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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 - 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  
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State - Rajasthan  
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Name - Relsha Dongre  
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**Aparchit May 4th Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts**  
**By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir**

**Q. Which organization slapped penalties totalling ₹11.90 crore on 19 entities and barred them from the securities market for up to five years for indulging in a pump-and-dump scheme of shares in Superior Finlease Ltd?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ SEBI has slapped penalties totalling ₹11.90 crore on 19 entities and also barred them from the securities market for up to five years for indulging in a pump-and-dump scheme of shares in the matter of Superior Finlease Ltd.
- ✓ The regulator-imposed fines in the range of ₹10 lakh to ₹5 crore on 19 entities, including Rajneesh Kumar, Ashish P Shah and Kirtidan K Gadhavi.
- ✓ Further, Sebi also barred 17 entities, including Kumar, Shah, and Gadhavi from the securities markets for five years

**PENALTY IN NEWS 2023-24**

- SEBI imposes ₹11.90 crore fine on 19 entities for Superior Finlease 'pump and dump'
- IRDAI imposes a fine of Rs 1 crore on IPO-bound Go Digit Insurance
- RBI has imposed a penalty of ₹1 crore on IDFC First Bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.
- RBI imposes Rs 1.31 cr fine on Tamilnad Mercantile Bank for non-compliance.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.4 crore on Bank of India for non-compliance with certain regulatory norms.
- Paytm's trouble escalated further with the Financial Intelligence Unit-India slapping a ₹5.49 crore penalty on Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) for violating Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) obligations
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to waive the ₹5 crore penalty that was previously imposed on Bank of Baroda.
- RBI imposes Rs 8.8 lakh penalty on Power Finance Corporation for non-compliance.





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- Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has fined Air India ₹1.1 crore for safety violations on certain flights.
- RBI took regulatory action imposing penalties on Bank of America, N.A. and HDFC Bank Ltd. for violations of specific norms.
- RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs. 10,000 on Bank of America, N.A. for violating the reporting requirements under the liberalized Remittances Scheme of FEMA 1999.
- HDFC Bank Ltd also faced a penalty of Rs.10,000 for violating directions related to the acceptance of deposits from non-residents.
- RBI Imposes ₹2.5 Crore Penalty On L&T Finance For Non Compliance.
- This penalty has been levied due to non-compliance with specific provisions of the Non-Banking Financial Company.
- RBI Imposes ₹5.4 Crore Penalty On Paytm Payments Bank.
- Paytm Payments Bank was penalized for “non-compliance with certain provisions of the ‘Reserve Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC)) Directions, 2016’.”
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹12.19 crore on ICICI Bank and ₹3.95 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank for non-compliance of certain regulatory norms.

**Q. What are Krish and Bhoomi, which were in the news recently?**

A) Aircraft

B) AI news anchor

C) Missile

D) Drone

**Answer : B**

- ✓ DD Kisan channel to launch AI anchor Krish and Bhoomi on 26 May 2024.
- ✓ The government of India-run public broadcaster Doordarshan has announced that its channel DD Kisan will launch two artificial intelligence (AI) anchors, Krish and Bhoomi, on 26 May 2024. The DD Kisan channel was launched on 26 May 2015 and is celebrating the 9th year of its foundation.
- ✓ First AI News Anchor in the World and India
- ✓ The first AI news anchor in the world was introduced by the Chinese state news agency Xinhua in 2018. The anchor named Qiu Hao was developed by Xinhua and the Chinese search engine Sogou.



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- ✓ In India, the first AI news anchor named Sana was introduced by the India Today group on its Aaj Tak Hindi news channel in 2023. Sana has a human-like appearance and is fed data from a computer that it can read using text-to-speech technology. She is used to giving news updates several times a day.

**Q. Which country has become the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance?**

A) Norway

B) Sweden

C) Spain

D) Switzerland

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Spain has become the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- ✓ About International Solar Alliance
- ✓ India and France conceived the idea of the International Solar Alliance as part of the effort to mobilize the countries to use solar energy to counter global warming and climate change. The Indian prime minister Narendra Modi and the French president Francoise Hollande agreed to set up the International Solar Alliance during the sidelines of the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Paris in 2015
- ✓ Spain
- ✓ Capital : Madrid
- ✓ Currency: Euro
- ✓ Prime Minister :Pedro Sanchez

## ISA IN NEWS 2023-24

- Spain has become the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- Panama has become the 97th member country of ISA.
- Malta as the 119th country to join the International Solar Alliance.
- Chile has become the 95th member of the International Solar Alliance.
- International Solar Alliance (ISA) has announced a capital infusion of \$35 million for its Global Solar Facility (GSF), aimed at stimulating solar investments in underserved regions, particularly in Africa
- What is the International Solar Alliance?
- The International Solar Alliance is an action-oriented, member-driven, collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies as a means for bringing energy access, ensuring energy security, and driving energy transition in its member countries.



- Initially conceived as a joint effort by India and France, ISA was conceptualized during the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) in 2015.
- With its framework Agreement amended in 2020, all UN member states are eligible to join ISA.
- Currently, 116 countries are signatories, with 95 having completed the necessary ratification to become full members.
- The ISA is guided by its 'Towards 1000' strategy which aims to mobilize USD 1,000 billion of investments in solar energy solutions by 2030, while delivering energy access to 1,000 million people using clean energy solutions and resulting in installation of 1,000 GW of solar energy capacity.
- This would help mitigate global solar emissions to the tune of 1,000 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> every year.
- The Assembly is the apex decision-making body of ISA, in which each Member Country is represented.
- International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- Founded - 2015
- HQ - Gurugram Haryana
- Director General - Ajay Mathur
- Membership : 121
- ISA : Joint Initiative by India and France
- International Solar Alliance (ISA) was launched by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Former France Prime Minister Francois Hollande on 30 November 2015 during the 21st session of the United Nations Climate Change COP-21 in Paris, France to promote solar energy.
- India and France have been re-elected as the President and co-President of the International Solar Alliance..

**Q. Which country among the world's top five crude steel-producing countries has recorded positive growth in steel production in April 2024?**

- A) China
- C) Russia

- B) India
- D) United States

**Answer : B**

- ✓ According to the World Steel Association, India is the only country amongst the world's top five crude steel-producing countries to record positive growth in production during April 2024.





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- ✓ India, which is the second largest producer of crude steel in the world, recorded a growth rate of 3.9 per cent in April 2024 as compared to April 2023.
- ✓ India a bright spot amidst global slowdown
- ✓ According to World Steel Association data, the world's crude steel production was 155.7 million tonnes in April 2024, a 5.0% decrease as compared to April 2023.
- ✓ India produced 12.1 million tonnes of crude steel in April 2024, an increase of 3.9 per cent compared to April 2023.
- ✓ The world's largest steel producer, China, recorded a decline of 7.2 per cent to 85.9 million tonnes in April. China has an excess steel-producing capacity and relies on exports to keep its steel mills running. Recently, the United States of America has imposed duties on the import of Chinese steel, which is one reason for the decline in Chinese steel production.
- ✓ Japan, the third largest steel producer in the world, produced 7.1 million tonnes of steel, registering a 2.5 per cent decline.
- ✓ The fourth largest steel producer, the United States of America, produced 6.7 million tonnes, registering a decline of 2.8 per cent.
- ✓ Russia, the fifth largest steel producer, registered a 5.7 per cent decline to 6.2 million tonnes
- ✓ Reason for Positive Growth in Indian Steel Production
- ✓ India is the fastest-growing major economy in the world and is expected to remain so in 2024-25.
- ✓ The Indian government's push on large infrastructure projects in the rail, road, and port sectors has led to a huge demand for steel in the country.
- ✓ Status of Steel production
- ✓ India is the world's second-largest producer of crude steel in the world after China.
- ✓ India has the distinction of being the largest producer of sponge iron in the world.
- ✓ After China and the United States of America, India is the world's third-largest user of finished steel.
- ✓ World Steel Association, also known as World Steel, is an association of the steel industry in the world. It is a non-profit organisation set up in 1967 as the International Iron and Steel Institute.
- ✓ Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium

**Q. Which is the second largest crude steel-producing country in the world?**

A) China

B) India

C) Japan

D) Russia



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## Answer : B

- ✓ India is the world's second-largest producer of crude steel in the world after China

**Q. Which football club has won the 2023-24 UEFA Europa League?**

- A) Sevilla
- B) Bayer Leverkusen
- C) Atalanta BC
- D) Manchester City

## Answer : C

- ✓ The Italian football club Atalanta BC defeated the German football club Bayer Leverkusen 3-0 in the final of the 2023-24 UEFA Europa League, played at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin, Republic of Ireland, on 23 May 2024.
- ✓ The defeat ended Bayer Leverkusen's 51-match unbeaten record.
- ✓ The Europa League is organised by the European Football governing body UEFA. It is considered the second most prestigious football tournament for European professional football clubs after the Champions League

**Q. Which International Airport was awarded the zero waste to landfill (ZWL) accolade by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-ITC) Centre of Excellence?**

- A) Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, Thiruvananthapuram
- B) Cochin International Airport, Kochi
- C) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
- D) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi

## Answer : A

- ✓ Thiruvananthapuram International Airport was awarded the zero waste to landfill (ZWL) accolade by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-ITC) Centre of Excellence.
- ✓ It is the first airport in India to receive this recognition, achieving 99.50% waste diversion from landfills.
- ✓ The award confirms the airport's implementation of leading waste management practices.



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## AIRPORT IN NEWS 2023-24

- Thiruvananthapuram International Airport was awarded the zero waste to landfill (ZWL) accolade by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-ITC) Centre of Excellence.
- Dubai's Al Maktoum International Airport will be World's Largest
- GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) won the 'Best Airport Staff in India & South Asia 2024' award by Skytrax at the Passenger Terminal EXPO 2024 in Frankfurt, Germany
- The government of Sri Lanka has decided to hand over the management of a Chinese-built Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport in Hambantota to an Indian and Russian company
- Delhi airport included among the 10th busiest airports in the world
- Manohar International Airport, Mopa, joins 13 others in India adopting the Digi Yatra system, enhancing travel convenience.
- Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) in Delhi, India has been named the "Best Airport" in the Asia-Pacific region for six years in a row.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 15 airport projects, including the revamped Terminal 1 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi, worth over Rs.9,800 crore
- Cochin International Airport Limited has signed an agreement with Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) for the Green Hydrogen Project.
- Supreme Court recently agreed to hear a curative petition filed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) against the multinational conglomerate GMR Group concerning the operational management of Nagpur's Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport.
- So far, 519 air routes are being operated across the country under the regional level air connectivity scheme (RCS) 'Ude Deshka Aam Nagrik' (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik-UDAN).
- Government of India has officially given the status of 'International Airport' to Surat Airport in Gujarat.
- Thiruvananthapuram Airport Honored with Excellence Award for its Quality Initiatives.
- Bengaluru and Delhi Airports have jointly bagged the 'Best Airport of the Year' at the Wings India Awards 2024 in the Civil Aviation Sector.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a new terminal building at Tiruchirappalli International Airport in Tamil Nadu.
- Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to declare Surat Airport an international airport.





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**Q. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has launched a campaign to inspire people to celebrate the athletes participating in the upcoming Olympic Games in Paris. What is the name of this campaign?**

- A) Bounce to the Victory                      B) Dream Crazy  
C) Let's Move India                              D) Change the Game

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has launched the 'Let's Move India', an initiative to inspire people to celebrate the athletes participating in the upcoming Olympic Games in Paris.
- ✓ The move invites people from across the country to join the movement through a digital challenge on social media.
- ✓ Young people can take part in a series of regional school initiatives to coincide with Olympic Day on June 23. People are encouraged to recreate their favourite athlete celebrations or create their own, aiming to inspire and celebrate the Olympians heading to Paris 2024, who will be representing their 1.4 billion compatriots from July 26.
- ✓ The IOC has joined forces with Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, and an IOC Athletes' Commission member, and together, they will extend invitations to schools across the nation to join the movement, as part of the Olympic Values Education Programme

**Q. What is the name of the Buddhist festival celebrated in Sikkim to mark the enlightenment of Lord Buddha?**

- A) Saga Dawa                                      B) Drupka Tshechi  
C) Pang Lhabsol                                 D) Sonam Lochar

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Sikkim is celebrating the festival of Saga Dawa on 23 May 2023 on the occasion of Buddha Purnima.
- ✓ The Buddhist across the world are celebrating the Buddha purnima which marks the enlightenment of Siddhartha Gautama as Lord Buddha.
- ✓ Saga Dawa festival of Sikkim
- ✓ The Saga Dawa, also known as the 'Triple Blessed Festival', falls annually on the 15th day of the fourth month of the Tibetan Buddhist calendar.
- ✓ Saga means the fourth and Dawa means month in Tibetan. It is the most sacred Buddhist festival, commemorating the birth, enlightenment, and Mahaparinirvana (passing away) of Buddha Shakyamuni.



- ✓ During this month, Buddhists of Sikkim offer prayers in various monasteries of the state.

### FESTIVAL IN NEWS 2023-24

- Saga Dawa Festival : Sikkim
- Koothandavar Festival : Tamil Nadu
- Seng Khihlang Festival : Meghalaya
- Gorsam Kora festival : Arunachal Pradesh
- Chapchar Kut Festival : Mizoram
- Orange Festival : Nagaland
- Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival : Arunachal Pradesh
- Ethnic Mamani Festival : Ladakh
- International Camel Festival : Bikaner, Rajasthan
- Chandubi Festival : Assam
- International Purple Fest 2024 - Goa
- National Street Food Festival : New Delhi
- Kuno Forest Festival : Madhya Pradesh
- 'Shar Amartala Torgya' Festival : Arunachal Pradesh
- 24th Hornbill Festival : Nagaland
- Dhillio festival : Goa
- India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 : Faridabad, Haryana
- Arattu festival : Kerala
- Banni festival : Andhra Pradesh
- Zanskar Festival : Ladakh
- Indo-Latin America Cultural Festival : New Delhi
- Nuakhai festival : Odisha
- Nadi Utsav : Delhi
- Karnataka Cultural Festival : Sri Lanka .
- Unmesha' – International Literature Festival and 'Utkarsh' – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Festival of Libraries 2023 : New Delhi .
- Chachin Grazing Festival : Arunachal Pradesh



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- Harela Festival : Uttarakhand
- Bonalu Festival : Telangana
- Kharchi Puja : Tripura
- Palkhi festival : Maharashtra
- Raja festival : Odisha

**Q. Which India woman has been conferred the Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award?**

- A) Arti
- B) Soni
- C) Sonam
- D) Neha

**Answer : A**

- ✓ An 18-year-old woman E-rickshaw driver from the Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh, Arti, has been conferred with the Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award by the King of the United Kingdom, Charles III.
- ✓ The award ceremony was held at Buckingham Palace, London, England.
- ✓ Arti arrived at Buckingham Palace in a Pink E-rickshaw, which she received under the Mission Shakti scheme of the Uttar Pradesh government
- ✓ The Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award is named after the famous English Barrister Amal Clooney. The award is sponsored by a British charity, Prince Trust International. The Prince Trust International was set up by King Charles when he was Prince of Wales.
- ✓ Mission Shakti and Pink E-Rickshaw Scheme
- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh government launched Mission Shakti in 2020 to empower the women of the state through safety, security, and self-reliance. The scheme aims to provide a secure environment for women and provide training and access to livelihood schemes so that they can change their lives and become self-independent.
- ✓ As part of Mission Shakti, the government has launched the Pink E-Rickshaw scheme. The state government has aligned the Pink E-Rickshaw initiative with the Mukhya Mantri Yuva Swarozgar Yojana. Under this initiative, eligible women between 18 and 40 years old and 10th pass are provided six days of training on safety, security, and self-defence related to women's workplaces and another three days of training in entrepreneurship development.
- ✓ The woman gets an E-Rickshaw at a low-interest rate loan with a subsidy of Rs 49,5000.





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**Q. Which country's team won the gold medal in the 4x400 meters mixed relay event at the Asian Relay Championships 2024?**

A) China

B) Thailand

C) Indonesia

D) India

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian athletic contingent finished the first Asian Relay Championships with three medals -one gold and two silver. The first Asian Relay Championships was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 20 and 21 May 2024.
- ✓ It also offered a chance to Asian athletes to qualify for the 2024 Paris Summer Olympics starting 26 July 2024.
- ✓ 16 Asian countries, including powerhouse China and Japan participated in the Bangkok event.
- ✓ Gold for Mixed relay team and silver for men's and women's relay team
- ✓ The India mixed relay team won the gold medal in the 4x400-meter event. With a new national record of 3 minutes 14.1 seconds, the Indian team of Muhammed Ajmal, Jyothika Sri Dandi, Amoj Jacob and Subha Venkatesan won the gold medal.
- ✓ Silver for men's 4x400 meters relay team
- ✓ The men's team of Muhammed Anas Yahiya, T Santosh Kumar, Mijo Chacko Kurian, and Arokia Rajiv finished behind the Sri Lankan team to win the silver medal. In heavy rain, the Indian team clocked 3 minutes 05.76 seconds, just behind the Sri Lankan gold-winning time of 3 minutes 04.48 seconds. Vietnam won the bronze medal in the event.
- ✓ Silver for women's 4x400 meters relay team
- ✓ The Indian women's 4x400 meters relay team comprising of Vithya Ramraj, MR Poovamma, Rupal and Prachi Choudhary won the silver medal, finishing behind the Vietnamese team. The Indian team clocked 3 minutes 33.55 seconds. The gold was won by the Vietnamese team while the bronze went to the Japanese team

**Q. According to the Wildlife Institute of India, which state has the maximum population of Gangetic river dolphins in India?**

A) Madhya Pradesh

B) Bihar

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Uttarakhand

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ According to a recent report by the Wildlife Institute of India, there are more than 4000 dolphins in the Gangetic River basin.
- ✓ Out of the 4000 river dolphins found in the Ganga River and its tributaries, more than 2000 are found in Uttar Pradesh alone. In Uttar Pradesh, the dolphins are mainly found in the Chambal River.
- ✓ Gangetic river dolphin is listed in Schedule –I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 which provides the highest degree of legal protection.
- ✓ Gangetic river dolphin was declared the National Aquatic Animal of India on 18 May 2010 by the Union Ministry of Environment and Forest.
- ✓ Vikramshila Dolphin Sanctuary in Bhagalpur, Bihar, has been set up to protect the species.
- ✓ A comprehensive action plan (2022-2047) has been developed to ensure the well-being of river dolphins and aquatic habitats.
- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh government has declared a Dolphin Sanctuary area in the Chambal Sanctuary.
- ✓ The Prime Minister has announced Project Dolphin in 2019 under the Arth Ganga part of the Namami Ganga Project.
- ✓ The aim is to double the population of Dolphins by 2030.

**Q. Who is the oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest recently?**

- A) Jyoti Ratre    B) Soni Kumari  
C) Ashalata Sinha                                      D) Arunima Choudhary

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Recently, mountaineer Jyoti Ratre has become the oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest.
- ✓ 55-year-old Ratre is a resident of Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Earlier, on May 19, 2018, 53-year-old Sangeeta Bahl became the 'oldest Indian woman to climb Mount Everest'.
- ✓ This was Ratre's second attempt to climb the world's highest peak.
- ✓ In the year 2023, he had to return from 8,160 meters due to bad weather.

**Q. Which Indian-origin professor was recently awarded the prestigious Shaw Prize in Astronomy?**

- A) Srinivas R. Kulkarni    B) Ashok Mohanty  
C) Vivek R Ranjan    D) Chandrakant R Narayan



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## Answer : A

- ✓ For his outstanding contributions in the field of astronomy, Indian-origin professor Srinivas R. Kulkarni has been awarded the prestigious Shaw Prize in Astronomy for 2024.
- ✓ Currently he is working as a professor at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech).
- ✓ He completed his Ph.D.
- ✓ He did his M.A. from the University of California in 1983. Shaw Prize is an important award given in the field of astronomy.

**Q. The President of the United Arab Emirates presented the First Class Independence Medal to the Ambassador of which country?**

- A) India
- B) Pakistan
- C) Paraguay
- D) Portugal

## Answer : C

- ✓ The President of the United Arab Emirates conferred the First Class Independence Medal to Paraguayan Ambassador Jose Agüero Avila on the occasion of the completion of his tenure as ambassador to the country.
- ✓ Paraguay is a landlocked country in South America.

**Q. Which company has acquired AI-powered women's wellness platform SocialBoat for an undisclosed amount?**

- A) Titan
- B) FastTrack
- C) Sonata
- D) Noise

## Answer : D

- ✓ Leading smartwatch and connected lifestyle brand, Noise has acquired AI-powered women's wellness platform SocialBoat for an undisclosed amount.
- ✓ This strategic move is part of Noise's broader strategy to advance innovation in smart rings.
- ✓ This acquisition will expand its tech offerings and build specialized innovation capabilities for its flagship smart wearable, Luna Ring.





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**Q. Which company has partnered with Tata Communications to launch Webex Calling in India?**

- A) Cisco  
B) Casio  
C) Starlink  
D) Reliance Industries

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Cisco and Tata Communications have launched their Webex Calling solution in India with cloud public switched telephone network (PSTN), aimed at helping enterprises move from on-premises phone systems to a global cloud calling system.
- ✓ The calls will be routed via Tata Communications' data centre in the Mumbai region, thereby helping organizations stay compliant with local regulations
- ✓ Webex Calling is a modern and complete business phone system that delivers enterprise-grade calling through a globally available cloud platform with over 14 million users around the world.

**Q. Who has become the youngest Indian mountaineer to climb the world's highest peak Mount Everest?**

- A) Suvidha Kadlag  
B) Yaashi Jain  
C) Ravindra Kumar  
D) Kaamya Karthikeyan

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Sixteen-year-old Kaamya Karthikeyan successfully summited Mt. Everest, becoming the youngest Indian mountaineer to scale the world's highest peak from the Nepal side.
- ✓ The daughter of a naval officer, Kaamya is a class 12 student at Navy Children School, Mumbai.
- ✓ Kaamya and her father Cdr S Karthikeyan successfully summited Mt. Everest (8,849 m).

**Q. When is the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula observed by United Nations?**

- A) 22 May  
B) 21 May  
C) 23 May  
D) 20 May

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Every year, United Nations' (UN) International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is marked on 23rd May since 2013 to promote action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula, a condition that affects many girls and women during child birth in developing countries.
- ✓ Theme 2024 : Overcoming barriers to provide more treatment



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- ✓ In 2003 the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and its partners launched the global Campaign to End Fistula, a collaborative initiative to prevent fistula and restore the health of those affected by the condition. The day was officially recognised in 2012.

**Q. Who is the first Indian to win the Best Actress award at the Cannes Film Festival?**

- A) Meenakshi Anoop                      B) Anikha Surendran  
C) Samyuktha Hegde                      D) Anusya Sengupta

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Chidanand Naik and Anasuya Sengupta created history at the 77th Cannes Film Festival, which is being held in Cannes, France.
- ✓ Chidanand Naik's film 'Sunflowers Were the First to Know' won the La Cined Award for Best Short Film, while Anasuya Sengupta became the first Indian to win the Best Actress award for her film Shameless.
- ✓ The Cannes Film Festival, first held in 1946, is now considered one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world.
- ✓ Chidanand Naik's short film 'Sunflowers Were the First to Know' won the La Cined Award for Best Short at the 77th Cannes Film Festival. Chidanand Naik made the film a part of his coursework at the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune.
- ✓ About the Film 'Sunflowers Were the First to Know'
- ✓ The film "Sunflowers Were the First to Know" was a joint collaboration of four students of the FTII's TV wings 1-year programme as part of their coursework. It was directed by Chidananda S Naik, filmed by Suraj Thakur, edited by Manoj V, and sound by Abhishek Kadam. All these students passed out in 2023.
- ✓ Anusya Sengupta becomes first Indian to win Best Actress Award at Cannes
- ✓ Actress Anasuya Sengupta created history at the Cannes Film Festival by winning the Best Actress award in the Un Certain Regard segment. She became the first Indian to win the Best Actress award in any category at the Cannes Film Festival.
- ✓ Anasuya Sengupta was honoured for her excellent performance in the film Shameless, directed by Bulgarian filmmaker Constantin Bojanov.
- ✓ The film Shameless is based on the story of a sex worker who escapes from a brothel in Delhi after stabbing a policeman. The film sensitively portrays a human story of survival and resilience.







### CYCLONE IN NEWS 2023-24

- Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a warning that a low depression in Bay Bengal has developed into a severe cyclonic storm Remal.
- The name Remal has been given by Oman which means sand in Arabic.
- Cyclone Biparjoy is a low-pressure area that is currently forming over the Southeast Arabian Sea.
- The cyclone was named "Biparjoy" by Bangladesh.
- IMD has issued warnings against Cyclone Mocha which is heading towards the Southeast Bay of Bengal.
- Cyclone Freddy in Malawi, Mozambique and Madagascar.
- As Cyclone Gabrielle approaches the coast of the nation, residents of Auckland, the largest city in New Zealand.
- IMD Issue Warning of Formation of Cyclone Mandous Over Bay of Bengal and hit the east coast in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh.
- Recently a powerful "Bomb Cyclone" has hit the United States, affecting at least 200 million people.
- Cyclone Yaas Impact on Odisha and West Bengal.
- Cyclone Sitrang ploughed into heavily populated, low-lying parts of Bangladesh .
- Asani' turns into severe cyclonic storm, Odisha and West Bengal on alert.
- A red alert issued in the Philippines due to Super Typhoon Noru

**Q. Which former Pakistani cricket player has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the 9th ICC Men's T20 Cricket World Cup 2024?**

A) Shahid Afridi

B) Mohammad Yousuf

C) Abdul Razzaq

D) Shoaib Akhtar

**Answer : A**

- ✓ ICC names Shahid Afridi as Men's T 20 WC 2024 Brand Ambassador.
- ✓ The International Cricket Council (ICC), the world cricket governing body, has appointed Pakistan's Shahid Afridi as the brand ambassador of the forthcoming 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup.
- ✓ The tournament will be co-hosted by the West Indies and the United States of America from 1 to 29 June 2024.



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- ✓ Shahid Afridi joins Indian Yuvraj Singh, Chris Gayle of West Indies, and Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt as brand ambassadors for the event.
- ✓ In terms of the number of teams, the 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup will be the biggest men's T-20 World Cup with 20 teams
- ✓ Shahid Afridi
- ✓ Shahid Afridi, nicknamed 'Lala', was an explosive batsman and a skilful leg spinner. His explosive batting was best suited to the limited-overs one-day International (ODI), especially the T-20 format.
- ✓ He was the player of the Tournament in the first Men's T-20 World Cup 2007, held in South Africa. Pakistan lost the final match to India

## LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR IN NEWS 2023-24

- Shahid Afridi : Men's T 20 World Cup 2024 Brand Ambassador.
- Kareena Kapoor Khan : UNICEF India National Ambassador #ForEveryChild
- Yuvraj Singh : ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024
- Usain Bolt : 2024 ICC T20 World Cup
- Sana Mir : ICC Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier
- Mahendra Singh Dhoni : Citroen
- Sanjana Sanghi : SPACE India
- Narendra Kumar Yadav : "Fit India" Movement as Brand Ambassador
- Katrina Kaif : Chennai Super Kings as Brand Ambassador for IPL 2024
- Ranveer Singh : boAt
- Deepika Padukone : TECNO
- R Madhavan : Acko
- Sourav Ganguly : brand ambassador of Tripura state to promote tourism
- Sourav Ganguly : Brand Ambassador of Bengal
- Pankaj Tripathi : 'UPI Safety Ambassador
- Mahendra Singh Dhoni : State Bank of India (SBI)
- Katrina Kaif : Luxury Swiss watch brand 'Rado'
- Chetan bhagat : Henry Harvin Education
- Mohammed Shami : Puma



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- Sachin Tendulkar : ICC as the global ambassador of ODI World Cup 2023
- Mahendra Singh Dhoni : JioMart
- Katrina Kaif : Uniqlo
- Hrithik Roshan : lubricants brand Mobilil
- Anushka Sharma : W
- Mahendra Singh Dhoni : Swaraj Tractors
- Iga Świątek : Infosys
- Rafael Nadal : Infosys
- Rahul Dravid : Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- Shah Rukh Khan : ICC World Cup 2023
- Shraddha Kapoor: Asics India Private Limited
- Rashmika Mandanna : Printer company Epson India
- Smriti Mandhana : Wrangler
- Hrithik Roshan : Zebronics TV
- Sachin Tendulkar : Smile Ambassador
- Sania Mirza : Sony Sports Network
- Sourav Ganguly : Brand ambassador of Tripura Tourism
- Virat Kohli : Duroflex
- Alia Bhatt : Gucci, the luxury fashion brand from Italy
- Ayushman Khurana : Wakefit
- Rishabh Pant : Star Sports
- Rohit Sharma : JioCinema
- Virat Kohli : HSBC India
- Ranveer Singh : Star Sports Network
- Shreya Ghodawat : India's ambassador for She Changes Climate
- MC Mary Kom, Farhan Akhtar : Brand ambassadors of IBA Women's World Championships 2023
- Sachin Tendulkar : World's first 'Hand Ambassador' for Savlon India
- Ranveer Singh : Pepsi
- Ayushmann Khurrana : UNICEF India child rights
- Yastika Bhatia and Renuka Singh Thakur : Hyundai Motor India Ltd





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- Vir Das : Plant-based meat brand UnCrave
- Harmanpreet Kaur : Puma
- Nikhat Zareen : National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
- Saurav Ganguly : Bandhan Bank 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign
- Anushka Sharma : Puma
- Deepika Padukone : Pottery Barn
- Virat Kohli : Smart watch Noise
- Prason Joshi : Uttarakhand State
- Lionel Messi : Byjus

**Q. Which state government company has added the maximum transmission lines in 2023-24?**

- A) Madhya Pradesh**
- B) Uttar Pradesh**
- C) Maharashtra**
- D) Karnataka**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ According to the recently released statistics of the Central Electricity Authority, Uttar Pradesh emerged as the number one state in terms of the addition of transmission lines by state transmission companies in 2023-24.
- ✓ In 2022-23 also, Uttar Pradesh topped the list amongst the state utilities.
- ✓ In 2023-24, the state government-owned Uttar Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (UPPTCL) added 1,460 ckm(Circuit Kilometer) of transmission lines of 220kV or above.
- ✓ Gujarat was in second place. The state-run Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Ltd (GETCO) added 898 ckm of transmission line in 2023-24.
- ✓ At the third place was Tamil Nadu. The state-run utility company
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO) added 753 ckm of transmission line.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh came fourth with its Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh Limited (APTRANSCO), adding 682 ckm of the transmission line.



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**Q. Who won the Casablanca Chess Variant tournament in 2024, held in Casablanca, Morocco?**

A) Hikaru Nakamura

B) Magnus Carlsen

C) Fabiano Caruana

D) Viswanathan Anand

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Magnus Carlsen conquers Casablanca Chess 2024.
- ✓ The world No 1, Magnus Carlsen (Europe) won the Casablanca Chess Variant tournament with 4.5 points from six rounds at Casablanca, Morocco.
- ✓ In the tournament, in which the players were required to make moves from certain positions onwards from well-known games from the past, Hikaru Nakamura of the United States finished runner-up with 3.5 points.
- ✓ Viswanathan Anand was third. The five-time World champion from Chennai scored three points. Bassem Amin of Egypt finished last with one point.

## CHESS GRANDMASTER IN NEWS 2023-24

- World No 1, Magnus Carlsen (Europe) won the Casablanca Chess Variant tournament .
- P Shyaamnikhil of Tamil Nadu becomes India's 85th Chess Grandmaster.
- International Chess Federation Awards Grandmaster Title To Indian Chess Prodigy Vaishali Ramesh Babu.
- Indian young chess player Rameshbabu Praggnanand has defeated world chess champion Ding Liren in the 'Tata Steel Masters' held in Netherlands.
- Vaishali Rameshbabu has become the 84th Grandmaster of India.
- Raunak Sadhwani (Maharashtra) won FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship.
- India's Karthikeyan Murali became the third Indian chess player to defeat World No 1 Magnus Carlsen in classical chess after he prevailed over the Norwegian at the Qatar Masters tournament.
- Divya Deshmukh (Maharashtra ) Emerges Winner Of 2023 Tata Steel Chess India Women's Rapid Tournament defeated Koneru Humpy.
- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) wins the Chess World Cup Final 2023.
- Aditya Samant becomes India's 83rd Grandmaster.
- Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has won the title of V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM Chess Tournament 2023.



**Q. What is the primary objective of the AstroSat mission?**

- A) To explore the Moon's surface
- B) To study celestial sources in multiple spectral bands simultaneously
- C) To monitor the Earth's atmospheric changes
- D) To track space debris in Earth's orbit

**Answer : B**

- ✓ A team of Indian astrophysicists has used observations from AstroSat to discover the aperiodic modulation of high-energy X-ray photons in Swift J1727.8-1613, a black hole binary source.
- ✓ About AstroSat Mission:
- ✓ It is the first dedicated Indian astronomy mission aimed at studying celestial sources in the X-ray, optical, and UV spectral bands simultaneously.
- ✓ AstroSat, with a lift-off mass of 1515 kg, was launched on September 28, 2015, into a 650 km orbit by PSLV-C30 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- ✓ The spacecraft control centre at Mission Operations Complex (MOX) of ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC), Bengaluru, manages the satellite during its entire mission life.

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Shallow Aquifer Management Project:**

1. It is a sustainable urban water management technique to address issues of groundwater depletion.
2. It is part of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) in a latest intervention has taken up Shallow Aquifer Management (SAM) model on a pilot basis in the city.
- ✓ It is a sustainable urban water management technique and addresses persistent issues of groundwater depletion, drying up of borewells, and check quick flooding of city streets.
- ✓ How it is done?





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- ✓ The project's concept is to drill shallow water injection borewells to a depth of 100-120 feet and pump out water in the shallow aquifers.
- ✓ This is done so that the layers underneath get recharged whenever there is rainfall, while collecting water from the surrounding watershed and channelling it through recharge pits.
- ✓ SAM Pilot model in India
- ✓ It is part of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ✓ Nodal implementing agency: National Institute of Urban Affairs
- ✓ In 2022, the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) initiated a SAM pilot across 10 cities in nine states: Bengaluru (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Dhanbad (Jharkhand), Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh), Hyderabad (Telangana), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Kolkata (West Bengal), Pune and Thane (Maharashtra), and Rajkot (Gujarat).

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Project Udbhav:**

**1. It is an initiative by the Indian Army and the United Service Institution of India.**

**2. It aims to bridge the gap between ancient techniques and contemporary military education.**

**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 Indian Army, under its initiative Project Udbhav, is delving into the epic battles of the Mahabharata and the strategic brilliance of past Indian dynasties, shaping India's rich military heritage.
- ✓ It is collaboration between the Indian Army and the United Service Institution of India (USI), a defence services think tank.
- ✓ The project, named 'Udbhav', translates to 'origin' or 'genesis', recognizing the profound knowledge embedded in our nation's historical texts spanning centuries.
- ✓ At its core, the project seeks to amalgamate ancient insights with modern military practices, creating a comprehensive approach to tackle present-day security challenges.
- ✓ Aim: This initiative aims to bridge the gap between age-old wisdom and contemporary military education.





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- ✓ The platform provides real-time updates on technical tools and resources, ensuring accessibility and relevance.
- ✓ The development of the GSAP SKILLS platform has been principally supported by Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea, with additional resources from the Tech4Nature Initiative launched by IUCN and Huawei in 2020.

**Q. Which company has inaugurated a simulation centre of excellence (CoE) for Airbus at its Bengaluru campus?**

A) Infosys Technologies

B) L&T Technology Services

C) Reliance Industries Limited

D) Tata Consultancy Service

**Answer : B**

- ✓ L&T Technology Services has inaugurated a simulation centre of excellence (CoE) for Airbus at its Bengaluru campus.
- ✓ The CoE is designed to provide engineering support for Airbus aircraft structural simulation activities across its business units in France, Germany, the UK, and Spain.
- ✓ The CoE is equipped with simulation software, hardware, and computational machinery. It aims to standardise processes across all Airbus European business units and aircraft programmes, streamline efficiency, and enhance productivity.

**Q. Which company has acquired 6.125 per cent equity stake in CCIL IFSC Limited (CCIL IFSC) ?**

A) DBS Bank

B) HSBC Bank

C) Citibank

D) Standard Chartered Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ HSBC acquires 6.125% stake in CCIL IFSC
- ✓ HSBC, a leading global bank and financial services major, has through its branch in Gift City executed transaction documents to acquire 6.125 per cent equity stake in CCIL IFSC Limited (CCIL IFSC).
- ✓ The investment value for this transaction stood at ₹6.125 crore.
- ✓ Clearing Corporation of India Ltd (CCIL) is promoter of CCIL IFSC Limited and will hold 57.125 per cent stake in this subsidiary.
- ✓ CCIL IFSC is being incorporated with an authorised and paid-up capital of ₹200 crore and ₹100 crore, respectively





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✓ CCIL IFSC will be responsible to build and operate the Foreign Currency Settlement System (FCSS) at Gujarat International Finance Tec (Gift) City, which is country's sole international financial services centre (IFSC).

**Q. Which company exported its first-ever consignment of 100 octane premium fuel 'XP100' to Sri Lanka?**

- A) Reliance Petroleum                      B) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation  
C) Indian Oil Corporation                D) Hindustan Petroleum

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) exported its first-ever consignment of 100 octane premium fuel, XP100 to Sri Lanka.
- ✓ The product is tailored for premium high-end vehicles.
- ✓ About XP100
- ✓ The XP100 is domestically developed, leveraging IndianOil's indigenous Octamax Technology.
- ✓ Designed with anti-knock properties, it is engineered to enhance engine performance, faster acceleration, smoother drivability and improved fuel economy.

**Q. Who has won the gold medal in the women's 40kg category at the IWF World Youth Championships?**

- A) Karnam Malleswari                      B) Kunjarani Devi  
C) Swati Singh                                D) Preetismita Bhoi

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian weightlifter Preetismita Bhoi smashed the youth clean and jerk world record in the women's 40kg category to win a gold medal at the IWF World Youth Championships here.
- ✓ The 15-year-old bettered the existing record of 75kg by 1kg.
- ✓ She lifted 57kg in snatch for a total effort of 133kg, finishing within 2kg of the youth world standard on total on the opening day of the competition.

**Q. Which Indian athlete clinched the gold medal in men's shot put at the World Para Athletics Championship in Kobe, Japan, setting a new Asian record in the F46 category?**

- A) Dharambir                                 B) Sumit Antil  
C) Thangavelu Mariyappan                D) Sachin Sarjerao Khilari



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## Answer : D

- ✓ In Para Athletics, India's Sachin Sarjerao Khilari clinched the gold medal in the men's shot put at the World Para Athletics Championship in Kobe, Japan.
- ✓ He also set a new Asian record with a throw of 16.30 metres in the F46 category, to defended his title at the world championships.
- ✓ Another Indian, Dharambir bagged the Bronze Medal in the Men's Club Throw. His final throw distance of 33.31 metres not only secured him the Bronze Medal but also set a new Asian Record in the F51 Category.
- ✓ Reigning Paralympics champion Sumit Antil had defended his F64 javelin throw world title, while Thangavelu Mariyappan and Ekta Bhyan also grabbed gold medals in their respective events. Deepthi Jeevanji from Telangana's Warangal, bagged the gold medal with a world record time of 55.07 seconds in the women's 400m T20 category race.
- ✓ With these achievements, India surpassed its previous highest total of 10 medals. India now have 12 medals in their kitty, including 5 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze. China tops the points table with 48 medals.

**Q. Which organization approved the world's first major artificial intelligence law, known as the AI Act?**

A) United Nations

B) European Council

C) NATO

D) World Economic Forum

## Answer : B

- ✓ The European Council has passed the AI Act, proposed first in April 2021, to harmonize regulations on artificial intelligence across the European Union (EU). Under the new law, which is set to take effect next month, AI systems are categorized based on their level of risk, with stricter regulations imposed on those deemed high-risk.

**Q. How much gold did the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) purchase between January and April 2024, compared to the total gold added in 2023?**

A) 16 tonnes

B) 20 tonnes

C) 24 tonnes

D) 32 tonnes

## Answer : C

- ✓ RBI buys 24 tonnes of gold in 4 months, 1.5 times more than all of 2023.



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- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has significantly increased its gold reserves, adding 24 tonnes between January and April 2024. This move is part of a strategic diversification of reserves aimed at mitigating risks amid ongoing geopolitical tensions and economic uncertainty. This increase is almost one and a half times the 16 tonnes of gold added throughout 2023, as per an analysis of RBI data.
- ✓ of April 26, 2024, the RBI held 827.69 tonnes of gold as part of its foreign exchange reserves, up from 803.6 tonnes at the end of December 2023. This marked increase underscores the central bank's proactive approach in enhancing its gold reserves, reflecting a significant shift in its reserve management strategy.
- ✓ The RBI's renewed interest in gold is part of a broader trend seen among emerging market central banks. The share of gold in India's total foreign exchange reserves increased from 7.75% at the end of December 2023 to about 8.7% by the end of April 2024.

**Q. Which city achieved the highest rank among Indian cities in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024, securing the 350th position globally?**

A) Mumbai

B) Bangalore

C) Chennai

D) Delhi

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Delhi ranks 350 in Oxford Global Cities Index Report 2024.
- ✓ Delhi has been placed 350 in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024, making it the highest ranked Indian city. The ranking compares the world's 1000 cities. In 2023, cities in the report accounted for 60% of global GDP and 30% of the world's population.
- ✓ Once again, New York achieved the highest ranking in all five categories with a score of 100, followed by London and San Jose securing the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively.
- ✓ Bengaluru, India's IT hub, stood at 411, higher than the country's financial capital Mumbai, which stood at 427. On the other hand, Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh ranked last in the index, at 1000th place. All Indian cities scored 380 in the Governance category.
- ✓ Mumbai, the Indian city that secured the 427th rank, was actually ranked 915th in the category of quality of life.
- ✓ The Index assesses over 1,000 largest cities in the world based on 5 important categories – Economics, Governance, Quality of Life, Environment, and Human Capital.





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**Q. Which company recently launched an industry-first sonic identity, symbolizing financial freedom, and became the first asset management company (AMC) in India to introduce its own brand sound?**

- A) Bajaj Markets  
B) MPOWER Financing  
C) Nippon India Mutual Fund  
D) Varaha Heritage

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Nippon India Mutual Fund Launches Industry-First Sonic Identity.
- ✓ Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited (NAM India), the asset manager of Nippon India Mutual Fund (NIMF), proudly announces the unveiling of its groundbreaking sonic identity – a powerful soundscape symbolizing financial freedom.
- ✓ NIMF is the first asset management company (AMC) in India to launch its own brand sound. This innovative initiative underscores the company’s commitment to innovation and fostering deeper connections with investors.
- ✓ Crafted by BrandMusiq, India’s leading specialist in sonic identities, NIMF’s new musical logo (MOGOSCAPE) encapsulates the core values, emotions, and persona of the organization.

**Q. Who chairs the expert committee set up by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to position GIFT IFSC in Gujarat as a ‘Global Trading Hub’?**

- A) Rajeev Kher  
B) Michael Patra  
C) Sanjay Kumar  
D) Anjali Sharma

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has set up an expert committee to position GIFT IFSC in Gujarat as a ‘Global Trading Hub’.
- ✓ The 21-member committee will be chaired by former Union commerce secretary, Rajeev Kher.
- ✓ Representatives of International Financial Services Centre Authority, DGFT, IIBX, ICICI Bank, ONGC, IOCL, Reliance Industries Limited, StoneX, NMDC, JP Morgan Chase, Tata Steel, and Arvind Limited are among the 21 members of the committee

**Q. Which team has won the 17th Indian Premier League title?**

- A) Sunrisers Hyderabad  
B) Kolkata Knight Riders  
C) Rajasthan Royals  
D) Chennai Super Kings



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## Answer : B

- ✓ KKR wins their third IPL title beating SRH in the final at Chennai.
- ✓ Chandrakant Pandit-coached Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) cricket team won their third Indian Premier League (IPL) title by beating Sunriser Hyderabad (SRH) in the final of the 17th IPL.
- ✓ The final was played at the M A Chidambaram stadium in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, on 26 May 2024.
- ✓ They defeated the Sunrisers by eight wickets to lift the trophy for the third time.
- ✓ The KKR team, led by Shreyas Iyer and mentored by former Indian cricket player Gautam Gambhir, put up a strong display in the final to comprehensively beat the SRH team by eight wickets. This was KKR's third IPL trophy, having won it in 2012 and 2014.
- ✓ Player of the Match: Mitchel Starc of KKR.

🕒 TATA IPL 2024 MOST IMPORTANT FACTS (<https://t.me/gadiscussionchannel/29819>)

🎱 TATA IPL 2024

◇ Title Sponsor : TATA (₹440 crores)

◇ Total teams : 10

◇ Season : 17th ( 2024)

◇ Opening Match : M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai (CSK Vs RCB)

◇ Final Match : M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai (KKR Vs SRH)

🏆 Champions {Rs. 20 crore} : Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) (3rd title) [ 2012, 2014, 2024]

👑 Runners-up {Rs. 12.5 crore} : Sunrisers Hyderabad (1st title) [ 2016]

♥ Orange Cap (most runs in a season) {Rs. 10 Lakh} – Virat Kohli (Royal Challengers Bengaluru)– 741 runs

♥ Purple Cap (Highest wicket-taker) {Rs. 10 Lakh} – Harshal Patel (Punjab Kings) – 24 wickets

🏆 Most Valuable Player of the Season award {Rs. 10 Lakh} – Sunil Narine (Kolkata Knight Riders)

❖ Emerging Player of the Season {Rs. 10 Lakh} – Nitish Kumar Reddy (SRH).

❖ Fair Play Award {Rs. 10 Lakh} - Sunrisers Hyderabad

👉 Mitchell Starc (Australia) became the most expensive player in the history of IPL when he was bought by Kolkata Knight Riders for ₹24.75 crore (US\$3.1 million) .



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☑ Pat Cummins (Australia)- Sunrisers Hyderabad - 20.5 Crore, becoming the second most expensive player in the IPL 2024.

📖 Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) .

◇ Captain : Shreyas Iyer

◇ Coach : Chandrakant Pandit

◇ Owner : Shah Rukh Khan, Juhi Chawla & Jay Mehta

◇ Mentored : Gautam Gambhir

◇ KKR's third IPL trophy, 2012, 2014 & 2024

◇ Motto of the team - Korbo, Lorbo, Jeetbo (we will perform, fight, and win!)

📖 Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH)

◇ Captain : Pat Cummins

◇ Coach : Daniel Vettori

◇ Owner : Kaviya Kalanithi Maran (SUN Group)

◇ Sunrisers won IPL title in the 2016 season.

◇ Chennai Super King and Mumbai Indians have been the most successful side in the IPL. Both have won the trophy five times each.

**Q. Which player has won the Orange cap for scoring the maximum run in the Indian Premier League 2024?**

A) Virat Kohli

B) Ruturaj Gaikwad

C) Riyan Parag

D) Travis Head

**Answer : A**

✓ Virat Kohli of Royal Challenger Hyderabad for scoring 741 runs in 15 matches.

**Q. Which player won the purple cup for taking the maximum wicket in the Indian Premier League 2024?**

A) T Natarajan

B) Harshal Patel

C) Jasprit Bumrah

D) Sandeep Sharma

**Answer : B**

✓ Harshal Patel of Punjab Kings XI. He took 24 wickets in 14 matches





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**Q. Who was the captain of the Kolkata Knight Riders, which won the 17th Indian Premier League title in 2024?**

A) Andre Russell

B) Sunil Narine

C) Shreyas Iyer

D) Venkatesh Iyer

**Answer : C**

**Q. How many times have the Kolkata Knight Riders won the Indian Premier League titles?**

A) 2nd

B) 3rd

C) 4th

D) 1st

**Answer : B**

✓ Three times, 2012, 2014 and 2024.

**Q. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve is located in which one of the following States?**

A) Andhra Pradesh

B) Odisha

C) Madhya Pradesh

D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Forest Department recently commenced a three-day-long elephant census at Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.
- ✓ About Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve:
- ✓ Location:
- ✓ It is located at the junction of the Eastern and Western Ghats in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, in the Erode District of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Its area is contiguous with the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka), and Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka).
- ✓ It was declared a tiger reserve in 2013.

## TIGER RESERVE IN NEWS 2023-24

- The Tamil Nadu Forest Department recently commenced a three-day-long elephant census at Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.
- Pench Tiger Reserve of Maharashtra has become India's first and Asia's fifth tiger reserve with 'Dark Sky Park'.



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- Arunachal Pradesh approves constitution of Special Tiger Protection Force for three Tiger Reserves.
- Bihar's second tiger reserve to come up in Kaimur sanctuary
- After the Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) in West Champaran district, Bihar is set to get a second tiger reserve in Kaimur district (Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary) by the end of the year.
- Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve becomes the 7th tiger reserve of Madhya Pradesh and 55th in India.
- India got its 54th tiger reserve in Rajasthan's Karauli and Dholpur districts with the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approving a proposal.
- India's Tiger Population Reaches 3,925 with 6.1% Annual Growth Rate, Holds 75% of Global Wild Tiger Population.
- Project Tiger is a tiger conservation programme launched on April 1, 1973

**Q. Which film won the Palme d'Or or Golden Palm award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival?**

A) Although I guess

B) BlackBerry

C) Emilia Perez

D) Anora Film

**Answer : D**

- ✓ 77th Cannes Film Festival Award 2024
- ✓ Palme d'Or or Golden Palm for Best Feature Film—Anora Film (United States), Directed by Sean Baker.
- ✓ Grand Prix for Best Feature Film- All We Imagine As Light(India-French), Directed by Payal Kapadia.
- ✓ Best Director for Feature Film- Miguel Gomes (Portugal) for film Grand Tour.
- ✓ Best Actor for Feature Film - Jesse Plemons (United States) for the film Kinds for Kindness.
- ✓ Best Actress for Feature Film - Selena Gomez (United States) for film Emilia Perez.
- ✓ Special Prize for Feature Film - The Seed for the Sacred Fig (German, France, Iran) directed by Mohammad Rasoulof
- ✓ The 77th Cannes Film Festival was held in Cannes, France, from 14-25 May 2024. It is considered to be one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world.

**Q. Who won the Best Actress award in the feature film category at the 77th Cannes Film Festival 2024?**

A) Selena Gomez

B) Scarlett Johansson

C) Anne Hathaway

D) Amber Heard



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## Answer : A

- ✓ Selena Gomez (United States) for the film Emilia Perez.

**Q. Who won the Best Director award in the feature film category at the 77th Cannes Film Festival 2024?**

- A) Steven Spielberg                      B) Miguel Gomes  
C) Martin Scorsese                      D) Christopher Nolan

## Answer : B

- ✓ Miguel Gomes (Portugal) for the film Grand Tour.

**Q. Which is the first Indian film to win the Grand Prix award at the Cannes Film Festival?**

- A) In Retreat                              B) Sister Midnight  
C) The Shameless                      D) All We Imagine as Light

## Answer : D

- ✓ Payal Kapadia's directed film All We Imagine as Light made history at the 77th Cannes Film when it ' won the Grand Prix prize in the feature film segment.
- ✓ Payal Kapadia became the first Indian to win the Grand Prix award at the Cannes Film Festival.
- ✓ Another Indian Cinematographer, Santosh Sivan, became the first Asian to win the prestigious Pierre Angénieux Tribute Award at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival.
- ✓ Payal Kapadia's film and Santosh Sivan Bags the Award
- ✓ For the first time after 30 years, an Indian film,' All We Imagine as Light' directed by Payal Kapadia, was nominated for the Palme d'Or or Golden Palm. Golden Palm is the highest category of award in the Cannes Film Festival or feature films. 30 years ago, Shaji N Karun's 'Swaham' film was nominated for the Palme d'Or or Golden Palm award.
- ✓ Payal Kapadia film won the Grand Prix award in the feature film section which is the second highest award in the section after Palme d'or or Golden Palm.
- ✓ Renowned Cinematographer Santosh Sivan became the first Asian to be awarded the prestigious Pierre Angénieux Tribute Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival. The Pierre Angénieux Tribute Award honours cinematographers for their careers and exceptional quality of work.
- ✓ Four Awards for the Indian's at the 77th Cannes Film Festival 2024
- ✓ This year, India has bagged four awards at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival 2024.





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- ✓ Chidanand Naik bagged the first prize for India. His short film "Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know" won a prize in the La Cined section.
- ✓ Actress Anasuya Sengupta created history at the Cannes Film Festival by winning the Best Actress award in the Un Certain Regard segment for her film Shameless.
- ✓ Payal Kapadia's directed film 'All We Imagine as Light' won the Grand Prix award.
- ✓ Santosh Sivan won the award the prestigious Pierre Ang nieux Tribute Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival for Cinematography

**Q. Who won the Pierre Ang nieux Tribute Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival 2024?**

- A) Santosh Sivan    B) Abhik Mukhopadhyay  
C) Abinandhan Ramanujam    D) Arjun Jena

**Answer : A**

**Q. Who is the first Indian to win a gold medal in Gymnastics at the Asian Gymnastic Championships?**

- A) Sunita Sharma    B) Kalpana Debnath  
C) Dipa Karmakar    D) Krupali Patel

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Dipa Karmakar of Tripura became the first ever Indian gymnast to win a gold medal in any Asian Championships.
- ✓ Dipa won the gold medal in the women's vault individual final at the Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships 2024 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on 26 May 2024.
- ✓ Dipa Karmakar scored an average of 13.566 points to bag the gold medal.
- ✓ Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (North Korea) Kim Son-hyang won the silver medal with 13.466 points, and Jo Kyong-byol, also of North Korea, won the bronze with 12.966 points.
- ✓ Dipa Karmakar was conferred India's highest sports award, the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award (now Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award) 2016.
- ✓ She was honoured with India's fourth highest civilian award, Padma Shri 2017.

**Q. Dipa Karmakar, who was in the news recently, belongs to which sport?**

- A) Alpine skiing    B) Gymnastics  
C) Biathlon    D) Swimming



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**Answer : B**

**Q. PV Sindhu lost the women's singles final of the BWF Malaysia Masters 2024 to whom?**

A) Wang Zhi Yi

B) Kie Nakanishi

C) Rin Iwanaga

D) Lee Yu Lim

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu of India failed to win the BWF Malaysia Masters 2024 Badminton title.
- ✓ She lost in the women's singles final to the People's Republic of China's Wang Zhi Yi, played in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 May 2024.
- ✓ The BWF Malaysia Masters 2024 was held in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur from 21-26 May 2024.
- ✓ Winners of the BWF Malaysia Masters 2024

Event	Winner	Runners -UP
Singles (Men)	V. Axelsen(Denmark)	Z.J.Lee(Malaysia)
Singles (Women)	Wang Zhi Yi (China)	PV Sindhu (India )
Mens (Doubles)	Kim Astrup and Anders Rasmussen (Denmark)	Jin Yong and Na Sung Sueng (South Korea)
Women's (Doubles)	Rin Iwanaga and Kie Nakanishi (Japan)	Lee Yu Lim and Shin Seung Chan (South Korea)
Mixed Doubles	Goh Soon Huat and Lai Shevon Jemie (Malaysia)	Rinov Rivaldy and Pitha Haningtyas Mentari (Indonesia)

- ✓ Badminton World Federation (BWF)
- ✓ The world badminton governing body, the Badminton World Federation (BWF) was set up as the International Badminton Federation (IBF) in 1934 at London, United Kingdom.
- ✓ Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



✓ President: Poul Erik Hayer Larsen

**Q. Who won the men's singles title of the BWF Malaysia Masters 2024?**

A) Jin Yong

B) Na Sung Sueng

C) V. Axelsen

D) Rinov Rivaldy

**Answer : C**

### SPORTS IN NEWS 2024

- PV Sindhu of India failed to win the BWF Malaysia Masters 2024 Badminton title. She lost in the women's singles final to the People's Republic of China's Wang Zhi Yi, played in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 May 2024.
- Dipa Karmakar of Tripura became the first ever Indian gymnast to win a gold medal in any Asian Championships.
- Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) cricket team won their third Indian Premier League (IPL) title by beating Sunriser Hyderabad (SRH) in the final of the 17th IPL 2024.
- ICC names Shahid Afridi as Men's T 20 WC 2024 Brand Ambassador
- The Italian football club Atalanta BC defeated the German football club Bayer Leverkusen 3-0 in the final of the 2023-24 UEFA Europa League
- 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.
- Indian badminton pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the Thailand Open 2024 badminton men's doubles title by defeating the Chinese duo of Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi in the final played on 19 May 2024
- Japan defeated Pakistan to win the 30th Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy.
- Spanish football club Real Madrid has been crowned the La Liga 2023-24 season title after beating Cadiz 3-0.
- World no.1 women's tennis players Iga Swiatek and Andrey Rublev won the women's and men's singles titles at the 2024 Madrid Open, respectively
- P Shyaamnikhil of Tamil Nadu becomes India's 85th Chess Grandmaster
- Japan defeated Pakistan to win the 30th Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy
- Mumbai City FC defeat Mohun Bagan Super Giant to win the Indian Super League (ISL) 2023-24





- China wins both Thomas and Uber Cup Badminton 2024 titles
- Japan defeated Uzbekistan in the final to win the Men's AFC U-23 Asian Cup for the second time.
- Paris Saint-Germain football club was confirmed as the champion of the 2023-24 Ligue-1 Season
- National men's Squash champion Velavan Senthilkumar defeated Melvil Scianimanico of France to win the Batch Open Challenger Squash
- Yuvraj Singh becomes ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Ambassador

**Q. With reference to India's trade statistics, consider the following statements:**

1. China emerged as India's largest trading partner in 2023-24.
2. India's total trade deficit in 2023-24 decreased when compared to the previous fiscal.
3. India's has a trade deficit with the United States of America in 2023-24.

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

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India has recorded a trade deficit, the difference between imports and exports, with nine of its top 10 trading partners in 2023-24, according to official data.
- ✓ About India's Top Trading Partners:
- ✓ China has emerged as India's largest trading partner with \$118.4 billion of two-way commerce in 2023-24, surpassing the US.
- ✓ The bilateral trade between India and the US stood at \$118.28 billion in 2023-24. Washington was the top trading partner of New Delhi during 2021-22 and 2022-23.
- ✓ In 2023-24, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), with USD 83.6 billion, was the third largest trading partner of India. It was followed by Russia (\$65.7 billion), Saudi Arabia (\$43.4 billion), and Singapore (\$35.6 billion).
- ✓ India's total trade deficit in the last fiscal narrowed to \$238.3 billion as against \$ 264.9 billion in the previous fiscal.



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- ✓ The trade deficit with China rose to \$85 billion, Russia to \$57.2 billion, Korea to \$14.71 billion, and Hong Kong to \$12.2 billion in 2023-24 against \$83.2 billion, \$43 billion, \$14.57 billion, and \$8.38 billion, respectively, in 2022-23.
- ✓ India has a trade surplus of \$ 36.74 billion with the US in 2023-24. America is one of the few countries with which India has a trade surplus.
- ✓ After the US, the Netherlands offers a surplus of \$17.3 billion on the back of being a hub of India's petroleum trade with Europe.
- ✓ Other countries with which there is a trade surplus are the UK (\$4.5 billion), Italy (\$ 2.9 billion), France (\$902 million), and Belgium (\$598 million).
- ✓ India has a free trade agreement with four of its top trading partners - Singapore, the UAE, Korea, and Indonesia (as part of the Asian bloc).

**Q. Nyishi Tribe is the largest ethnic group of which one of the following States?**

A) Odisha

B) Tripura

C) Sikkim

D) Arunachal Pradesh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Mountaineer and cricketer Kabak Yano etched her name in history recently by becoming the fifth woman from Arunachal Pradesh and the first woman from the Nyishi tribe to scale Mt. Everest.
- ✓ About Nyishi Tribe:
- ✓ The Nyishi are the largest ethnic group in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ In Nishi, their traditional language, Nyi refers to "a man" and the word shi denotes "a being", which combined together refers to a civilized human being.
- ✓ The Nyishi language belongs to the Sino-Tibetan family; however, its origin is disputed.

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the National Green Hydrogen Mission:**

**1. It aims to make India a Global Hub for the production, utilization and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.**

**2. The Ministry of Power, Government of India, will be responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the mission.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**



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A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

### Answer : A

- ✓ State-run GAIL (India) Ltd. recently inaugurated its first 10 MW Green Hydrogen Plant under the National Green Hydrogen Mission in Madhya Pradesh's Vijaipur.
- ✓ About National Green Hydrogen Mission:
- ✓ It was approved by the Union Cabinet on January 4, 2022.
- ✓ Aim: To make India a Global Hub for the production, utilization, and export of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives.
- ✓ Components:
- ✓ Under the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT), two distinct financial incentive mechanisms
- ✓ Incentive for manufacturing of electrolysers
- ✓ Incentive for production of green hydrogen.
- ✓ The Mission will also support pilot projects in emerging end-use sectors and production pathways.
- ✓ Regions capable of supporting large-scale production and/or utilization of Hydrogen will be identified and developed as Green Hydrogen Hubs.
- ✓ The mission outcomes projected by 2030 are:
- ✓ Development of green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonnes) per annum with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 GW in the country;
- ✓ Over Rs. Eight lakh crores in total investments;
- ✓ Creation of over Six lakh jobs;
- ✓ Cumulative reduction in fossil fuel imports over Rs. One lakh crore;
- ✓ Abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions;
- ✓ The initial outlay for the Mission will be Rs.19,744 crore, including an outlay of Rs.17,490 crore for the SIGHT programme, Rs.1,466 crore for pilot projects, Rs.400 crore for R&D, and Rs. 388 crores towards other Mission components.
- ✓ The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy will be responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the Mission





**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Mundra Port:**

- 1. It is the largest private port and the largest container port in India.**
- 2. It is located on the north shores of the Gulf of Kutch, Gujarat.**

**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**

- ✓ Adani Group's Mundra Port recently saw the largest ever container ship to dock at an Indian port when the almost 400-metre-long MSC Anna came visiting.
- ✓ About Mundra Port:
- ✓ It is the largest private port and the largest container port in India.
- ✓ Location: It is located on the north shores of the Gulf of Kutch, near Mundra, Kutch district, Gujarat.
- ✓ It is a deep-draft, all-weather port.
- ✓ It is also a special economic zone (SEZ).
- ✓ As much as 33 percent of India's container traffic flows through the port.
- ✓ Ownership: It is run by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ), which is India's largest commercial ports operator and accounts for nearly one-fourth of the country's cargo movement.
- ✓ Handling Capacity:
- ✓ With a capacity of 260 MMT, the port handles over 155 MMT (FY 2022-23), which constitutes nearly 11% of India's maritime cargo.
- ✓ The port has 26 berths and two single-point moorings, which allow it to accommodate a wide range of vessels.
- ✓ It also has the country's largest coal import terminal, which facilitates faster cargo evacuation with minimal turnaround time.



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**Q.** With reference to the PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan) Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced for de-dieselisation of the farm sector and enhancing the income of farmers.
2. Under the Scheme, the central government provides subsidies for the installation of standalone solar pumps.
3. Only individual farmers are eligible beneficiaries under the scheme.

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

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Ministry of Renewable Energy recently issued a warning to farmers on PM-KUSUM website against fake websites and mobile applications that provide fake online application forms and demand registration fees for installing solar water pumps under PM Kusum scheme.
- ✓ About PM-KUSUM Scheme:
  - ✓ The PM-KUSUM Scheme was launched in 2019 for de-dieselisation of the farm sector and enhancing the income of farmers.
  - ✓ It is aimed at ensuring energy security for farmers in India, along with honouring India's commitment to increase the share of installed capacity of electric power from non-fossil-fuel sources to 40% by 2030 as part of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).
  - ✓ The scheme aims to add Solar capacity of about 34,800 MW by March 2026 with the total Central Financial support of Rs 34,422 crore.
  - ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
  - ✓ Under the Scheme, a central government subsidy upto 30% or 50% of the total cost is given for the installation of standalone solar pumps and also for the solarization of existing grid-connected agricultural pumps.
  - ✓ Further, farmers can also install grid-connected solar power plants up to 2MW, under the Scheme on their barren/fallow land.
  - ✓ Component A:
    - ✓ 10,000 MW of solar capacity through the installation of small Solar Power Plants of individual plants of capacity up to 2 MW.



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- ✓ Component B:
- ✓ Installation of 20 lakhs of standalone Solar Powered Agriculture Pumps.
- ✓ Individual farmers will be supported to install standalone solar Agriculture pumps of capacity up to 7.5 HP for the replacement of existing diesel Agriculture pumps / irrigation systems in off-grid areas, where grid supply is not available.
- ✓ Component C:
- ✓ For Solarisation of 15 Lakh Grid Connected Agriculture Pumps.
- ✓ Under this Component, individual farmers having grid connected agriculture pump will be supported to solarise pumps.
- ✓ The eligible categories for KUSUM Scheme are:
- ✓ An individual farmer.
- ✓ A group of farmers.
- ✓ FPO or Farmer producer organization.
- ✓ Panchayat.
- ✓ Co-operatives.
- ✓ Water User Associations.

**Q. Mrugavani National Park, recently seen in news, is located in:**

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Odisha
- C) Gujarat
- D) Telangana

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The extent of Mrugavani National Park at Chilkur in Moinabad mandal has undergone massive revision on paper, resulting in reduction of 80 hectares.
- ✓ Location: It is located in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- ✓ Topography: The topography of Park supports woodlands, grasslands and rocky areas.
- ✓ Vegetation: Most of the vegetation can be classified as southern tropical dry deciduous forests.





- Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Shallow Aquifer Management Project:**
- 1. It is a sustainable urban water management technique to address issues of groundwater depletion.**
  - 2. It is part of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) in a latest intervention has taken up Shallow Aquifer Management (SAM) model on a pilot basis in the city.
  - ✓ It is a sustainable urban water management technique and addresses persistent issues of groundwater depletion, drying up of borewells, and check quick flooding of city streets.
  - ✓ How it is done?
  - ✓ The project's concept is to drill shallow water injection borewells to a depth of 100-120 feet and pump out water in the shallow aquifers.
  - ✓ This is done so that the layers underneath get recharged whenever there is rainfall, while collecting water from the surrounding watershed and channelling it through recharge pits.
  - ✓ Thus, the underground layers are recharged, and water table rises.
  - ✓ SAM Pilot model in India
  - ✓ It is part of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
  - ✓ Nodal implementing agency: National Institute of Urban Affairs
- In 2022, the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) initiated a SAM pilot across 10 cities in nine states: Bengaluru (Karnataka), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Dhanbad (Jharkhand), Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh), Hyderabad (Telangana), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Kolkata (West Bengal), Pune and Thane (Maharashtra), and Rajkot (Gujarat).

- Q. When is the International Missing Children's Day (IMCD) commemorated?**

- A) 25 May                                      B) 24 May  
C) 23 May                                      D) 22 May



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## Answer : A

- ✓ Every year, 25 May is observed as International Missing Children's Day (IMCD) around the world to commemorate the missing children who have found their way home, remember those who have been victims of crime, and continue efforts to find those who are still missing.
- ✓ The symbol for IMCD is the forget-me-not flower.
- ✓ The day was proclaimed in 1983, by U.S. President Ronald Reagan.
- ✓ The first IMCD was observed in 2001 through the joint efforts of the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), Missing Children Europe, and the European Commission

## Q. Which day of the year is celebrated as the World Thyroid Day?

- A) May 23
- B) May 22
- C) May 25
- D) May 26

## Answer : C

- ✓ The World Thyroid Day is celebrated every year on May 25 to promote awareness and understanding of thyroid health and the advances made in treating thyroid diseases.
- ✓ The World Thyroid Day was established in 2008 by the European Thyroid Association and the American Thyroid Association

## Q. Who was granted a one-year extension as the Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)?

- A) Samir V. Kamat
- B) Rajesh Sharma
- C) Amit Patel
- D) Priya Singh

## Answer : A

- ✓ DRDO chairman Samir V Kamat gets one-year extension.
- ✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet granted an extension of one year to Dr Samir V. Kamat, who is the Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).



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- ✓ With approval, Dr Samir Kamat will hold charge of DRDO till May 31, 2025. The extension of Kamat's term came a day after the Union government, in an unusual move, extended the tenure of Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Pande for a month.

## DRDO IN NEWS 2023-24

- DRDO chairman Samir V Kamat gets one-year extension.
- DRDO hands over nine defence tech projects to IIT-Bhubaneswar
- DRDO successfully tested the next-generation Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) system on 1 May 2024 from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is reported to be testing a prototype of its DURGA-2 (Directionally Unrestricted Ray Gun Array) system.
- DRDO successfully tested the Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from Chandipur, Odisha.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) carried out successful trials of the Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) Weapon System at Pokhran Field Firing Range, Rajasthan
- Recently, Strategic Forces Command and DRDO successfully tested the new generation ballistic missile Agni-Prime off the coast of Odisha.
- DRDO successfully conducted two flight tests of the Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile.
- DRDO successfully conducted four flight trials of the high-speed expendable aerial target 'ABHYAS' recently.
- Defence Ministry has cleared the proposal of buying a regiment of Pralay tactical ballistic missiles for the Indian Army which can strike targets at 150–500 km.
- DRDO organises 'Anusandhaan Chintan Shivar' to encourage Defence R&D.
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have formed a partnership to create an Indigenous Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) System for the submarines in the Indian Navy.
- DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad.





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- Indian Navy and Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) collaborated to conduct the first successful test trial of a locally-made Air Droppable Container called 'ADC-150' from the IL 38SD aircraft off the coast of Goa .
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) celebrated its 66th foundation day on 1st January 2024.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- Founded : 1 January 1958
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Motto : "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge"
- Chairman : Sameer V Kamat

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) initiative:**

**1. It is a mandatory disclosure mechanism for top 1000 listed companies to report their performance on environmental, social and governance.**

**2. It is an initiative of the World Bank.**

**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**

- ✓ Delhi-based think tank Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) welcomed the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) initiative by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- ✓ It is a mandatory disclosure mechanism for top 1000 listed companies or businesses to report their performance on environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects and demonstrate their commitment to responsible business practices.
- ✓ It was introduced in May 2021 by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- ✓ This initiative was intended to provide policymakers and investors with robust data to make informed decisions.
- ✓ The disclosure requirements are grouped into nine core categories, based on the principles of the National Guidelines for Responsible Business Conduct introduced by SEBI:



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- ✓ Environmental protection: Key performance indicators cover electricity consumption, water usage and air emissions.
- ✓ Human rights: Focus on human rights violations and minimum and fair wages.
- ✓ Integrity: Performance indicators include anti-corruption, anti-bribery and conflicts of interest policies.
- ✓ Employee well-being: Metrics focused on parental benefits, employee accessibility and the percentage of unionized workers.
- ✓ Inclusive growth: Policies favoring vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- ✓ Sustainable goods and services: Information on investments in social and environmental impacts.

**Q. Which two banks were penalized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for non-compliance with regulatory directives?**

- A) State Bank of India and HDFC Bank
- B) YES Bank and ICICI Bank
- C) Punjab National Bank and Axis Bank
- D) Kotak Mahindra Bank and Bank of Baroda

**Answer : B**

- ✓ RBI penalises YES Bank, ICICI Bank for regulatory breaches.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed monetary penalties on two prominent banks, YES Bank Ltd and ICICI Bank Ltd, for non-compliance with regulatory directives.
- ✓ YES Bank incurred a penalty of ₹91 lakh for failing to adhere to RBI's directives on 'customer service in banks' and the 'unauthorised operation of internal/office accounts'.
- ✓ Similarly, ICICI Bank faced a penalty of ₹1 crore for contravening RBI's directions on 'loans and advances — statutory and other restrictions.' The penalty stemmed from the bank's failure to exercise due diligence in sanctioning term loans to entities, leading to potential financial risks

### PENALTY IN NEWS 2023-24

- ICICI Bank faced a penalty of ₹1 crore for contravening RBI's directions on 'loans and advances — statutory and other restrictions.'
- YES Bank incurred a penalty of ₹91 lakh for failing to adhere to RBI's directives on 'customer service in banks' and the 'unauthorised operation of internal/office accounts'.
- SEBI imposes ₹11.90 crore fine on 19 entities for Superior Finlease 'pump and dump



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- IRDAI imposes a fine of Rs 1 crore on IPO-bound Go Digit Insurance
- RBI has imposed a penalty of ₹1 crore on IDFC First Bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.
- RBI imposes Rs 1.31 cr fine on Tamilnad Mercantile Bank for non-compliance.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.4 crore on Bank of India for non-compliance with certain regulatory norms.
- Paytm's trouble escalated further with the Financial Intelligence Unit-India slapping a ₹5.49 crore penalty on Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) for violating Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) obligations
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to waive the ₹5 crore penalty that was previously imposed on Bank of Baroda.
- RBI imposes Rs 8.8 lakh penalty on Power Finance Corporation for non-compliance.
- Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has fined Air India ₹1.1 crore for safety violations on certain flights.
- RBI took regulatory action imposing penalties on Bank of America, N.A. and HDFC Bank Ltd. for violations of specific norms.
- RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs. 10,000 on Bank of America, N.A. for violating the reporting requirements under the liberalized Remittances Scheme of FEMA 1999.
- HDFC Bank Ltd also faced a penalty of Rs.10,000 for violating directions related to the acceptance of deposits from non-residents.
- RBI Imposes ₹2.5 Crore Penalty On L&T Finance For Non Compliance.
- This penalty has been levied due to non-compliance with specific provisions of the Non-Banking Financial Company.
- RBI Imposes ₹5.4 Crore Penalty On Paytm Payments Bank.
- Paytm Payments Bank was penalized for “non-compliance with certain provisions of the ‘Reserve Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC)) Directions, 2016’.”
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of ₹12.19 crore on ICICI Bank and ₹3.95 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank for non-compliance of certain regulatory norms.





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**Q. Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of ₹1 crore on which bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'?**

A) Axis Bank

B) Yes Bank

C) ICICI Bank

D) HDFC Bank

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of ₹1 crore on ICICI Bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.

## ICICI BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- ICICI Bank introduces UPI for NRIs through international mobile numbers.
- Pradeep Kumar Sinha to take over as Non-Executive Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank.
- HDFC Bank to acquire up to 9.5% stake in ICICI Bank.
- ICICI Bank Canada Launches 'Money2India (Canada)' Mobile Banking App.
- iVIS, a subsidiary of Magellanic Cloud, has announced its empanelment with ICICI Bank for the delivery of e-surveillance services across branches.
- ICICI Bank receives RBI's nod to make Securities a wholly-owned subsidiary.
- ICICI Bank Introduces 'iFinance,' A One-Stop Solution for Multi-Bank Account Access.
- IIT Kanpur has signed an MoU with private lender ICICI Bank to support the startup ecosystem in the institute.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken strict measures against two prominent banking institutions, Kotak Mahindra Bank penalty of Rs 3.95 crore and ICICI Bank penalty of Rs 12.19 crore, by imposing significant penalties.
- RBI approves reappointment of Sandeep Bakshi as ICICI Bank MD & CEO for three more years till October 2026.
- ICICI Bank gets RBI nod to make I-Process Services as wholly-owned subsidiary.
- Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) BANK
- Founded : 1994
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sandeep Bakhshi
- Tagline : Hum Hai Na Khayal Apka.



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**Q. Campi Flegrei, recently seen in the news, is an active volcanic area located in which one of the following countries?**

A) Chile

B) Philippines

C) Italy

D) United States of America

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The strongest earthquake to hit Italy's Campi Flegrei supervolcano region in decades struck recently.
- ✓ About Campi Flegrei:
- ✓ Campi Flegrei (known as Phlegrean Fields in English) is an active volcanic area located in the vicinity of Naples, Italy.
- ✓ Unlike the nearby Mount Vesuvius, Campi Flegrei is not characterised by a single volcano.

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the ZiG currency:**

**1. It is a new gold backed currency launched by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.**

**2. It is launched with an aim to prevent currency devaluation.**

**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, to address its long-standing economic instability, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) has launched a new gold-backed currency called the ZiG.
- ✓ About ZiG:
- ✓ The Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG) is a new gold-backed currency launched by Zimbabwe.
- ✓ The ZiG, now the sixth currency used by Zimbabwe, has been in circulation since April 5, 2024.
- ✓ Key features of ZiG
- ✓ The ZiG stands out as a new currency backed by gold reserves, ensuring its value is supported by the physical gold held by the government.
- ✓ ZiG notes and coins will be available and issued in denominations: 1ZiG, 2ZiG, 5ZiG, 10ZiG, 20ZiG, 50ZiG, 100ZiG, and 200ZiG, with the gold backing aims to provide stability and prevent currency devaluation.
- ✓ Reasons for launching new currency



- ✓ Zimbabwe has grappled with high inflation, with rates surpassing 500% in recent years.
- ✓ Consequently, the Zimbabwean dollar, introduced in 1980, lost its value due to hyperinflation.

**Q. INS Kiltan, recently seen in news, belongs to:**

- A) Delhi class
- B) Kamorta-class
- C) Kalavari class
- D) Arihant class

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian Naval Ship Kiltan arrived at Muara, Brunei and was accorded a warm welcome by the Royal Brunei Navy.
- ✓ It is an indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare stealth corvette.
- ✓ This is the third of the four Kamorta-class corvettes being built under Project 28.
- ✓ The ship derives its name from one of the islands in Aminidivi group of the strategically located Lakshadweep and Minicoy group of islands.
- ✓ Designed by the Indian Navy's in-house organisation Directorate of Naval Design and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) in Kolkata
- ✓ It is India's first major warship to have a superstructure of carbon fibre composite material resulting in improved stealth features, lower top weight and maintenance costs.

**Q. Gitanas Nausėda has been re-elected President of which country?**

- A) Estonia
- B) Lithuania
- C) Latvia
- D) Poland

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda re elected for another term.
- ✓ President Gitanas Nausėda has been re-elected President of the Baltic state of Lithuania.
- ✓ The 60-year-old Gitanas Nausėda, who does not belong to any political party, defeated the incumbent Prime Minister Ingrida Simonyte of the ruling centre-right Homeland Union party in the run-off presidential election held on 26 May 2024.





**Q. Which state topped the list for the addition of transmission lines by state transmission companies in 2023-24 according to the Central Electricity Authority?**

- A) Gujarat  
B) Tamil Nadu  
C) Maharashtra  
D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh tops in addition of Transmission line in 2023-24.
- ✓ According to the recently released statistics of the Central Electricity Authority, Uttar Pradesh emerged as the number one state in terms of the addition of transmission lines by state transmission companies in 2023-24. In 2022-23 also, Uttar Pradesh topped the list amongst the state utilities.
- ✓ In 2023-24, the state government-owned Uttar Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (UPPTCL) added 1,460 ckm(Circuit Kilometer) of transmission lines of 220kV or above.
- ✓ Gujarat was in second place. The state-run Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Ltd (GETCO) added 898 ckm of transmission line in 2023-24.
- ✓ At the third place was Tamil Nadu. The state-run utility company Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO) added 753 ckm of transmission line

**Q. Which commodity became the fourth-largest export item from India in FY24 with a 42% growth?**

- A) Motor gasoline  
B) Petroleum products  
C) Smartphones  
D) Textiles

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Smartphones become India's fourth largest export item with 42% growth.
- ✓ Smartphones are now the fourth-largest export item from India with 42 per cent growth to \$15.6 billion in FY24, up by one notch in the ranking from the preceding year.
- ✓ India started collecting data for smartphones separately from April 2022. While India's top export items are dominated by petroleum products, smartphones replaced motor gasoline to become the fourth-largest exported commodity in FY24.
- ✓ According to commerce department data, the spike in smartphone exports was driven by a 158 per cent increase in shipments to the US at \$5.6 billion, followed by the United Arab Emirates (\$2.6 billion), the Netherlands (\$1.2 billion), and the UK (\$1.1 billion).



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**Q. Which company recently finalized a deal to sell its minority stake in Tata Play, a subscription television broadcaster, to the Tata Group, resulting in the Tata Group gaining full control of Tata Play?**

A) Amazon

B) Walt Disney

C) Netflix

D) Google

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Disney to sell 30% Tata Play stake to Tata Group.
- ✓ Walt Disney has finalised a deal to sell its minority stake in the subscription television broadcaster Tata Play to the Tata Group, according to a report by Bloomberg.
- ✓ The transaction values the satellite TV provider, Tata Play, at about \$1 billion. The Tata Group took full control of the platform after buying the 29.8 per cent stake from Disney.
- ✓ Disney signed a binding agreement in late February to combine its India unit with billionaire Mukesh Ambani's media arm, 'Viacom 18 Media Pvt', creating an \$8.5 billion entertainment juggernaut that will have over 750 million viewers and dominate the media sector in India.

**Q. During which event were 64 Great Indian Bustards spotted in the National Desert Park, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan?**

A) Annual Wildlife Census

B) Waterhole Survey

C) Bird Watching Expedition

D) Wildlife Photography Tour

**Answer : B**

- ✓ 64 Great Indian Bustards spotted during 'Waterhole' survey in Jaisalmer.
- ✓ 64 Great Indian Bustard was spotted during the annual waterhole survey conducted in the National Desert Park, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. In the last 2022 census, 42 birds were counted using the waterhole technique. No census was conducted in 2023 due to rains caused by the western disturbances.
- ✓ The census is done on Vaishakh Purnima as it is a full moon; hence, animals or birds can be spotted easily without the use of artificial lights. Also, this period is generally very hot, and the temperature regularly crosses 45 degrees Celsius in the area, forcing the wildlife to come and drink water at least once every 24 hours.
- ✓ According to the forest officials, 21 Great Indian Bustards were counted in the Ramdevra region, while 43 were observed in the Sipla, Sudasari, Gazai Mata, Jamra, Chouhani, and Barna areas of Jaisalmer. The



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forest officials also counted more than 1000 Chinkaras, 30 Desert Cats, 150 Foxes and more than 100 Vultures

- ✓ The Great Indian Bustard bird, also known as Godawan, is the state bird of Rajasthan. The Great Indian Bustard is a critically endangered species which mainly lives in dry grasslands. It has been put into Schedule 1 of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, which provides it with the highest level of legal protection.

**Q. Which organization has partnered with the Algorand Foundation to launch the first layer one blockchain protocol-backed Application Developer Course on NASSCOM's FutureSkills Prime platform?**

- A) IBM
- B) Microsoft
- C) AlgoBharat
- D) Google

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Algorand Foundation launches developer training platform with NASSCOM.
- ✓ AlgoBharat, Algorand Foundation's India-focused initiative, announced that it officially launching the first layer one blockchain protocol backed Application Developer Course on NASSCOM's FutureSkills Prime platform.
- ✓ NASSCOM's FutureSkills Prime, a joint initiative of India's IT Industry and the Government of India, aims to enhance digital skills across India and position the country as a leader in global innovation and growth.
- ✓ As the first blockchain platform to partner with NASSCOM, Algorand is creating original developer training content aligned with the National Occupational Standards (NOS) and National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF), enabling India's young developers to acquire in-demand skills that NASSCOM has identified as being highly valued by employers

**Q. PhonePe's Pincode, a store-first commerce app, has partnered with which retailer to expand its online customer base?**

- A) Big Bazaar
- B) Reliance Fresh
- C) Simpli Namdhari's
- D) Spencer's

**Answer : C**

- ✓ PhonePe's Pincode partners with Simpli Namdhari's in Bengaluru to expand customer base.





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- ✓ Pincode, a homegrown store-first commerce app by PhonePe has reportedly announced it's partnered with Simpli Namdhari's, one of the country's 100 per cent veg omnichannel retailers, to reach a larger online customer base.
- ✓ The collaboration will bring a wide variety of groceries, fresh fruits, vegetables and other premium FMCG products on the Pincode app for people residing in Bengaluru, the company announced.
- ✓ The collaboration will bring a wide variety of groceries, fresh fruits, vegetables and other premium FMCG products on the Pincode app for people residing in Bengaluru

**Q. Barcelona recently clinched its third Women's Champions League title in four years by defeating which opponent?**

A) Bayern Munich

B) Manchester City

C) Lyon

D) Paris Saint-Germain

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Barcelona finally beats Lyon and retains Women's Champions League crown.
- ✓ With a triumph over the rival it could never beat, Barcelona made it clear who's in charge of women's soccer.
- ✓ Barcelona ended its losing streak against the game's most successful club, beating Lyon 2-0 to clinch its third Women's Champions League title in four years.

**Q. What is the goal of the new 'Investment Round' launched by the World Health Organization (WHO)?**

A) To raise funds for global health research

B) To raise funds for humanitarian aid

C) To raise funds to tackle global challenges such as climate change, displacement, poverty, and inequality

D) To raise funds for COVID-19 vaccine distribution

**Answer : C**

- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a new 'Investment Round' aiming to raise 7 billion dollars of funds to support countries to tackle challenges like climate change, displacement, poverty and inequality.
- ✓ This initiative comes just before the 77th World Health Assembly, which begins at the United States agency's headquarters with 194 member states. WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced



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that increased commitments would contribute USD 4 billion to the agency's USD 11.1 billion budget for the 2025-2028 period.

- ✓ The 77th World Health Assembly is being held in Geneva from May 27 to June 1, with the theme "All for Health, Health for All." The Investment Round follows recommendations from the WHO Working Group on Sustainable Financing and was approved at the 154th Meeting of the WHO Executive Board in January 2024. It aims to secure funding for WHO's strategy, the 14th General Programme of Work

**Q. From when will the new tick size of one paisa be applicable for stocks priced below Rs 250, as announced by the National Stock Exchange (NSE)?**

A) May 10, 2024

B) June 1, 2024

C) June 10, 2024

D) July 1, 2024

**Answer : C**

- ✓ NSE lowers tick size for stocks below Rs 250.
- ✓ The National Stock Exchange (NSE) announced that it is introducing one paisa tick size for all the stocks in the price range of Rs 250 and under. The new tick size will be applicable from June 10, 2024.
- ✓ This development comes amidst an effort to increase liquidity and improve price discovery by making room for much more precise price adjustments. Currently, the tick size for the stocks is five paisa and this has been now reduced to 1 paisa.
- ✓ The exchange said that all the securities, excluding exchange-traded funds, available in the EQ, BE, BZ, BO, RL, and AF series with a stock price below Rs 250 will have a tick size of Rs 0.01, rather than the current tick size of Rs 0.05.
- ✓ The tick size settled for securities in T+1 settlement will also apply to T+0 securities, the exchange shared via a circular.

**Q. Which regulatory authority imposed a financial penalty of 10 million rand on the State Bank of India's South Africa branch?**

A) South African Revenue Service

B) Financial Services Board of South Africa

C) Prudential Authority of the South African Reserve Bank

D) Competition Commission of South Africa

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ South African regulator fines SBI's branch
- ✓ The Prudential Authority of the South African Reserve Bank has imposed a financial penalty of 10 million rand (₹4.5 crore) on the State Bank of India's South Africa branch, the bank.
- ✓ This penalty was imposed under Section 45C of the country's Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001 (FIC Act) for non-compliance with certain provisions of the FIC Act or other related orders or directives.
- ✓ The bank informed the stock exchange that the financial penalty consists of an immediately payable portion of 5.50 million rand, which the SBI branch in South Africa has already paid. The remaining 4.50 million rand is suspended for 36 months, contingent on compliance within this period

**Q. Who emerged as the champion of the Sharjah Challengers 2024?**

A) Daneshvar

B) Divya Deshmukh

C) Arjun

D) Leya Garifullina

**Answer : B**

- ✓ International Master Divya Deshmukh of Nagpur emerged champion of the Sharjah Challengers 2024, the other day. In the final round, Divya played out a draw against IM Leya Garifullina to emerge winner. Arjun became the sole Indian to make a top ten finish in the Masters. He secured seventh place.

**Q. The Pravaah portal, recently seen in the news aims to:**

A) facilitate retail investors to open their Retail Direct Gilt accounts

B) provide information about FinTech entities and their activities

C) seek authorisation or regulatory approval on any reference made to the Reserve Bank of India

D) enable the trading of G-Secs on mobile device

**Answer : C**

- ✓ RBI Governor recently unveiled three major initiatives of the Reserve Bank, namely the Pravaah portal, the Retail Direct Mobile App and a FinTech Repository.
- ✓ About Pravaah Portal:
- ✓ Pravaah (Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation, and Authorisation) is a secure and centralised web-based portal for any individual or entity to seek authorisation, license, or regulatory approval on any reference
- ✓ made by it to the RBI.





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- ✓ The following are some of the key features available in the portal:
- ✓ Submit the application online on the portal.
- ✓ Track and monitor the status of the application/reference.
- ✓ Respond to any clarification/query sought by the RBI in connection with the application/reference; and
- ✓ Receive a decision from the RBI in a time-bound manner
- ✓ This portal will also enhance the efficiency of various processes related to the granting of regulatory approvals and clearances by the RBI.
- ✓ At present, 60 application forms covering different regulatory and supervisory departments of RBI have been made available on the portal.
- ✓ This also includes a general-purpose form for applicants to submit their requests, which are not included in any other application form.

**Q. Which portal has been launched by RBI where an applicant can apply for authorisation, license, or regulatory approval from the Reserve Bank?**

- A) UDGAM
- B) PRISM
- C) PRAVAAH
- D) FLAIR

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched three major initiatives on 28 May 2024: the PRAVAH portal, a mobile app for retail investors to trade in government securities, and a Fintech Repository.
- ✓ These three initiatives were launched by the RBI governor, Shaktikanta Das, in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ✓ About the PRAVAH Portal
- ✓ The PRAVAAH(Platform for Regulatory Application, VALidation and AutHorisation) is a centralised web-based portal that provides a secure platform for individuals or entities to seek authorisation, license, or regulatory approval from the Reserve Bank.
- ✓ An individual or entity can submit 60 application forms covering different regulatory and supervisory departments of the RBI online.
- ✓ Applicants can also track their applications online, monitor their status, and receive a decision from the RBI in a time-bound manner



### RBI PORTAL IN NEWS

- RBI launched UDGAM portal to track unclaimed deposits.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has planned to launch a secured web-based centralised portal named 'PRAVAAH' to simplify and streamline application processes.
- RBI to launch PRISM platform to strengthen compliance by supervised entities.
- RBI develops portal FLAIR for reporting of Foreign Liabilities and Assets (FLA).
- RBI launches CISBI portal for keeping track of Banking Outlets.
- RBI launches Mobile Aided Note Identifier (MANI) app for visually impaired persons

**Q. Where has the public sector company GAIL (India) Limited set up its first green hydrogen plant?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The government of India-owned GAIL(India) Limited's first green hydrogen plant has become operational at Vijaipur in Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ This marks the entry of India's largest natural gas transmission and distribution company in the green fuel business.
- ✓ The 10-megawatt proton exchange membrane electrolyser for the green-hydrogen producing unit at the Vijaipur complex has been imported from Canada.
- ✓ The plant was in line with the National Green Hydrogen mission that has set out a goal of 5 million tons of annual green hydrogen production capacity for the country by 2030.

**Q. What was the primary objective of NASA's Magellan Mission, recently seen in the news?**

- A) To study the atmosphere of Mars  
B) To study the asteroids  
C) To explore the outer solar system  
D) To map the surface of Venus

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ After analyzing the archived data from NASA's Magellan mission, scientists say they observed new lava flows on Venus, suggesting that the planet was volcanically active between 1990 and 1992.
- ✓ About Magellan Mission:
- ✓ It was a deep space mission launched by NASA on May 4, 1989, to explore the planet Venus.
- ✓ It was launched from Cape Canaveral aboard the space shuttle Atlantis. It was the first interplanetary mission launched from the Space Shuttle and the first spacecraft to use the Inertial Upper Stage booster.
- ✓ It was named after the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan, who was the first to circumnavigate the earth.

## NASA IN NEWS 2023-24

- NASA confirmed the Dragonfly rotorcraft mission to Saturn's moon Titan with a \$3.35 billion budget, launching in July 2028.
- NASA is now publicly distributing science-quality data from its newest Earth-observing PACE satellite.
- NASA has been tasked with establishing Coordinated Lunar Time (LTC) as a unified standard for timekeeping on the Moon and other celestial bodies
- American space agency NASA has discovered a "super-Earth" planet, dubbed TOI-715 b, that could potentially support life. It is located 137 light-years away and was found by NASA's planet-hunting Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) mission.
- NASA Re-Establishes Contact With Ingenuity Helicopter On Mars After Outage
- NASA has invited people to send their names to the surface of the Moon aboard the agency's first robotic lunar rover VIPER – short for Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover.
- NASA is gearing up to enhance our understanding of Earth's atmosphere with the upcoming Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem (PACE) mission, scheduled for launch in early 2024.
- NASA renames mission going to asteroid Apophis after returning rocks from Bennu.
- About OSIRIS-APEX:
- It is a mission to study the physical changes to asteroid Apophis that will result from its rare close encounter
- with Earth in April 2029.
- A NASA experiment on the Psyche spacecraft has beamed back a near-infrared laser that contains test data from almost 16 million kilometres away.





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

**Q. Which company has been honoured with 'The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25'?**

**A) NTPC Limited**

**B) ReNew Power**

**C) NHPC**

**D) JSW Energy**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ NHPC, India's premier hydropower company has been conferred with the prestigious 'The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25'.
- ✓ The Award was received by Uttam Lal, Director (Personnel), NHPC along with Lucas Guria, Executive Director (HR) and a team of NHPC officers at the Awards Ceremony held in Mumbai.



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- ✓ The Award has been given to NHPC in recognition for its future preparedness in the areas of upskilling of its employees, ESG interventions, DE&I initiatives, constant technological upgradations, Employee Engagement processes, robust Corporate Governance strategies etc. which establishes it as a trusted brand amongst all its stakeholders.

**Q. The Government of India will get Rs \_\_\_\_ as dividend for being Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India's largest shareholder.**

- A) 3,262 crore                      B) 3,362 crore  
C) 3,662 crore                      D) 3,862 crore

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Government of India will get Rs 3,662 crore as dividend for being Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India's largest shareholder.
- ✓ This comes after the country's largest insurer declared an interim dividend of Rs 6 per share.
- ✓ The government owns 96.5 percent stake in the insurer or 6,10,36,22,781 shares.
- ✓ Gross non-performing asset (GNPA) stood at 2.01. percent against 2.56 percent in the year-ago period, LIC said

## LIC IN NEWS 2023-24

- Government of India will get Rs 3,662 crore as dividend for being Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India's largest shareholder.
- 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.



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- 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)
- 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. Allamaye Halina has been sworn as new PM of which country?**

A) Zimbabwe

B) Ghana

C) Chad

D) Sudan

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Allamaye Halina named new PM of Chad
- ✓ Chad's newly elected president, Mahamat Idriss Deby, has been sworn in to succeed his late father after three years as an interim leader under military rule in the northcentral African country.

## NEWLY PRIME MINISTER IN NEWS

- Allamaye Halina : Chad
- 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





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- 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. Major Radhika Sen was deployed in which country as part of the United Nations peacekeeping mission for which she got a UN Award?**

- A) Congo
- B) Ghana
- C) Chad
- D) Sudan

**Answer : A**

- ✓ United Nations has selected the Indian Army Major Radhika Sen for the prestigious 2023 Military Gender Advocate of the Year award.
- ✓ The award will be conferred to Major Radhika Sen by the United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on the occasion of the International Day of the UN Peacekeepers. The International Day of the UN Peacekeepers is observed on 29 May every year since 2003.
- ✓ Major Radhika Sen becomes the second Indian to be awarded the United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.
- ✓ Major Suman Gawani was the first Indian to be honoured with the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award in 2019. Major Suman Gawani was deployed with the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS).
- ✓ Major Radhika, who is from Himachal Pradesh, was deployed with the Indian Rapid Deployment Battalion in South Sudan in 2023. She was working with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo MONUSCO



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**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Vivekananda Rock Memorial:**

**1. It is built on a small island off Tamil Nadu in honour of Swami Vivekananda.**

**2. It is surrounded by the Laccadive Sea.**

**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 Prime Minister will be visiting the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanyakumari to meditate for 48 hours and mark the culmination of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.
- ✓ About Vivekananda Rock Memorial:
- ✓ It is located on a small island off Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The memorial stands on one of the two rocks located about 500 meters off the mainland of Vavathurai.
- ✓ The rock is surrounded by the Laccadive Sea, where the Bay of Bengal, the Indian Ocean, and the Arabian Sea form a confluence.
- ✓ It was built in 1970 in honour of Swami Vivekananda, who is said to have attained enlightenment on the rock.
- ✓ It comprises of the 'Shripada Mandapam' and the 'Vivekananda Mandapam'.

**Q. Archaeological Survey of India recently founded the neolithic age rock carvings in which state?**

**A) Goa**

**B) Uttar Pradesh**

**C) Haryana**

**D) Odisha**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Archaeological Survey of India confirms Neolithic rock carvings in Goa's Mauxi village.
- ✓ Carvings on meta basalt rock along the dry Zarme riverbed depict animals like zebus, bulls, and antelopes, as well as footprints and cupules.
- ✓ In India, prehistoric rock paintings span from the Upper Palaeolithic, featuring animal figures, to the Mesolithic, with human scenes, and the Neolithic-Chalcolithic, showing pottery and metal tools



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**Q. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has bagged a deal to modernize the core banking technology of Burgan Bank. Burgan Bank is a leading commercial bank in \_\_\_\_.**

A) Kuwait

B) Qatar

C) UAE

D) Iran

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has bagged a deal to modernize the core banking technology of Burgan Bank, a leading commercial bank in Kuwait.
- ✓ TCS will help Burgan Bank consolidate multiple standalone legacy applications into a contemporary universal banking solution that drives innovation and strengthens customer relationships.
- ✓ Burgan Bank is one of the youngest commercial banks in Kuwait, with a regional network of over 160 branches and 360 ATMs.

**Q. Which country has signed deals with a Reliance Jio subsidiary, Tech Mahindra and other vendors to build 4G and 5G infrastructure?**

A) Oman

B) Zimbabwe

C) Sudan

D) Ghana

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Ghana has signed deals with a Reliance Jio subsidiary, Tech Mahindra and other vendors to build 4G and 5G infrastructure as the African country aims to enhance its telecom capabilities.
- ✓ Ghana's state-backed Next-Gen Infrastructure Company (NGIC) has partnered with Jio's arm Radisys, Tech Mahindra and Nokia to build the necessary infrastructure for delivering affordable 5G mobile broadband services.
- ✓ NGIC has been allocated 5G spectrum and local telcos will be utilising the shared infrastructure to roll out the services in the next six months. As per reports, the overall contract is over \$200 million.

**Q. Which team has won the All-India Football Federation Under 17 Elite Youth League 2023-24 Title?**

A) Rajasthan United FC

B) Bengaluru United

C) Sudeva Delhi

D) Classic Football Academy

**Answer : D**





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- ✓ Classic Football Academy retained the All-India Football Federation Under 17 Elite Youth League 2023-24 Title beating Sudeva Delhi FC 2-1 at the Nagoa Panchayat Ground, Goa.
- ✓ Played on the well-maintained turf of Nagoa in Goa, the two teams dished out a lively display of attacking football, much to the delight of the sparse crowd.

**Q. Which of the following Indian cricketers has been named among the 54 representatives of the 'Multicultural Ambassadors Program'?**

- A) Rahul Dravid                                      B) Sachin Tendulkar  
C) Ravi Shastri                                        D) Chetan Sharma

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Ravi Shastri joins Cricket Australia's Multicultural Initiative
- ✓ Cricket Australia named former Pakistan and Indian stars Wasim Akram and Ravi Shastri among the 54 representatives of its 'Multicultural Ambassadors Program'.

**Q. Which state government will set up a powerful, high-capacity data centre that will allow 2,300 concurrent users to run artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) applications?**

- A) West Bengal                                        B) Madhya Pradesh  
C) Rajasthan                                         D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The West Bengal state government will set up a powerful, high-capacity data centre that will allow 2,300 concurrent users to run artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) applications.
- ✓ This facility will enable the practical application of data science by providing infrastructure to support advanced data analysis.
- ✓ This initiative will unveil at the Data Science 2024 Conference.

**Q. Who has been appointed as Chairperson of the Equestrian Federation of India's Ad-Hoc Administrative Committee?**

- A) Justice Uday Lalit                                B) Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde  
C) Justice Ranjan Gogoi                         D) Justice Najmi Waziri

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ The Delhi High Court has appointed its retired judge, Justice Najmi Waziri as the Chairperson of ad-hoc Administrative Committee constituted to supervise the administration of the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI).
- ✓ Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju also directed that the committee will also comprise of former Chief Election Commissioner of India Dr SY Quraishi as the observer.
- ✓ Justice Waziri, famously known as the “green judge” of Delhi for his efforts to enrich the greenery of the national capital by asking litigants to plant 3.7 lakh trees in several cases, demitted office last July.

**Q. Who has been elected the chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)?**

- A) Jetha Ahir  
B) Ashish Sharma  
C) Suman Mishra  
D) Deepak Singh

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Shehra BJP MLA Jetha Ahir has been elected uncontested as the chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED).
- ✓ Ahir was elected unopposed by the board comprising 21 directors, of which two are from Gujarat, including Kundariya.
- ✓ Ahir is also the chairman of Panchmahal’s Pancharmrut Dairy as well as the Panchmahal District Cooperative (PDC) Bank.

**Q. Which day of the year is observed as the World Digestive Health Day?**

- A) 29 May  
B) 30 May  
C) 28 May  
D) 27 May

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Every year, the World Digestive Health Day (WDHD) is observed on 29 May.
- ✓ It is organised by the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) in collaboration with the WGO Foundation (WGOFF).
- ✓ Each year the day focuses upon a particular digestive disease and/or disorder in order to increase general public awareness of prevention, prevalence, diagnosis, management and treatment of the disease and/or disorder.
- ✓ WDHD 2024 theme : Your Digestive Health: Make It A Priority



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**Q. International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is observed on \_\_\_\_**

- A) 26 May
- B) 27 May
- C) 29 May
- D) 28 May

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The “International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers” is observed on May 29 annually to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication, and courage and to honor the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace.
- ✓ The day was designated by United Nations General Assembly on December 11, 2002 and first celebrated in 2003.
- ✓ The theme for 2024 International Day of UN Peacekeepers is “Fit for the future, building better together.”

**Q. International Everest Day is marked on which day?**

- A) 27 May
- B) 29 May
- C) 28 May
- D) 26 May

**Answer : B**

- ✓ International Everest Day is observed on 29 May every year.
- ✓ It was on this day in 1953 that Nepalese Tenzing Norgay and New Zealand’s Edmund Hillary had climbed the Mt. Everest, becoming the first humans to achieve the feat.
- ✓ The International Everest Day is held since 2008, when the legendary climber Hillary passed away

**Q. REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power, won which award at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024?**

- A) Environmental Excellence Award
- B) Sustainable Development Award
- C) Sustainability Champion – Editor’s Choice Award
- D) Green Innovation Award

**Answer : C**

- ✓ REC wins ‘Sustainability Champion – Editor’s Choice Award’ at Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024.





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- ✓ REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has been honoured with the 'Sustainability Champion – Editor's Choice Award' at the 'Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024'. The Award ceremony was organised by Outlook Group, in collaboration with IIT Goa.
- ✓ This award recognizes REC's commitment to sustainability initiatives and its efforts in driving progress towards a greener future. The award highlights the corporation's pledge to sustainability initiatives, leading the path toward a greener future.
- ✓ The Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards is a prominent platform that brings together industry leaders, policymakers, and sustainability advocates to celebrate and promote excellence in sustainable practices. This year's summit featured insightful discussions, innovative ideas, and recognized the remarkable achievements of organizations dedicated to sustainability.

## REC LTD IN NEWS 2023-24

- REC wins 'Sustainability Champion – Editor's Choice Award' at Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024.
- REC gets RBI nod to set up subsidiary in GIFT City, Gujarat
- REC Limited, a Ministry of Power entity, clinched the SKOCH ESG Award 2024 in 'Renewable Energy Financing'.
- REC Limited joins hands with UNISED to support Education of Children.
- REC Limited, a Maharatna CPSE under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has been honoured with the 'Innovative Technology Development Award' at the 'Building India 2047: Technology for Better Tomorrow', an IIT Madras CSR Summit.
- REC Limited has been awarded the prestigious Best Green Bond – Corporate Award at The Asset Triple A Awards for Sustainable Finance 2024.
- REC will lend up to ₹1.2 trillion for the installation of rooftop solar panels under the Pradhan Mantri Suryoday Yojana.
- REC Limited issues inaugural Yen Denominated Green Bonds aggregating to 61.1 Billion Japanese Yen.
- REC sets ₹1 lakh crore sanction target for infrastructure space including roads and highways in FY24.
- REC Invests Rs. 35,000 Cr In Multi-Modal Projects With Rail Vikas Nigam For 5 Years.



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- REC Honoured with 'Best Employer in Diversity & Inclusion' Award by Assocham.
- RailTel has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with REC Ltd extending up to Rs 30,000 crore as financial assistance for telecom, IT and railway signaling infrastructure projects.
- REC Ltd gets Golden Peacock Award for Disaster Management.
- REC Limited, the Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise launched a SUGAM REC mobile application.
- REC Limited and Punjab National Bank have signed an MoU to explore funding possibilities in the Power Infrastructure and logistics sectors.
- The consortium arrangement will co-finance loans worth Rs 55,000 crores over the next three years.
- REC Ltd has become the 12th company to attain the Maharatna status
- REC Limited, formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
- Founded : 1969
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- CMD : Vivek Kumar Dewangan
- REC was formerly known as Rural Electrification Corporation Limited.
- REC Limited is an NBFC focused on financing and development of the power sector across India.
- REC Limited has also recently started services in the financing infrastructure and logistics sector.
- REC funding lights every fourth bulb in India. REC is a 'Maharatna' company under the Ministry of Power.

**Q. Which is the world's first single-piece 3D-printed rocket engine?**

A) Baffle

B) Agnilet

C) Ammunition

D) Valiant

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Agnikul launches world's first Rocket with 3D-printed rocket engine.
- ✓ Chennai-based startup Agnikul Cosmos has launched the world's first space rocket with a single-piece three-dimensional (3D) printed engine.
- ✓ After four failed attempts, Agnikul succeeded in launching its own rocket into space on its fifth attempt.



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- ✓ The rocket named Agnibaan is India's first semi-cryogenic engine-powered rocket launch, which was completely designed and manufactured indigenously.
- ✓ Agnikul used Inconel material to build the 3D-printed rocket. Inconel is an alloy that is oxidation-corrosion-resistant and well-suited for space travel
- ✓ Second private company to launch a rocket in Space
- ✓ Agnikul became the second Indian private company to launch its rocket in space. The first private company to launch a rocket was the Hyderabad startup Skyroot Aerospace. It launched its indigenously developed Vikram-S rocket from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Sriharikota launchpad.
- ✓ The Agnibaan rocket is a customisable two-stage rocket with a height of about 20 meters. The rocket can carry a payload of up to 300 kg to the low earth orbits (LEO) roughly 700 km above Earth. Agnibaan is a SOrTeD (SubOrbital Technological Demonstrator) that has a plug-and-play configuration.
- ✓ Agnikul's patented Agnilet engine is the world's first single-piece 3D-printed engine.
- ✓ Agmikul Cosmos was founded by Moin SPM and Srinath Ravichandran in 2017 and incubated at IIT Madras.
- ✓ Agnikul designed and developed India's first privately built rocket launchpad, 'Dhanush,' in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh

**Q. Which is the first company in the world to launch the first space rocket with a single-piece three-dimensional (3D) printed engine?**

- A) Agnikul Cosmos                      B) Dhruva Space  
C) Skyroot Aerospace                  D) Bellatrix Aerospace

**Answer : A**

**Q. Reliance Industries Ltd has signed an agreement with which Norwegian company to accelerate its new energy investments, including green hydrogen production?**

- A) Statoil                                      B) Equinor  
C) None of these                          D) Nel ASA

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Reliance Industries Ltd's technology partnership with Norway's NE ASA will help accelerate its new energy investments, including green hydrogen production, helping billionaire Mukesh Ambani move towards green energy.





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- ✓ Reliance (RIL) entered into a technology licensing agreement that provides the company with an exclusive license for Nel's alkaline electrolyzers in India and also allows it to manufacture the Norwegian company's alkaline electrolyzers for captive purposes globally.
- ✓ According to the agreement, Nel can procure equipment from Reliance for its own projects. Nel will continue to serve the Indian market with technology platforms that are not covered by the agreement.

**Q. How much sovereign loan has been sanctioned by the Asian Development Bank to India in 2023?**

- A) \$1.6 billion                      B) \$2.6 billion  
C) \$3.6 billion                      D) \$4.6 billion

**Answer : B**

- ✓ ADB approves \$2.6 billion in Sovereign lending to India in 2023.
- ✓ Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned \$2.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in the calendar year 2023.
- ✓ The loan sanctioned by ADB in 2023 will be used to finance urban development projects, promote the power sector, support industrial corridor development, support horticulture, enhance connectivity and build India's climate resilience.
- ✓ Sovereign means supreme power, and in India the government of India is sovereign.
- ✓ Thus, a sovereign loan means a loan given to the government of India.
- ✓ It includes a loan the ADB gives for a project in a particular state.
- ✓ The loan is basically given to the government of India, and the repayment of the loan is the responsibility of the government of India, even though it may be used to implement a project in a state.
- ✓ Sovereign Loans extended by ADB in 2023
- ✓ According to the ADB, the sovereign loans sanctioned in 2023 focus on projects and programmes that will further India's structural transformation, create jobs, address infrastructure gaps, promote green growth, and promote social and economic inclusiveness while deploying smart technologies and innovations.
- ✓ The loans included funding for the Visakhapatnam–Chennai Industrial Corridor which will boost the industrial development of India.
- ✓ It provided loans to fund projects to improve urban services in the states of Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, and Tripura; road connectivity in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, Boosting horticulture development in Himachal Pradesh and the expansion of the Delhi–Meerut rapid rail transit corridor.
- ✓ To date, ADB has provided loans, grants, and technical assistance totalling \$55.3 billion to India.



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- ✓ India is the fourth largest shareholder of the ADB.
- ✓ The top five largest shareholders of the ADB are:
- ✓ United States and Japan(each with 15.6% of total shares),
- ✓ People's Republic of China (6.4%),
- ✓ India (6.3%), and
- ✓ Australia (5.8%).

## ADB IN NEWS 2023-24

- ADB approves \$2.6 billion in Sovereign lending to India in 2023.
- ADB operations reach USD23.6 billion in 2023, achieve record climate finance of USD9.8 billion.
- Government of India and ADB have signed a \$23 million loan agreement to strengthen the fintech ecosystem in India.
- India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have collaboratively signed a \$181 million loan agreement targeting the improvement of infrastructure and services in the peri-urban areas surrounding Ahmedabad city in Gujarat.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has recently appointed Mio Oka as the new director of the bank in India, replacing Takeo Konishi.
- Vikas Sheel has been appointed as Executive Director of Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- India, ADB sign \$200 million loan agreement for Uttarakhand power system project.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a substantial \$170 million loan to catalyze the modernization of water supply services in Kochi, a rapidly growing city in the southern Indian state of Kerala.
- India & ADB sign \$400 million loan to support urban reform agenda.
- ADB to Support Improvement of Urban Infrastructure and Services in Peri-urban Areas of Ahmedabad, India.
- ADB Capital Management Reforms Bring \$100 Billion Benefits Over Next Decade to Asia-Pacific.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced the allocation of US \$ 400 million for welfare work with a special focus on women and girls in Afghanistan.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Fourth Partner Energy Private Limited (Fourth Partner) signed a long-term loan of up to 1.2 billion Indian rupees (about \$14.7 million) .



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- ADB Approves USD 40.5 Million Loan to Enhance Childhood Development and Maternal Mental Health in Meghalaya.
- Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing for the ongoing Rajasthan.
- ADB approves \$295mn loan to improve Transport Connectivity in Bihar.
- ADB gives 130 million dollars to increase horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
- Founded : 19 December 1966
- HQ : Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- President : Masatsugu Asakawa (Japan)
- Vice President : Ashok Lavasa (Indian)
- Director of ADB for India : Mio Oka (Japan)
- Executive Director : Sameer Kumar
- Member Countries : 68 (Nuie).
- ADB has grown to encompass 68 members; of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.
- Japan is the largest contributor in the subscribed capital of the country.
- Asian Development Outlook, reports published by ADB.
- It is a regional multilateral financial institution focused on countries in the Asia and Pacific region.
- It currently has 68 members – of which 49 are from the Asia and Pacific region and 19 from outside.

**Q. Which bank has been fined Rs 36.38 lakhs by the RBI in May 2024 for violating the provision of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA)?**

**A) Standard Chartered Bank**

**B) Citibank**

**C) HSBC Bank**

**D) Deutsche Bank**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India fined HSBC Bank Rs 36.38 lakhs for violating the provision of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 1999.
- ✓ According to the RBI, the HSBC bank failed to follow the required reporting requirements under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme of FEMA.





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- ✓ What is a Liberalised Remittance Scheme?
- ✓ The Liberalised Remittance Scheme was introduced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in 2004 under the Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999. Under this scheme, all resident individuals, including minors, can send up to \$2,50,000 in a financial year (April to March) abroad without the permission of the Reserve Bank of India.
- ✓ However the money which is remitted (transferred) has to be for activities which are allowed under FEMA.
- ✓ It currently permits current account transactions like travelling abroad for business purposes, medical purposes, tourism or supporting relatives living abroad.
- ✓ When the scheme was introduced in 2004, the upper limit for fund transfer was USD 25,000 per financial year. The RBI periodically raised this limit to USD 2,50,000 per financial year.
- ✓ The remittance can be made in any freely convertible foreign currency, and there is no limit on the number of transactions in a financial year.
- ✓ The scheme is only for resident individuals and is not available for corporations, partnership firms, Hindu Undivided Family (HUF), Trusts, etc.
- ✓ Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 1999
- ✓ The Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) was enacted in 1999 and was implemented on 1 January 2000. It replaced the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) 1973.
- ✓ Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Limited
- ✓ The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) is a British Bank that was established in Hong Kong in 1865.
- ✓ It started its Indian operation by buying the Mercantile Bank of India in 1959.
- ✓ HSBC is registered as a foreign bank and is regulated by the RBI.
- ✓ Global Headquarters: London, United Kingdom
- ✓ Chief Executive Officer of HSBC India Operation: Hitendra Dave
- ✓ Tagline: The world's local bank.

**Q. Reliance Industries Ltd has signed an agreement with which Norwegian company to accelerate its new energy investments, including green hydrogen production?**

A) Statoil

B) Equinor

C) None of these

D) Nel ASA

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ Reliance Industries Ltd's technology partnership with Norway's NE ASA will help accelerate its new energy investments, including green hydrogen production, helping billionaire Mukesh Ambani move towards green energy.
- ✓ Reliance (RIL) entered into a technology licensing agreement that provides the company with an exclusive license for Nel's alkaline electrolyzers in India and also allows it to manufacture the Norwegian company's alkaline electrolyzers for captive purposes globally.
- ✓ According to the agreement, Nel can procure equipment from Reliance for its own projects. Nel will continue to serve the Indian market with technology platforms that are not covered by the agreement.

## RIL IN NEWS 2023- 24

- Reliance Industries Ltd's technology partnership with Norway's NE ASA will help accelerate its new energy investments, including green hydrogen production.
- Reliance Jio become the world's largest mobile operator in terms of data traffic, ahead of China Mobile
- India's largest private company Reliance Industries has entered in a binding agreement to buy Paramount Global's entire 13.01% stake in Viacom 18 Media for Rs 4,286 crore (\$517 million).
- Reliance Industries Limited and Walt Disney Company have officially signed a binding agreement to merge their media businesses in India.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) achieved a significant milestone on Indian stock exchanges by surpassing a market capitalization of ₹20-lakh crore.
- Reliance Industries Achieves India's First ISCC-Plus Certification.
- Reliance Industries and DBS Bank India have collaborated to introduce a financing initiative aimed at supporting the establishment of compressed biogas (CBG) plants.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is set to hire RS Sodhi, the former MD of the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which is responsible for the popular Indian milk brand, Amul.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and Ashok Leyland unveiled India's first Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H2-ICE) technology solution for heavy duty trucks. This technology was flagged off by PM Modi at the India Energy Week in Bengaluru.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)
- Founded : 8 May 1973
- Founder : Dhirubhai Ambani



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- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- CMD : Mukesh Ambani
- Owner : Mukesh Ambani (50.49%)
- Director : Nita Dalal Ambani
- Subsidiaries
- Jio Platforms (67.03%)
- Jio Payments Bank (70%).
- At Rs 19 lakh crore or \$250 billion, Indian billionaire Mukesh Ambani-promoted Reliance Industries's market capitalisation.

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the RudraM-II missile:**

**1. It is an indigenously developed solid-propelled air-launched missile system.**

**2. It has a strike range of almost 3500-km.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

**A) 1 only**

**B) 2 only**

**C) Both 1 and 2**

**D) Neither 1 nor 2**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Recently, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight-tested the RudraM-II from Su-30 MK-I platform of the Indian Air Force (IAF) off the coast of Odisha.
- ✓ It is an indigenously-developed solid-propelled air-launched missile system.
- ✓ It is meant for Air-to-Surface role to neutralise many types of enemy assets.
- ✓ It is designed to have a strike range of almost 350-km, from a Sukhoi-30MKI fighter of the IAF.
- ✓ It involves a number of state-of-the-art indigenous technologies developed by various DRDO laboratories have been incorporated in the missile system.
- ✓ The missile is a solid-propelled supersonic missile. According to the DRDO, the Rudram-II missile can carry a payload of 200 kg and attain a maximum speed of 6,791 km/h (Mach 5.5).
- ✓ The missile can be launched from an altitude of 3 to 15 km and has a strike range of 350 km.
- ✓ RudraM series missiles





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- ✓ These are being developed by the DRDO as new-generation anti-radiation missiles (NGARMs) for destroying a variety of enemy surveillance, communication, radars, and command and control centers on the ground.
- ✓ The 150-km range RudraM-I missile, with INS-GPS navigation with a passive homing head for the final attack, was first tested in Oct 2020.

**Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the eMigrate Project:**

**1. It aims to assist students who are going abroad for study purposes.**

**2. The eMigrate portal is integrated to Common Service Centre to facilitate registration of applicants.**

**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**

- ✓ Recently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into between Ministry External Affairs (MEA), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Common Service Centre eGovernance Services India Limited to create a synergy between CSC SPV & MEA to provide the eMigrate services through CSCs in the country.
- ✓ It is undertaken to assist mainly the blue-collar workers going to Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries.
- ✓ The project was conceptualized to address issues faced by the migrant workers by making emigration process online seamless and also to bring foreign employers and registered recruitment agents and insurance companies on one common platform aimed at promoting safe and legal migration.
- ✓ Under this MoU, eMigrate Portal of MEA would be integrated with CSC's portal, to provide following eMigrate services to the citizens through CSCs
- ✓ Facilitate registration of applicants on eMigrate portal through CSCs.

**Q. PRAGATI- 2024, is an initiative recently launched by:**

A) NITI Aayog

B) DRDO

C) Reserve Bank of India

D) Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Ayush, launced “PRAGATI- 2024”.
- ✓ About PRAGATI-2024:
- ✓ Pharma Research in AyurGyan And Techno Innovation (PRAGATI) aims to explore research opportunities and foster collaboration between CCRAS and the Ayurveda drug industry.
- ✓ Key facts about Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences
- ✓ It is an autonomous body under the Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India.
- ✓ It is an apex body in India for undertaking, coordinating, formulating, developing, and promoting research on scientific lines in Ayurvedic sciences.
- ✓ The research activities of the Council include Medicinal Plant Research (Medico-Ethno Botanical Survey, Pharmacognosy, and Tissue Culture), Drug Standardization, Pharmacological Research, Clinical Research, Literary Research & Documentation and Tribal Health Care Research Programme.
- ✓ It also does formulation, coordination, development and promotion of research on scientific lines in Ayurveda and Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine.
- ✓ Headquarter: New Delhi

**Q. Which Indian peacekeeper received the ‘United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year for 2023’?**

**A) Lakshmi Sehgal**

**B) Radhika Sen**

**C) Sophia Qureshi**

**D) Priya Jhingan**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ United Nations has selected the Indian Army Major Radhika Sen for the prestigious 2023 Military Gender Advocate of the Year award.
- ✓ The award will be conferred to Major Radhika Sen by the United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on the occasion of the International Day of the UN Peacekeepers. The International Day of the UN Peacekeepers is observed on 29 May every year since 2003.
- ✓ The United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award was created by the Office of Military Affairs within the Department for Peace Operations of the United Nations in 2016.
- ✓ Major Radhika Sen becomes the second Indian to be awarded the United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.



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- ✓ Major Suman Gawani was the first Indian to be honoured with the UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award in 2019. Major Suman Gawani was deployed with the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS).
- ✓ Major Radhika, who is from Himachal Pradesh, was deployed with the Indian Rapid Deployment Battalion in South Sudan in 2023. She was working with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo MONUSCO.
- ✓ At present, 6,063 Indian personnel are working with the UN peacekeeping operations. Out of 6,603, 1,954 are with MONUSCO, of which 32 are women

**Q. Who is the first person to climb Mount Everest and Mount Lhotse in a single season?**

A) Krushnaa Patil

B) Satyadeep Gupta

C) Malavath Purna

D) Mohan Singh Kohli

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Satyadeep Gupta of India became the first person to climb Mount Everest, the world's highest peak, and Mount Lhotse, the world's fourth-highest peak, twice in a single season.
- ✓ He also set the record for being the first Indian to travel from Mount Everets to Mount Lhotse in 11 hours and 15 minutes.
- ✓ Mountaineer Satyadeep Gupta first conquered the world's highest mountain peak, 8,848.86 metres high, Mount Everest, on 21 May 2024 at noon. He then travelled to Mount Lhotse, which lies just south of Mount Everest. A ridge joins Mount Lhotse with Mount Everest at an elevation of about 25,000 feet (7,600 meters). Mount Lhotse is sometimes considered part of Everest.
- ✓ Mountaineer Satyadeep Gupta took 11 hours and 15 minutes to reach Mount Lhotse. He climbed the 8,849-metre-high Mount Lhotse at 12.45 am on 22 May 2024.
- ✓ This was the first time a person had performed Double Dual Ascent of the world's highest and the fourth highest peaks in a single season.
- ✓ Satyadeep Gupta was accompanied by Pastemba Sherpa and Nima Ungdi Sherpa
- ✓ Mount Lhotse
- ✓ Lhotse mountain in the Himalayas lies on the border of Nepal and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China. It consists of three summits. The highest of which is Lhotse I at 27,940 feet (8,516 meters). It is the world's fourth tallest peak after Mount Everest, K2 and Kanchenjunga.





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- ✓ Fritz Luchsinger and Ernest Reiss of Switzerland were the first people to climb the Lhotse Peak on May 18, 1956.

**Q. What was the theme for the ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East Green Airports Recognition (GAR) 2024, and how were the recognised airports categorized?**

- A) Renewable Energy; Bronze, Silver, Gold
- B) Carbon Emissions Reduction; Silver, Gold, Platinum
- C) Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions; Platinum, Gold, Silver
- D) Waste Management; Gold, Platinum, Diamond

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific & Middle East announced the results of the Green Airports Recognition (GAR) 2024, recognising 12 airports in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East for their outstanding accomplishments in sustainability projects. The theme for the Green Airports Recognition 2024 is Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions.
- ✓ These airports were honoured at the ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East / ACI World Annual General Assembly, Conference and Exhibition (WAGA 2024) in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- ✓ The recognised airports have been awarded into three categories – “Platinum”, “Gold”, and “Silver” recognition – based on various airport size categories and set criteria.
- ✓ The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has bagged the silver category award in the Airports handling between 15 million and 35 million passengers per year. The other Indian airports to win the GAR 2024 are New Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport (silver) in airports handling over 35 million passengers a year category and Lucknow’s Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport (silver) in airports handling less than 8 million passengers a year category.

**Q. Who created the robot that set the Guinness World Record for solving a Rubik’s puzzle cube in 0.305 seconds?**

- A) IBM
- B) Google
- C) Mitsubishi Electric team
- D) Boston Dynamics

**Answer : C**

- ✓ According to the Guinness World Records, a robot has become the fastest in the world to solve the puzzle cube, doing so in just 0.305 seconds.



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- ✓ The robot was created by the Mitsubishi Electric team in Japan.
- ✓ According to the Guinness World Records, a robot has become the fastest in the world to solve the puzzle cube, doing so in just 0.305 seconds.
- ✓ The robot was created by the Mitsubishi Electric team in Japan.

**Q. Who set the record by climbing Mount Everest three times in a single climbing season?**

A) Nirmal Purja

B) Tenzing Norgay

C) Pasang Lhamu Sherpa

D) Purnima Shrestha

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Nepalese mountaineer and photojournalist, scripted history by becoming the first person to summit Mt Everest, the highest peak in the world, three times in a single climbing season.
- ✓ Purnima first summited the 8848.86-metre peak on May 12. She reached the summit again on May 19 with Pasang Sherpa and achieved her third summit.
- ✓ This was Purnima's fourth ascent to Everest. She climbed Everest for the first time in 2018. She ascended Mt. Manaslu (8,163 mt) the following year and summited the world's highest mountain with success the following year

**Q. What is the name of the anti-radiation missile developed by the Defence and Research Development Organisation (DRDO)?**

A) ASTRA

B) RudraM-II

C) Akash

D) Prithvi

**Answer : B**

**Q. What is the range of the RudraM-II missile?**

A) 450 Km

B) 350 Km

C) 250 Km

D) 500 Km

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The missile can be launched from an altitude of 3 to 15 km and has a strike range of 350 km.
- ✓ The RudraM-II missile is an air-to-surface missile which can be launched by a fighter aircraft to target ground-based targets



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**Q. Which bank will stop sending SMS alerts for UPI transitions up to Rs 100 from June 25?**

A) ICICI Bank

B) HDFC Bank

C) Yes Bank

D) Axis Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ HDFC Bank will stop sending SMS alerts for UPI transitions up to Rs 100 from June 25.
- ✓ The private lender said that SMS alerts won't be pushed for incoming payments up to Rs 500 from the said date either.
- ✓ UPI transactions require the authorisation of a Personal Identification Number (PIN), a 4-6 digit pass code set by the customers as a security measure to ensure safe and approved transactions. For normal UPI the transaction limit is up to Rs 1 Lakh per transaction.
- ✓ India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions reached an all-time high in 2023, with a total volume of 117.6 billion transactions and a value of Rs 183 trillion

## HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023-24

- HDFC Bank will stop sending SMS alerts for UPI transitions up to Rs 100 from June 25.
- 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.





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- 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. At the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024, which organization received the “CSR Champion Award” in the NF (Non-Fossil Fuel) business category?**

**A) Tata Power**

**B) Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC)**

**C) NTPC Limited**

**D) Adani Green Energy Limited**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ PFC receives “CSR Champion Award” at Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024
- ✓ Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) has been honoured with the Corporate Social Responsibility award in the NF (Non-Fossil Fuel) business category at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024, held in Goa.
- ✓ The Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024 brought together senior government policymakers and top management of Central Public Sector Enterprises to discuss and showcase exemplary initiatives in sustainability.
- ✓ The Summit honoured luminaries and pioneers in various categories for their outstanding contributions to sustainability.



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- ✓ PFC's CSR initiatives focus on impactful projects contributing to inclusive growth and equitable development in society through education and capacity building measures.

**Q. Which organization did India assume the chairmanship of for the term 2024-26, with the aim of promoting safe, orderly, and legal migration?**

A) SAARC

B) BRICS

C) ASEAN

D) Colombo Process

**Answer : D**

- ✓ India Assumes Chair Of Colombo Process For 2024-26.
- ✓ India assumed the Chair of Colombo Process for 2024-26, for the first time since its inception. India looks to promote safe, orderly and legal migration.
- ✓ The Colombo Process is a regional consultative forum consisting of 12 member states from South and Southeast Asia focused on the management of overseas employment and the protection of migrant workers.
- ✓ The Colombo Process serves as a platform for member states to share best practices and policies regarding overseas employment. It is a non-binding process that facilitates discussions on improving the management of migration and protecting the rights of migrant workers.

**Q. Which company is set to begin construction on India's first Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu near Chennai, a project conceptualized 12 years ago?**

A) Tata Group

B) Adani Group

C) Larsen & Toubro

D) Reliance Industries

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Reliance Industries to begin construction on India's first multimodal logistics park near Chennai
- ✓ Reliance Industries is set to begin construction on India's first Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu near Chennai in June, a project conceptualized 12 years ago.
- ✓ Despite initial setbacks, the project, valued at Rs 1,424 crore and spanning 184.27 acres in Tiruvallur district, is now ready to proceed, with potential to revolutionize the southern region's logistics landscape.
- ✓ Reliance Industries secured the bid for the Multimodal Logistics Park in 2022, surpassing the Adani Group.



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## RIL IN NEWS 2023- 24

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- Director : Nita Dalal Ambani
- Subsidiaries
- Jio Platforms (67.03%)
- Jio Payments Bank (70%).





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- At Rs 19 lakh crore or \$250 billion, Indian billionaire Mukesh Ambani-promoted Reliance Industries's market capitalisation.

**Q. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has partnered with which academic institution to develop India's first quantum diamond microchip imager?**

A) IIT Kanpur

B) IIT Delhi

C) IIT Bombay

D) IIT Madras

**Answer : C**

- ✓ TCS And IIT Bombay Collaborate To Create India's First Semiconductor Chip Imaging Tool.
- ✓ IT services major Tata Consultancy Services has entered into a partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay, to develop what it said is India's first quantum diamond microchip imager.
- ✓ The Quantum Diamond Microchip Imager, an advanced sensing tool for semiconductor chip imaging, will help reduce the chances of chip failures and improve the efficiency of electronic devices.
- ✓ Collaboration between TCS and IIT-Bombay to develop a quantum imaging platform for the non-destructive examination of chips is the first such initiative in India.
- ✓ Over the next two years, experts from TCS will work with Kasturi Saha, Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering of IIT-Bombay to develop the quantum imaging platform in the PQuest Lab.

## IIT IN NEWS 2023-24

- TCS And IIT Bombay Collaborate To Create India's First Semiconductor Chip Imaging Tool.
- 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
- President of India Draupadi Murmu launched India's first domestic gene therapy for cancer at IIT Bombay.
- French aerospace and defence firm Starburst Accelerator SARLhas 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.



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- 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.
- 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.



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- 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. Which Indian company has signed a one-year deal with Russia's Rosneft to purchase at least 3 million barrels of oil per month in roubles?**

- A) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)
- B) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- C) Reliance Industries
- D) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Reliance signs deal with Russia's Rosneft purchasing oil in roubles
- ✓ India's Reliance Industries, operator of the world's biggest refining complex, has entered into a one-year deal with Russia's Rosneft to acquire at least 3 million barrels of oil a month in Roubles, revealed sources.
- ✓ The shift to rouble payments follows Russian President Vladimir Putin's push for Moscow and its trading partners to find alternatives to the Western financial system to facilitate trade despite U.S. and European sanctions.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of Committee A at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA), announced by the World Health Organisation (WHO)?**

- A) Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- B) Rajesh Bhushan
- C) Apurva Chandra
- D) V.K. Paul

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Apurva Chandra, Union health secretary, Government of India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Committee A at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA), announced by the World Health Organisation (WHO). The Committee A of WHA, the event scheduled to be held from May 27 to June 1 held at Geneva, is chaired by India





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- ✓ India's leadership in Committee A underscores its growing influence in global health governance. The World Health Assembly features sessions from three main committees: Plenary, Committee A, and Committee B. India's chairmanship of Committee A will continue until June 1.

**Q. Which country was highlighted by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the 77th World Health Assembly for establishing the Global Traditional Medicine Centre and co-hosting the first global summit on traditional medicine?**

A) China

B) Japan

C) India

D) South Korea

**Answer : C**

- ✓ World Health Organisation (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus mentioned the Global Traditional Medicine Centre established in India, and the first global summit on traditional medicine, organised by the WHO and co-hosted by the Ministry of Ayush, India, in his address at the 77th World Health Assembly in Geneva.
- ✓ Ghebreyesus noted that WHO continues to support member states to strengthen their regulatory systems. He said that WHO recognised Turkiye's system as having achieved maturity level 3, and Saudi Arabia's as level 4.
- ✓ He stated Singapore, South Korea and Switzerland were the first three countries to become WHO-Listed Regulatory Authorities, making them "regulators of reference." He added, "And just last week we listed a further 33 national and regional regulators."
- ✓ In his address, he said that WHO estimates that 777 million people will be better protected from health emergencies by 2025, three-quarters of the way to our target of 1 billion. He further said, "Of course, "better protected" does not mean completely protected, and as the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated, all Member States have much work to do, individually and together."

**Q. Which Disney songwriting legend, known for "Mary Poppins" and "It's a Small World," recently passed away at the age of 95?**

A) Alan Menken

B) Howard Ashman

C) Richard M. Sherman

D) Robert B. Sherman

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ Disney songwriting legend Richard M. Sherman, remembered for “Mary Poppins” and “It’s a Small World,” among many others, has died at 95 years old.
- ✓ Along with his brother Robert B. Sherman, who died in 2012 at age 86, Richard Sherman penned some of the most beloved songs in Disney’s soundtrack oeuvre.
- ✓ Richard garnered nine Academy Award nominations (winning two Oscars for his work on the 1964 classic Mary Poppins), won three GRAMMY Awards, and received 24 gold and platinum albums over the course of his 65-year career.

**Q. Poonawalla Fincorp Limited has partnered with which bank to launch the co-branded ‘IndusInd Bank Poonawalla Fincorp eLITE RuPay Platinum Credit Card’?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Poonawalla Fincorp, IndusInd Bank launch co-branded RuPay credit card.
- ✓ Poonawalla Fincorp Limited, in association with IndusInd Bank, has launched the co-branded ‘IndusInd Bank Poonawalla Fincorp eLITE RuPay Platinum Credit Card’. The company said the new card will offer customers rewards and other benefits.
- ✓ Users can earn rewards for every ₹100 spent, including UPI transactions, and benefit from 2.5 times reward points on e-commerce transactions.
- ✓ As it is a RuPay credit card, you can use it in any of the popular Unified Payments Interface (UPI) applications such as Google Pay, BHIM, Paytm, and PhonePe. Poonawalla Fincorp IndusInd Bank eLITE RuPay Platinum Credit Card will also have no joining fee or annual fee

**Q. Which company has appointed former Walt Disney executive Gaurav Banerjee as its new India CEO?**

- A) Netflix
- B) Amazon Prime
- C) Sony
- D) Zee Entertainment

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Sony appoints Walt Disney executive Gaurav Banerjee as new India CEO
- ✓ Japan’s Sony has appointed a Walt Disney executive, Gaurav Banerjee, as its new India chief executive to lead its television and other media businesses, two people familiar with the matter.



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- ✓ Banerjee has resigned from Disney's India unit where he was the head of content for its streaming service, Hotstar, and head of business for the company's TV channels in Hindi-speaking markets

**Q. Which insurance company has launched Surety Insurance Bonds to support the government's infrastructure development agenda, which has been allocated 3.3 percent of the GDP in FY 2024?**

- A) ICICI Lombard General Insurance    B) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance  
C) TATA AIG General Insurance        D) HDFC ERGO General Insurance

**Answer : C**

- ✓ TATA AIG launches Surety Insurance Bonds.
- ✓ TATA AIG General Insurance, a private general insurer, has rolled out Surety Insurance Bonds to support the government's ambitious agenda on infrastructure development, which has been allocated 3.3 percent of the GDP in FY 2024.
- ✓ TATA AIG's Surety Insurance Bonds have been designed to facilitate smoother execution of infrastructure projects and commercial contracts across both government and private sectors, catering to diverse project needs.

**Q. Who has been elected as the new Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) for the 2024-2029 term?**

- A) Dr. Monique Eloit  
B) Dr. Emmanuelle Soubeyran  
C) Dr. Margaret Chan  
D) Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Dr Emmanuelle Soubeyran elected as new Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health
- ✓ France applauds the election of Dr. Emmanuelle Soubeyran as Director General of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) for the 2024-2029 term. The year 2024 marks the 100th anniversary of WOAH.
- ✓ Dr Soubeyran's election brings an end to predecessor Dr Monique Eloit's successful 8-year tenure at the Organisation. She was elected to this position at the 91st World Assembly of Delegates, which was held in Paris.





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**Q. Who has topped the Hurun India Art List of the most successful Indian artists alive for the sixth consecutive year in 2024?**

A) Subodh Gupta

B) Bharti Kher

C) Anish Kapoor

D) Jitish Kallat

**Answer : C**

- ✓ London-based Indian-origin artist Anish Kapoor tops the Hurun India Art List 2024
- ✓ For the sixth consecutive year, London-based Indian origin artist Anish Kapoor has topped the Hurun India Art List of the most successful Indian artists alive, released by the Hurun Research Institute. The list ranks the top 50 living Indian artists according to the sales of their works sold at public auctions as of January 1, 2024.
- ✓ Top 5 Artists In Hurun India Art List 2024
  1. Anish Kapoor: 79.9 crore.
  2. Gulam Mohammed Sheikh: Rs 24.1 crore.
  3. Arpita Singh: Rs 22.9 crore.
  4. Rameshwar Broota: Rs 19.3 crore.
  5. Krishen Khanna: Rs 18 crore

**Q. Which organization has tied up with the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) to manufacture hydrogen using a 50 kW alkaline electrolyser system?**

A) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)

B) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)

C) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)

D) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed an agreement with the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) to manufacture hydrogen using a 50 kW alkaline electrolyser system.
- ✓ BHEL developed the hydrogen production method in-house, and it is heavily reliant on local materials. Through this collaboration with BARC, BHEL seeks to scale up and commercialise Indigenous Alkaline Electrolyser Technology for use in industries such as refineries, fertilisers, steel, transportation, and so on.



- ✓ This will be a step ahead in BHEL's contribution to the 'National Green Hydrogen Mission' and 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'

**Q. Which country recently introduced the “One Person, One File” (OPOF) mass surveillance program?**

- A) China    B) Japan  
C) Russia    D) Mexico

**Answer : A**

- ✓ China introduced the “One Person, One File” (OPOF) mass surveillance program, intending to triple facial recognition camera deployment and compile extensive personal data on residents.
- ✓ This reflects China's push for comprehensive digital censorship, transcending mere surveillance to create a pervasive digital record for each citizen.
- ✓ The initiative encodes individuals' relationships, activities, and behaviors into data, enhancing Party oversight.

**Q. World No Tobacco Day is observed on which day?**

- A) 31 May  
B) 28 May  
C) 30 May  
D) 29 May

**Answer : A**

- ✓ World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) is observed every year on 31 May, globally to inform the public on the dangers of using tobacco and to discourage the use of tobacco in any form.
- ✓ The Day was created by the member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1987.
- ✓ The Day was created by the member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1987.



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SELECTED IN - RRB PO  
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK  
STATE - TAMILNADU



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NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY  
ROLL NO - 2603003299  
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART  
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ROLL NO - 2283004123  
STATE - PUNJAB  
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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ROLL NO - 1533002831  
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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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NAME - GURPREET KAUR  
ROLL NO - 2283002821  
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK  
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



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