It aligns with the reservation policy applied to permanent govt positions. There are currently 75,000-plus employees holding outsourced jobs in govt departments.

Q. Who has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute (IAI)?

- A) Klaus Schwab B) Sumit Deb
C) Nagendra Nath Sinha D) John Slaven



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Answer : D

- ✓ John Slaven named Vice-Chairman of International Aluminium Institute
- ✓ Vedanta Aluminium has announced the appointment of its CEO, John Slaven, as Vice-Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute (IAI).
- ✓ In this role, Slaven will lead global initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable transformation within the aluminium industry and highlighting aluminium's crucial role in advancing the energy transition towards a Zero Carbon future.

Q. Which finance company has partnered with Tata Motors' passenger vehicles and passenger electric mobility subsidiaries to provide financing to their dealers?

- A) Muthoot Finance B) Aditya Birla Capital
C) Bajaj Finance D) Indiabulls Housing Finance

Answer : C

- ✓ Tata Motors' arms partner with Bajaj Finance to provide financing to passenger, EV dealers.
- ✓ Tata Motors said its passenger vehicles and passenger electric mobility subsidiaries have tied up with Bajaj Finance for providing supply chain finance solutions to their respective dealers.
- ✓ Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM), subsidiaries of Tata Motors, have joined hands with Bajaj Finance to extend supply chain finance solutions to its passenger and electric vehicle dealers, the company said.

Q. What license has Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services received from the insurance regulator IRDAI?

- A) Brokerage license B) Corporate agency license
C) Underwriting license D) Reinsurance license

Answer : B

- ✓ Mahindra & Mahindra Finance secures IRDAI license to offer tailored insurance plans.
- ✓ Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services said it has received corporate agency licence from insurance regulator IRDAI, which will enable it to sell life and general insurance policies offered by various insurers. The registration shall be valid from May 21, 2024 to May 20, 2027



- ✓ The registration as 'Corporate Agent (Composite)' will enable the company to undertake supplemental business activity of soliciting and procuring insurance business in the areas of life, health and general insurance — both group and individual.

Q. What is one of the key aspects of the new corporate governance regulations introduced by IRDAI for insurers?

- A) Allowing conflicts of interest in key management positions
- B) Mandating a single individual to hold both business and control functions
- C) Requiring prior approval for the appointment of Board Chairperson
- D) Permitting Chairpersons to hold multiple control positions

Answer : C

- ✓ IRDAI introduces new corporate governance regulations for insurers.
- ✓ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has asked insurance companies to seek prior approval for the appointment of their Board Chairperson, effective immediately.
- ✓ Existing Chairperson have been given until March 31, 2026, or the end of their current terms, whichever comes first, to comply with the new regulations.
- ✓ Under these new corporate governance rules, IRDAI has prohibited conflicts of interest in key management positions.
- ✓ Also, the holding of both business and control functions by a single key management person or the holding of two or more control positions by one individual is now forbidden.

Q. How many times has POWERGRID received the ATD Best Awards for its Learning & Development initiatives?

- A) Two
- B) Three
- C) Four
- D) Five

Answer : B

- ✓ POWERGRID gets global recognition for Learning & Development, receives ATD Best Awards for the third time.
- ✓ Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power, Government of India, has been conferred the prestigious ATD BEST Awards 2024 for its strategic approach to talent development driving business results.



- ✓ It is one of the newer technologies and developments in the aerospace industry.
- ✓ It is a low-altitude urban air mobility aircraft capable of carrying only a few passengers- six seater and eight seater.
- ✓ Technology used:
- ✓ Most eVTOLs use distributed electric propulsion technology which means integrating a complex propulsion system with the airframe. There are multiple motors for various functions; to increase efficiency; and to also ensure safety.
- ✓ This is technology that has grown on account of successes in electric propulsion based on progress in motor, battery, fuel cell and electronic controller technologies and also fuelled by the need for new vehicle technology that ensures urban air mobility (UAM).
- ✓ Applications: Air Taxi, Delivery, Medical assistance (EMS), Cargo Transport, Recreation

Q. With reference to AI agents, consider the following statements:

- 1. They are systems that can engage in real-time, multi-modal interactions with humans.**
- 2. They are able to understand and learn from the context of interactions.**
- 3. They can perform complex tasks autonomously like coding and data analysis.**

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Known as 'AI agents', GPT-4o and Project Astra have been touted as far superior to conventional voice assistants such as Alexa, Siri, and Google Assistant.
- ✓ These are sophisticated AI systems that can engage in real-time, multi-modal (text, image, or voice) interactions with humans.
- ✓ Unlike conventional language models, which solely work on text-based inputs and outputs, AI agents can process and respond to a wide variety of inputs including voice, images, and even input from their surroundings.
- ✓ These agents perceive their environment via sensors, then process the information using algorithms or AI models, and subsequently, take actions. Currently, they are used in fields such as gaming, robotics, virtual assistants, autonomous vehicles, etc.



Q. What is the projected size of India's digital economy by the fiscal year 2027-28?

- A) \$500 billion
- B) \$750 billion
- C) \$1 trillion
- D) \$1.5 trillion

Answer : C

- ✓ India's digital economy is growing at 2.8 percent per annum and is expected to reach \$1 trillion by 2027-28, minister of state for electronics and IT Rajevee Chandrasekhar said at an outreach programme.
- ✓ The minister further said the value of the IndiaAI mission will be doubled to Rs 20,000 crore from Rs 10,000 crore.
- ✓ The government earlier expected India to reach the \$1 trillion-mark by 2026-27 but the target has been moved by a year due to various reasons, including the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The minister further said the value of the IndiaAI mission will be doubled to Rs 20,000 crore from Rs 10,000 crore. The government earlier expected India to reach the USD 1 trillion-mark by 2026-27 but the target has been moved by a year due to various reasons, including the Covid-19 pandemic

Q. Which organizations collaborated to launch the 'SAMBAV' initiative, aimed at enhancing the skills of 1 million students and professionals in new-age technologies across India?

- A) NITI Aayog and Coursera
- B) AICTE and Skillible
- C) Ministry of Human Resource Development and Udacity
- D) IIT Bombay and LinkedIn Learning

Answer : B

- ✓ AICTE and Skillible launch advanced tech ed program 'SAMBAV' to elevate 1 million students.
- ✓ The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), operating under the Ministry of Education, partnered with Skillible, a technology platform focusing on experiential learning, to introduce an innovative initiative called Skillible's Academic Model for Business-To-Academic Ventures (Sambav).
- ✓ The initiative aims to enhance the skills of 1 million students and professionals in new-age technologies across India.



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- ✓ Sambhav will initially provide specialisation in software development, Artificial Intelligence, cybersecurity and salesforce development.
- ✓ There are plans to expand the programme to cover additional high-demand technology domains in the future, ensuring participants stay updated with emerging trends and innovations.





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NAME - PRIYADARSHINI
KALIYAMCORTHY
ROLL NO - 2120035944
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK
STATE - TAMILNADU



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY
ROLL NO - 2603003299
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART
GRAMIN BANK CLERK
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



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NAME - ISHITA GARG
ROLL NO - 2283004123
STATE - PUNJAB
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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NAME - NIPUN
ROLL NO - 1533002831
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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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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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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



👏👏 MY PAID GROUP
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN
IBPS RRB CLERK
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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