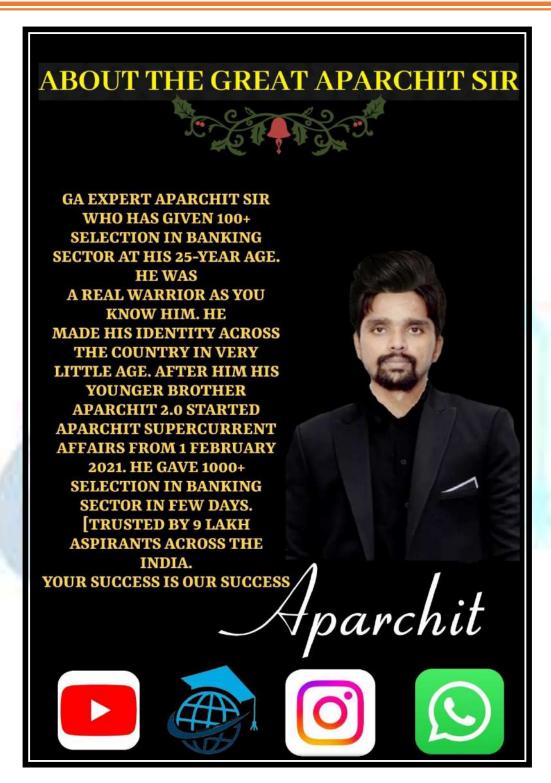


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Ultimately, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for giving me an abundance of love, support, and respect. Thank you so much, India.

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

Q. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the ad-hoc committee set up by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to review the ownership and economic structure of clearing corporations?

A) Raghuram Rajan

B) Usha Thorat

C) Urjit Patel

D) Duvvuri Subbarao

Answer: B

- ✓ SEBI Forms Committee to Review Clearing Corporations.
- ✓ Capital markets regulator SEBI said it has set up an ad-hoc committee chaired by Usha Thorat, who was a former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to review the ownership and economic structure of clearing corporations and suggest measures to ensure that clearing corporations function as resilient, independent, and neutral risk managers.
- ✓ The decision has been taken in the wake of the substantial growth of Indian securities markets in recent years and the importance of clearing corporations as central risk management.

SEBI IN NEWS 2024

- > SEBI has reduced the deliverable period for commodity derivatives from the previous 5 days to 3 days. This regulatory change is set to take effect from July 1, 2024.
- > SEBI has launched SCORES 2.0, an upgraded version of its Complaint Redress System (SCORES), to strengthen mechanisms for addressing investor complaints.
- > SEBI has decided to decrease the minimum issue size for public issuance of Zero Coupon Zero Principal Instruments (ZCZP) from Rs 1 crore to Rs 50 lakh.
- LIC to meet regulatory requirements, the SEBI has extended LIC's deadline to achieve a minimum 10% public shareholding.
- LIC, a state-owned insurance giant, now has until May 16, 2027, to fulfill this obligation.
- National Stock Exchange (NSE) gets the final SEBI approval to launch Social Stock Exchange.
- SEBI has granted approval to CRISIL ESG Ratings & Analytics as a Category 1 provider of ESG ratings, marking a significant development in the realm of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) assessments in India.

- > Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):
- ➤ It is the regulatory body for securities and commodity markets in India established in 1988.
- ➤ It is the regulator of the Capital market and Commodities market in India.
- ➤ The first SEBI chairman was Dr S A Dave (1988-90)
- Madhabi Puri Buch is the current and 10th Chairperson of the SEBI.
- ➤ Headquarters : Mumbai
- Q. Which country remained the top supplier of oil to India, accounting for nearly a third of the crude brought into the country?

A) Saudi Arabia

B) United States

C) Russia

D) Iraq

Answer: C

- ✓ Russia remains India's top crude supplier, imports rise 14% in January.
- ✓ Russia remained the top supplier of oil to India in January, accounting for nearly a third of the crude brought into the country, according to data from the commerce ministry.
- ✓ At \$4.47 billion, the value of the crude oil supply from Russia jumped 41% year-on-year. Sequentially, crude imports from that country increased 14% from \$3.92 billion in December 2023.
- ✓ Meanwhile, the increase in oil supplies from Russia has coincided with a year-on-year decline in imports from traditional suppliers in the Gulf region. Iraq was the second-largest source of crude oil for India in December, supplying \$2.54 billion worth of the commodity, 5% higher year-on-year.
- Q. Which country emerged as India's third-largest export destination, following the US and UAE, despite a dip in India's merchandise shipments by over 3 per cent?

A) China

B) Germany

C) Japan

D) Netherlands

Answer: D

- ✓ Netherlands becomes India's 3rd Largest Export Destination in 2023-24.
- ✓ The Netherlands has emerged as India's third largest export destination after the US and UAE during 2023-24, even as the country's merchandise shipments dipped by over 3 per cent, according to the commerce ministry data.
- ✓ India's trade surplus with the Netherlands has increased to USD 17.4 billion in the last fiscal from USD 13 billion in 2022-23.

- Q. Which company has overtaken Apple to become the world's second-most valuable company, with a market value of over \$3 trillion?
 - A) Microsoft

B) Nvidia

C) Apple

D) Google

Answer: B

- ✓ Nvidia Overtakes Apple As No. 2 Most Valuable Company.
- ✓ Nvidia has overtaken Apple to become the world's second-most valuable company, with furious demand for the chipmaker's shares taking its valuation to over \$3 trillion. Microsoft, the world's most valuable company with a market value of \$3.14 trillion, rose 1.91 percent, while Apple gained 0.78 percent.
- ✓ Apple, the first company to see its market capitalisation breach the \$1 trillion and \$2 trillion marks, is grappling with tepid demand for its iPhones in China and perceptions that it is falling behind in the race to adopt AI.
- ✓ Nvidia's rally continues an extraordinary streak of gains for the California-based firm, whose graphics processing units have fuelled a boom in artificial intelligence (AI).
- Q. With reference to Pump and Dump Scheme in Stock Market, consider the following statements:
 - 1. It involves artificially inflating the price of a stock through misleading information, only to sell the stock at the inflated price.
 - 2. It is particularly prevalent in large-cap stocks.
 - 3. Under the SEBI guidelines, pump and dump schemes are completely banned in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer: B

- ✓ The Securities Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) recently slapped a fine of Rs 7.75 crore on 11 individuals for allegedly operating a 'pump and dump' scheme.
- ✓ About Pump and Dump Scheme:
- ✓ In the stock market, a pump and dump scheme is a type of manipulation activity that involves artificially inflating the price of a stock through false and misleading information, only to sell the stock at the inflated price and leave investors with significant losses

- ✓ It is particularly prevalent in the micro-cap and small-cap sectors, where companies often have limited public information and trading volumes are lower.
- ✓ How does pump and dump work? This process involves several steps:
- ✓ First, a significant amount of stock in a relatively small or thinly traded company is acquired. These stocks are often referred to as 'penny stocks' because they trade at low prices and are more susceptible to price manipulation due to low trading volumes.
- Q. Kotak Mahindra Bank has received approval from the RBI to sell a 70% stake in its general insurance arm to which company?

A) AXA Insurance

B) Prudential Insurance

C) Zurich Insurance Company

D) Allianz Insurance

Answer: C

- ✓ Kotak Bank gets RBI nod to sell 70 pc stake in general insurance arm to Zurich Insurance.
- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Bank said it has received the RBI approval to sell a 70 per cent stake in its general insurance arm to Zurich Insurance Company.
- ✓ In November of last year, Zurich Insurance Company announced plans to acquire a 51% stake in Kotak Mahindra General through a combination of capital infusion and share purchase, followed by a subsequent 19% stake acquisition within three years of the initial acquisition for ₹5,560 Crore.
- ✓ The acquirer is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Zurich Insurance Group Ltd.

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IN NEWS 2024

- ➤ RBI has given the green light to Zurich Insurance Company's acquisition of a 70% stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company for ₹5,560 crore.
- > KVS Manian, joint MD at Kotak Mahindra Bank, has stepped down from his position with immediate effect, the bank informed the exchanges. He is now likely to join Federal Bank.
- ➤ Kotak Mahindra Bank has appointed Jaideep Hansraj, current MD and CEO of Kotak Securities, as Group President of 'One Kotak' with effect from April 1, 2024.
- ➤ Kotak Mahindra Bank has sold a 2% stake in KFin Technologies through the open market for Rs 208 crore.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched 'Smart Choice Gold Loan' for customers.
- ➤ Kotak Mahindra Bank Partners with IITK to Launch Kotak School of Sustainability.

- Kotak Mahindra Bank
- Founded 1985
- Founders: Uday Kotak
- > Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ➤ MD & CEO : Ashok Vaswani
- Tagline: Let's Make Money Simple Ab Kona Kona Kotak.
- Q. Which Indian shooter won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event, securing India's first medal ISSF World Cup 2024 in Munich, Germany?
 - A) Abhinav Bindra

B) Manu Bhaker

C) Sarabjot Singh

D) Saurabh Chaudhary

Answer: C

- ✓ Indian shooter Sarabjot Singh won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 in Munich, Germany. He won the first medal for India in the event.
- ✓ Singh scored 242.7 to win the gold medal in the final. Shuaihang Bu of China shot 242.5 for the silver medal while Germany's Robin Walter settled for the bronze medal in the final with a score of 220.0.
- ✓ This was the second individual ISSF World Cup gold medal for Singh.

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. Consider the following statements with reference to the Arun-III Hydro Power Project:
 - 1. It is a run-of-the-river hydropower project being constructed on the Arun River in Nepal with Indian assistance.
 - 2. The entire amount of electricity generated by the project will be sold to India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

- ✓ The 900 MW Arun III Hydropower Project in eastern Nepal, constructed with Indian assistance, recently achieved a significant milestone with a tunnel breakthrough.
- ✓ About Arun-III Hydro Power Project:
- ✓ It is a 900 MW run-of-the-river hydropower project being constructed on the Arun River in Sankhuwasabha District of Eastern Nepal.
- ✓ Arun is a tributary of the Koshi River in Nepal.
- ✓ The project comprises a 70-meter-tall and 466-meter-long concrete gravity dam and a Head Race Tunnel (HRT) of 11.74 km with underground an power house containing four generating units of 225 MW each on left bank.
- ✓ It is being developed with Indian assistance at a cost of Rs. 144 billion.
- ✓ Once completed, it will be the biggest hydroelectric facility in Nepal.
- ✓ It is being developed on a build-own-operate-and-transfer (BOOT) basis by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Arun-III Power Development Company (SAPDC), a joint venture of the Government of India and the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Nepal will receive 21.9% of the electricity generated at the power plant as free power during these initial 25 years of commercial operations.
- ✓ The output from the power plant will be transferred to Muzaffarpur in India through a 317 km-long 400 kV double circuit transmission line.
- Q. Mongla Port is located in which one of the following countries?

A) Bangladesh

B) Nepal

C) Myanmar

D) Bhutan

Answer: A

- ✓ India is looking to operate the Mongla Port in Bangladesh and build a new terminal, aiming to counterbalance China's strategic presence in the region.
- ✓ About Mongla Port
- ✓ The Port of Mongla is located in the Bagerhat District of Bangladesh. It lies 62 km north of the Bay of Bengal coastline.
- ✓ It is situated at the confluence of the Pasur River and the Mongla River.
- ✓ The Port is surrounded and protected by the Sundarban mangrove forest.

- ✓ Mongla is the second largest seaport in Bangladesh after Chittagong.
- Q. NaturAfrica initiative, aimed at supporting African biodiversity conservation through a people-centred approach is an initiative of?
 - A) BRICS

B) African Union

C) European Union

D) Global Environment facility

Answer: C

- ✓ The European Commission (EC) has removed Tanzania from the list of countries eligible for its 18 million Euro conservation grant to be launched in East Africa as part of its NaturAfrica initiative.
- ✓ About NaturAfrica initiative
- ✓ The NaturAfrica initiative is a European Union (EU) program aimed at supporting biodiversity conservation in Africa through a people-centred approach.
- ✓ It identifies key landscapes for conservation and development, focusing on creating jobs, improving security, and sustainable livelihoods while preserving ecosystems and wildlife.
- ✓ The initiative is structured around two pillars: short-term actions in key landscapes and medium-term support to address the root causes of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation by integrating these concerns into other sectors.
- Q. Which regulatory authority in India has granted a Certificate of Registration to Arka Fincap Limited, a subsidiary of Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited (KOEL), allowing it to operate as a Corporate Agent (composite)?
 - A) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
 - B) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 - C) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
 - D) Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)

Answer: C

- ✓ Arka Fincap gets IRDAI's Corporate Agency License to offer Insurance Solutions.
- ✓ Arka Fincap Limited, an NBFC and subsidiary of Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited (KOEL), has been given a Certificate of Registration to function as a Corporate Agent (composite) by India's Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI).

- ✓ This registration allows Arka to expand into insurance distribution, adding to its existing financial solutions portfolio to meet consumers' diverse needs.
- Q. NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and which institution have partnered to introduce a real-time payment system in Peru, similar to India's UPI, making Peru the first South American country to use UPI technology?
 - A) Banco Central de Reserva del Perú (BCRP)
 - B) Banco de Crédito del Perú (BCP)
 - C) Interbank Perú
 - D) Scotiabank Perú

Answer: A

- ✓ Peru adopts India's UPI technology for real-time payments.
- ✓ NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and the Central Reserve Bank of Peru (BCRP) have announced a partnership to introduce a real-time payment system in Peru, similar to India's UPI. This partnership is a major step, making Peru the first South American country to use the well-known Unified Payment Interface (UPI) technology.
- ✓ The deal with BCRP is the second in a series of foreign partnerships that NIPL has started. The first was with the Bank of Namibia.
- ✓ The main goal of these deals is to help other countries improve their digital payment systems by copying India's successful UPI system.
- Q. What is the name of the insurance company that has officially rebranded itself as Edelweiss Life Insurance, marking a significant shift in its strategic direction and brand identity?
 - A) Edelweiss Financial Services
- B) Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance
- C) Edelweiss General Insurance
- D) Edelweiss Investment Management

Answer: B

- ✓ Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance rebranded as Edelweiss Life Insurance.
- ✓ Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance has officially rebranded itself as Edelweiss Life Insurance, marking a significant shift in its strategic direction and brand identity.
- ✓ This transformation is reflected in the Edelweiss Life Insurance's refreshed logo, which retains the brand positioning of 'zindagi unlimited.

- ✓ 'The rebranding is seen as a pivotal move to enhance the company's competitiveness in the marketplace.
- Q. Who, along with Butch Wilmore, became the first to fly to space aboard the Boeing Starliner's in the first-ever crewed mission, making her the first woman to fly on the maiden mission of a new human-rated spacecraft?

A) Kalpana Chawla

B) Sunita Williams

C) Peggy Whitson

D) Anousheh Ansari

Answer: B

- ✓ Indian-American Astronaut Sunita Williams Becomes First Woman To Pilot New Spacecraft On Maiden Crewed Test Flight.
- ✓ Indian-Origin NASA astronaut Sunita Williams, along with Butch Wilmore, has become the first to fly to space aboard the Boeing Starliner's in the first-ever crewed mission. The 59-year-old Williams created history by becoming the first woman to fly on the maiden mission of a new human-rated spacecraft.
- ✓ The crew was launched to fly aboard the United Launch Alliance's Atlas V rocket from the Space Launch Complex-41 at the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. The flight comes after several delays over the years.
- Q. Who recently became the first person to spend 1,000 days in space, achieving the milestone on June 4, 2024, after making five journeys to the International Space Station dating back to 2008?

A) Sergey Krikalev

B) Yuri Gagarin

C) Oleg Kononenko

D) Valentina Tereshkova

Answer: C

- ✓ Russian cosmonaut becomes first person to spend 1,000 days in space.
- ✓ Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko has become the first person to spend 1,000 days in space. The 59-yearold achieved the milestone on June 4, having made five journeys to the International Space Station dating back to 2008.
- ✓ His current trip to the ISS began on September 15, 2023, alongside NASA astronaut Loral O'Hara and compatriot Nikolai Chub. If Kononenko's mission ends as scheduled September 23, 2024, he will have spent a total of 1,110 days in orbit.
- ✓ Kononenko first took the cumulative space time record in February 2024, when he surpassed the total of 878 days, 11 hours, 29 minutes, and 48 seconds set by fellow Russian Gennady Padalka.

- Q. Which constituency did Shankar Lalwani represent when he won the Lok Sabha election by a margin of 11,75,092 votes, and the constituency also set a record for the highest-ever NOTA votes at 2,18,674?
 - A) Bhopal

B) Gopalganj

C) Indore

D) Jabalpur

Answer: C

- ✓ 'No contest' to NOTA: Indore scripts electoral history in 2024 Lok Sabha election.
- ✓ Indore on June 4 rewrote history by registering the highest-ever NOTA votes in the country at 2,18,674, overtaking a record posted by Bihar's Gopalganj in 2019, while the BJP candidate Shankar Lalwani won the Lok Sabha election from the seat in Madhya Pradesh by a staggering margin of 11,75,092 votes.
- Q. Which country will host the annual general meeting (AGM) of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) next year, after a gap of 42 years?

A) China

B) United States

C) India

D) Brazil

Answer: C

- ✓ India to host IATA's annual global airlines summit after 42 years.
- ✓ India will host the world's most premier aviation event, the annual general meeting (AGM) of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), next year, after a gap of 42 years.
- ✓ This will be the third time the IATA AGM considered one of the most significant events in the aviation industry's calendar has convened in Delhi, after 1958 and 1983.
- Q. Who won the Kota parliamentary seat by a margin of more than 41,139 votes, becoming the first Lok Sabha Speaker in 20 years to be re-elected to the Lower House?

A) Shankar Lalwani

B) Om Birla

C) Sumitra Mahajan

D) Meira Kumar

Answer: B

- ✓ Election results 2024: Om Birla becomes first Lok Sabha Speaker in 20 years to be re-elected as MP.
- ✓ Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla won the Kota parliamentary seat by a margin of more than 41,139 votes, thus becoming the first presiding officer in 20 years to be re-elected to the Lower House.

- ✓ In 2019, Om Birla, the BJP's Lok Sabha member from Kota, was elected as the Speaker. In the 2024 elections, Birla defeated Prahlad Gunjal of the Congress party to retain the Kota parliamentary seat, thereby becoming the first Lok Sabha Speaker in two decades to be re-elected as a Member of Parliament.
- ✓ The last Lok Sabha speaker to get re-elected to the Lower House was P A Sangma, who was the presiding officer of the 11th Lok Sabha from 1996 to 1998
- Q. Which of the following countries is NOT a signatory of the Zero Debris Charter, a landmark initiative led by the European Space Agency (ESA) to achieve debris-neutral space activities by 2030?

A) Austria

B) France

C) Germany

D) United Kingdom

Answer: B

- ✓ Twelve countries sign the Zero Debris Charter.
- ✓ 12 countries signed the Zero Debris Charter, a landmark initiative led by the European Space Agency (ESA) to address the pressing issue of space debris.
- ✓ Unveiled in 2023, the Charter commits signatories to achieving debris-neutral space activities by 2030.
- ✓ 12 Countries Include in Zero Debris Charter are : Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
- ✓ The Zero Debris Charter is a world-leading effort to become debris neutral in space by 2030 that was unveiled at the ESA Space Summit in Seville meeting in November 2023.
- Q. In which city was the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS +20) Forum High-Level Event 2024 held, where Niraj Verma, Additional Secretary (Telecom) led the Indian delegation?

A) New York

B) Geneva

C) Paris

D) Vienna

Answer: B

- ✓ India participates in ITU's WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event and 'AI for Good' Global Summit.
- ✓ India participated in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS +20) Forum High-Level Event 2024 held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ✓ Niraj Verma, Additional Secretary (Telecom) led a delegation at ITU Geneva, for the WSIS+20 (World Summit on the Information Society) Forum High-Level Event 2024 and 'AI for Good' Global Summit from 27 to 31 May 2024.

- ✓ The event was co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD and co-hosted by ITU and the Swiss Confederation, with the support of remote participation.
- ✓ India took over the baton of hosting WTSA 2024 in New Delhi from 15-24 October 2024
- Q. Which city hosted the inaugural meeting of the Biopharmaceutical Alliance, where India, South Korea, Japan, the US, and the European Union announced their joint efforts to build a resilient supply chain in the biopharmaceutical sector?

A) New York

B) San Francisco

C) San Diego

D) Los Angeles

Answer: C

- ✓ India, US, Japan, South Korea & EU Launch Biopharmaceutical Alliance.
- ✓ India, South Korea, Japan, the US, and the European Union launched an alliance to put joint efforts to build a resilient supply chain in the biopharmaceutical sector. The announcement was made at the inaugural meeting of the Biopharmaceutical Alliance, held in San Diego, California, during the Bio International Convention 2024, the world's largest biopharmaceutical exhibition.
- ✓ The alliance was launched in response to the drug supply shortages experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. South Korea and the US agreed to form the alliance during their dialogue on core emerging technologies in December and expanded it to include Japan, India and the EU
- Q. Which monarch's portrait is featured on the first UK banknotes that people have been queuing to obtain outside the Bank of England's headquarters in London and at post offices around the UK?

A) King Charles II

B) King George VI

C) King Charles III

D) Queen Victoria

Answer: C

- ✓ Banknotes bearing portrait of King Charles III rolls out across UK.
- ✓ People have been queuing outside the Bank of England's headquarters in London and at post offices around the UK to get their hands on the first UK banknotes featuring the portrait of King Charles III.
- ✓ The portrait of the king will appear on all four banknotes issued by the Bank of England 5, 10, 20 and 50 pounds with no other alterations to the existing designs. The notes will coexist alongside those featuring his late mother, Queen Elizabeth II, whom he succeeded as monarch on her death in September 2022

Q. What is the projected GDP growth rate of India in 2024-25, as per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

A) 7.5%

B) 8.5%

C) 9.5%

D) 7.2%

Answer: D

- ✓ RBI keeps Repo Rate unchanged for 8th consecutive time at 6.5%
- ✓ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has voted by a 4:2 majority to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.5% for eight consecutive times.
- ✓ This information was provided by the RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on 7 June 2024 while announcing the second bi-monthly monetary policy of the financial year 2024-25.
- ✓ The second bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee meeting of fiscal year 2024-25 was held on June 5 to 7, 2024.
- ✓ The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled for 6-8 August 2024.
- ✓ The MPC is mandated to meet at least four times in a financial year, which runs from 1 April to 31 March.
- ✓ Reserve Bank of India has increased the expected growth rate for the Indian economy in 2024-25 to 7.2 per cent.
- Q. What is the current Marginal Standing Facility Rate?

A) 7.55%

B) 8.00%

C) 7.35%

D) 6.75%

Answer: D

✓ Rates and Ratios after the 2nd bi-monthly monetary policy 2024-25

✓ Policy Repo Rate: 6.5%

✓ Fixed Reverse Repo Rate : 3.35%

✓ Bank Rate : 6.5%

✓ Standing Deposit Facility(SDF): 6.25%

✓ Marginal Standing Facility(MSF) : 6.75%

✓ Cash Reserve Ratio(CRR): 4.50%

✓ Statutory Liquidity Ratio(SLR): 18%

✓ GDP growth forecast for 2024-25

- ✓ The RBI has increased the expected growth rate of India on the back of a higher than expected Q4 2023-24 GDP growth rate of 7.8 per cent.
- \checkmark The Indian economy grew by 8.2 per cent in 2023-24.
- ✓ RBI expects the GDP growth for 2024-25 to be 7.2%.
- ✓ Monetary Policy Committee
- ✓ The Monetary Policy Committee was established by the government of India on 29 September 2016 under the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934.
- ✓ The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by the RBI governor, determines the RBI's policy interest rate required to achieve the inflation target.
- ✓ The members of the Monetary Policy Committee are RBI governor and chairman Shaktikanta Das, deputy governor of RBI Michael Debabrata Patra, Dr Ashima Goyal, Dr Mridul K. Saggar, Dr Shashanka Bhide and Prof. Jayanth R. Verma,
- ✓ The MPC has to meet at least four times in a financial year.
- ✓ The decision in the Monetary Policy Committee is taken by a majority.
- Q. Who is the chairman of the committee on the Digital Payments Intelligence Platform set up by the Reserve Bank of India?

A) P. Vasudevan

B) Neeraj Nigam

C) C Rangarajan

D) A.P.Hota

Answer: D

- ✓ Committee on Digital Payments Intelligence Platform
- ✓ The RBI Governor announced the setting up of a committee to examine various aspects of setting up a digital public infrastructure for the Digital Payments Intelligence Platform.
- ✓ The committee will be headed by A.P. Hota.
- ✓ RBI has proposed setting up an advanced Digital Payments Intelligence Platform to reduce and eliminate online payment fraud risks.
- Q. What is the minimum amount a Local Area Bank and Regional Rural Bank will accept in Bulk term deposits?

A) Rs 1 crore

B) Rs 2 crore

C) Rs 3 crore

D) Rs 5 crore

Answer: A

- ✓ For the Local Area Banks and the Regional Rural Bank, the bulk deposit means a Single Rupee term deposit of Rs1 crore and above.
- Q. What is the minimum amount a Scheduled Commercial Banks and Small Finance Banks bank will accept in Bulk term deposits?

A) Rs 3 crore

B) Rs 4 crore

C) Rs 5 crore

D) Rs 2 crore

Answer: A

- ✓ Policy Initiatives Announced by the RBI Governor
- ✓ The RBI governor also announced certain initiatives for the banking sector.
- ✓ Bulk term Deposits for Banks raised
- ✓ Banks in India can offer higher interest rates on bulk term deposits. Term deposits refer to Fixed deposits and recurring deposits. Banks offer bulk deposit facilities only for fixed deposits and not for recurring deposits.
- ✓ Now, the RBI has raised the bulk deposit threshold limit for the banks.
- ✓ For Scheduled Commercial Banks and Small Finance Banks, bulk deposit means 'Single Rupee term deposits of Rs3 crore and above'. In 2019, the RBI has increased it from Rs 1 crore to Rs 2 crore.
- ✓ For the Local Area Banks and the Regional Rural Bank, the bulk deposit means a Single Rupee term deposit of Rs1 crore and above.
- ✓ Banks have the power to decide the interest rates on their deposits. There are two types of deposits: demand deposits and Term deposits. Demand deposits include savings accounts and current accounts.
- Q. What is the current Cash Reserve Ratio?

A) 4.5 %

B) 3.5 %

C) 5.5 %

D) 6.5 %

Answer: A

RBI IN NEWS 2024

- RBI unveils ambitious reform agenda for centenary celebrations in 2035, charts out 14-point action plan.
- RBI to set up digital payments intel platform after cyber frauds spike over 700%.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has unveiled three major initiatives: the Pravaah portal, the Retail Direct Mobile App, and a FinTech Repository.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has levied a penalty of Rs 36.38 lakh on HSBC Limited for breaching regulations outlined in the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).
- ➤ RBI imposed penalties on ICICI Bank and YES Bank.
- ➤ ICICI Bank has been fined Rs 1 crore for its improper loan practices.
- > YES Bank has been penalized Rs 91 lakh for charging customers for not maintaining minimum balances in savings accounts.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted approval to Quant Mutual Fund (MF) to increase its stake in RBL Bank to 9.98% by May 12, 2025.
- ➤ RBI has lifted restrictions on Bank of Baroda's BoB World app, allowing immediate customer onboarding.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) seeking to transition into Universal Banks, providing a pathway for conversion.
- To be eligible for conversion, SFBs must have a minimum net worth of Rs 1,000 crore.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a comprehensive master direction for asset reconstruction companies (ARCs), which will come into effect from April 24, 2024.
- ARCs are required to maintain a minimum capital of Rs 300 crore, a significant increase from the previous requirement of Rs 100 crore set on October 11, 2022. Existing ARCs are given a transition period until March 31, 2026, to meet this new minimum requirement.
- ARCs with a minimum Net Owned Fund (NOF) of Rs 1000 crore are eligible to act as resolution applicants.
- ➤ 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'.
- ➤ The central bank has also imposed a penalty of ₹49.7 lakh on LIC Housing Finance for breach of norms.
- RBI Monetary Policy Rate.
- ➤ Policy Repo Rate: 6.50%
- > Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 6.25%
- ➤ Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 6.75%

> Bank Rate: 6.75%

Fixed Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%

CRR: 4.50%SLR: 18.00%.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is contemplating the establishment of the Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA) to combat the proliferation of illegal lending apps
- RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI)

Founded: 1 April 1935

> RBI Nationalised: 1 January 1949

> HQ: Mumbai, Maharashtra

➤ RBI set up : Hilton Young Commission

➤ 1st Governor : Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)

> 1st Indian Governor : CD Deshmukh

> 25th Governor : Shaktikanta Das

RBI Deputy Governor (4)

1. Tavarna Rabi Sankar

- 2. Michael D Patra
- 3. M Rajeshwar Rao
- 4. Swaminathan Janakiraman
- > FIVE SUBSIDIARIES OF RBI:
 - 1. Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC)
 - 2. Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)
 - 3. Reserve Bank Information Technology Private Limited (ReBIT)
 - 4. Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS).
 - 5. Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)
- India has four currency note printing presses.
- Nashik in Maharashtra and Dewas in Madhya Pradesh owned by govt of India.
- Mysuru in Karnataka and Salboni in West Bengal owned by RBI.
- Coins are minted in four mints owned by the Government of India.
- Mumbai, Hyderabad, Calcutta and Noida

- Q. Who has been conferred the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024?
 - A) Vellayan Subbiah

B) Narayana Murthy

C) Uday Kotak

D) Kiran Mazumdar Shaw

Answer: A

- ✓ Indian entrepreneur Vellayan Subbiah was conferred the EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024 at a ceremony held in Monaco's Salle des Etoiles.
- ✓ Vellayan Subbiah became the fourth Indian to win this prestigious award in its 24 years of history.
- ✓ He joined the illustrious list of NR Narayana Murthy of Infosys, Uday Kotak of Kotak Finance, and Kiran Mazumdar Shaw of Biocon Limited.
- ✓ At present, Vellayan Subbiah is the Executive Vice Chairman of Tube Investments of India (TII) and the Chairman of the Non-Banking Finance Company Cholamandalam (Chola) Investment and Finance Limited.
- ✓ EY Awards.
- ✓ The EY Global limited hosts the annual World Entrepreneur of the Year event to celebrate the accomplishments of visionary leaders who are transforming industries, growing the economy and answering the call to address global challenges.
- ✓ Ernst & Young Global Limited is a United Kingdom-based company which has many subsidiary companies across the globe known as EY. The EY is a global consultancy firm which offers services in assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions.
- Q. Ernst & Young Global Limited, which gives the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award, is based in which country?

A) United States

B) Great Britain

C) Japan

D) India

Answer: B

AWARDS AND HONOURS IN NEWS 2024

➤ National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, India's premier mental health institution, has been conferred the prestigious Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024 by the World Health Organization (WHO).



- > REC wins Award at Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024
- ➤ 2023 UN Military Gender Advocate of Year Award for Major Radhika Sen
- ➤ 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.
- 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.
- ➤ NHPC Honoured with 'The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25'.
- ➤ Kairos' by Jenny Erpenbeck, translated by Michael Hofmann, has won the International Booker Prize 2024
- > Chhattisgarh's environmental activist and convenor of Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan Alok Shukla has been selected for the 2024 Goldman Environmental Prize
- Noted Hindi film superstars Hema Malini and Saira Banu as well as other prominent personalities from the fields of art and culture, will be honoured with the prestigious Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Award
- ➤ Tata Group Chairman Ratan Tata was honoured with the prestigious KISS Humanitarian Award 2021.
- Amitabh Bachchan will receive Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award
- ➤ Kannada poet, Mamta Ji Sagar was honored with the World Literary Prize for her contribution to literature by the World Organization of Writers (WOW)
- ➤ India's premier national space agency, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chandrayaan -3 mission team was awarded the 2024 John L "Jack" Swigert, Jr, Award for Space Exploration by the US-based Space Foundation.
- > SJVN Limited was awarded the 15th CIDC Vishwakarma Award 2024 for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Contribution
- Q. Where was the first Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum meeting held?

A) Japan

B) Switzerland

C) Singapore

D) Thailand

Answer: C

- ✓ Singapore hosted the first Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum meeting on 5& 6 June 2024. The meeting was held along with the
- ✓ Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Ministerial meeting. The Indian delegation was led by Sunil Barthwal, Secretary of the Department of Commerce.
- ✓ The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum was organised to bring together the Asia Pacific region's top investors, clean economy companies, and start-ups to mobilise investments into renewable energy projects, sustainable infrastructure and climate technology.
- ✓ IPEF Catalytic Capital Fund
- ✓ The IPEF Catalytic Capital Fund was launched at the forum meeting. The IPEF Catalytic Capital Fund has been set up by IPEF member countries Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the United States, as well as by a private company, Infrastructure Development Group.
- ✓ These countries have committed to providing USD 33 million as a grant for the fund.
- ✓ The IPEF Catalytic Capital Fund will be managed by the Infrastructure Development Group. The fund seeks to attract up to USD 3.3 billion in private-sector investment in the region's energy projects.
- ✓ About Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)
- ✓ The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is an American-led initiative that was launched after the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted the world's supply chain.
- ✓ China, which is the factory of the world, is the crucial link in the global supply chain. Many countries depend on Chinese factories for industrial products, semi-finished products, and raw materials.
- ✓ To diversify from China and build an alternative supply chain, the IPEF was launched.
- ✓ It was formally launched by American President Joe Biden on 23 May 2022 in Tokyo, Japan.
- ✓ The IPEF consists of 14 member countries -The United States of America, India, Australia, Brunei, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
- ✓ Four pillars of the IPEF
- ✓ The IPEF is built around four pillars relating to Trade. They are:
- ✓ Pillar -I; Fair and resilient trade (including digital, labour, environmental and other standards);
- ✓ Pillar-2: Supply chain resilience;
- ✓ Pillar-3: Infrastructure, decarbonisation and clean energy; and
- ✓ Pillar-4: Tax and anti-corruption.

- ✓ India has not joined Pillar 1 and has an observer status. However, it has joined Pillars 2, 3, and 4.
- Q. Which countries have been elected in 2024 as non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council?
 - A) Maldives, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece
 - B) Thailand, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece
 - C) Peru, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece
 - D) Pakistan, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece

Answer: D

- ✓ United Nations General Assembly has elected Pakistan, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece as the new non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. They have been reelected for a two-year term starting 1 January 2025.
- ✓ The election to elect five new members of the UN Security Council was held on 6 June 2024 in the UN's headquarters in New York,the United States of America.
- ✓ The newly elected members Pakistan, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece will replace Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Ecuador and Switzerland. These countries' terms will end on 31st December 2024.
- ✓ The newly elected members will join Algeria, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone and Slovenia as the other non-permanent members of the UN Security Council. The terms of Algeria, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone and Slovenia started on 1 January 2024 and will end on 31st December 2026.
- ✓ The terms of the newly elected Pakistan, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece will start on 1 January 2025 and end on 31st December 2027.
- ✓ The UN Security Council is the most important body of the United Nations, and it is primarily responsible for maintaining international peace and security. The decision of the Security Council is binding on all the members of the United Nations.
- ✓ It comprises 15 members, 5 of whom are permanent and 10 non-permanent.
- ✓ The five permanent bodies of the UN Security Council are the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, Russia and China. They have veto power, and if they vote against a resolution in the UN Security Council, then the resolution cannot be passed.
- ✓ The 10 non-permanent members of the UN Security Council are elected for two years and do not have veto power.
- ✓ India and the UN Security Council Membership

- ✓ India has been elected eight times as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. It was a member in 1950-1951, 1967-1968, 1972-1973, 1977-1978, 1984-1985, 1991-1992, 2011-2012, and 2021-2022.
- ✓ <u>United Nations</u>
- ✓ The United Nations is an international organisation that was formed in 1945 after the League of Nations failed to stop the Second World War.
- ✓ Initially, it consisted of 51 member countries, including India, but now, it has 193 member countries.
- ✓ Secretary General of United Nations: Antonio Guterres
- ✓ Headquarters: New York, the United States of America.
- ✓ Founded:24 October 1945
- Q. What is the term of the non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council?

A) 3 years

B) 2 years

C) 5 years

D) 6 years

Answer: B

- ✓ The 10 non-permanent members of the UN Security Council are elected for two years and do not have veto power.
- Q. Which is the 81st wetland of India to be declared as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention?

A) Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary

B) Kolleru Bird Sanctuary

C) Manas Wildlife Sanctuary

D) Nagi Bird Sanctuary

Answer: D

- ✓ Bihar's Nagi & Nakti Bird Sanctuaries takes India's Ramsar site to 82
- ✓ Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified Nakti and Nagi bird sanctuaries in Bihar as the newest wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar convention. Both the sites are man-made and situated in the Jhajha forest range of Jamui district of Bihar.
- ✓ Bihar now has three wetland sites under the Ramsar convention, and the total number of Ramsar sites in the country has increased to 82.
- ✓ About 81st and 82nd Ramsar Site of India

- ✓ Nagi Bird Sanctuary was notified as the 81st Ramsar Site of India. The Nagi wetland area, spread over 791 hectares in the Jamuai district of Bihar, is a man-made site created by constructing a dam on the Nagi River.
- ✓ Nakti Bird Sanctuary is the 82nd Ramasar site in India. It is also a man-made site created by Nakti Dam and is spread across 332 hectares. It is near the Nagi Bird Sanctuary and is also located in the Jamuai district of Bihar. The dam's lake is a habitat for over 150 species of birds, mammals, fish, aquatic plants, etc.
- ✓ The Nakti wetland was declared a Bird sanctuary in 1984. The Sanctuary has one of the largest congregations of red-crested pochards (Netta rufina) on the Indo-Gangetic plain.
- ✓ Bihar now has three Ramsar sites. The first one was Kanwar Lake in Begusarai district, which was declared a Ramsar site in 2020.
- ✓ India has 3rd largest number of Ramsar Sites in the world
- ✓ India and China jointly hold the third-largest number of Ramsar sites in the world, with 82 sites each.
- ✓ The United Kingdom leads the list with 175 sites, while Mexico is second with 144 sites.
- ✓ What is a Ramsar Site?
- ✓ Ramsar is an Iranian city where an international conference was organised in 1971 to discuss measures and steps to protect wetlands and their fragile ecosystems. An agreement was reached at the conference to protect wetlands around the world.
- ✓ The Conference, which was known as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, provides a framework for conserving and protecting wetlands worldwide which came into force in 1975.
- ✓ The list is maintained by the Ramsar convention's secretariat, which is based at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) headquarters in Gland, Switzerland.
- ✓ India and Ramsar Convention
- ✓ India ratified the Ramsar Convention in 1982.
- ✓ The first Indian wetland sites included in the Convention were Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan) in 1981.
- ✓ Amongst the states, Tamil Nadu has 16 sites, followed by Uttar Pradesh, which has 10.
- ✓ Largest Ramsar site in India: Sunderban of West Bengal
- ✓ Smallest Ramsar site in India: Renuka in Himachal Pradesh

- Q. Which is the 82nd wetland of India to be declared as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention?
 - A) Nakti Bird Sanctuary
 - B) Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary
 - C) Chilka Lake Bird Sanctuary
 - D) Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary

Answer: A

BIHAR IN NEWS 2024

- Nagi Bird Sanctuary was notified as the 81st Ramsar Site of India. The Nagi wetland area, spread over 791 hectares in the Jamuai district of Bihar.
- Nakti Bird Sanctuary is the 82nd Ramasar site in India. It is also a man-made site created by Nakti Dam and is spread across 332 hectares. It is near the Nagi Bird Sanctuary and is also located in the Jamuai district of Bihar.
- According to the 6th Annual World Air Quality Report, Begusarai has emerged as the most polluted metropolitan area globally in 2023..
- The Central Government has announced that the Former CM of Bihar Karpoori Thakur will be awarded Bharat Ratna, Highest Civilian Award, posthumously.
- ➤ Karpoori Thakur served twice as CM of Bihar and once as Deputy CM of Bihar.
- Cabinet Approves 4.56 km Ganga Bridge In Bihar Connecting Digha- Sonpur.
- Q. Consider the following:

1. Assam

2. Nagaland

3. Arunachal Pradesh

4. West Bengal

The Subansiri River flows through how many of the above States?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) Only three

D) All four

Answer: B

- ✓ A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been signed for the implementation of a comprehensive Fisheries Management Plan at the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydro Electric Project (SLP) located in Assam.
- ✓ About Subansiri Lower Hydro Electric Project (SLHEP):
- ✓ It is an under-construction gravity dam on the Subansiri River in north-eastern India on the borders of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, with a capacity of 2000 MW (8x250 MW).
- ✓ It will be the single largest hydroelectric plant in India when completed and is a run-of-river project.
- ✓ The project is being developed by the state-run National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC).
- ✓ Key Facts about Subansiri River:
- ✓ It is a trans-Himalayan River, and a right-bank tributary of the Brahmaputra River.
- ✓ Also called the Gold River, the Subansiri River is famous for its gold dust.
- ✓ It flows through Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China.

Q. Consider the following:

1. United States of America

2. Australia

3. India

4. Japan

5. Canada

How many of the above countries are members of the Biopharmaceutical Alliance?

A) Only two

B) Only three

C) Only four

D) All five

Answer: B

- ✓ The Biopharmaceutical Alliance was recently inaugurated in San Diego during the Bio International Convention 2024, the world's largest biopharmaceutical exhibition.
- ✓ About Biopharmaceutical Alliance:
- ✓ It is an alliance of India, South Korea, Japan, the USA and the European Union to put joint efforts into building a resilient supply chain in the biopharmaceutical sector.
- ✓ The participants emphasised the importance of a reliable and sustainable supply chain and agreed to coordinate the respective countries' biopolicies, regulations, and research and development support measures.
- ✓ The alliance was launched in response to the drug supply shortages experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic.

- ✓ The alliance was inaugurated in San Diego during the Bio International Convention 2024.
- ✓ The Bio International Convention is the premier event for the biotechnology industry, bringing together over 20,000 leaders from around the world.
- ✓ It represents the entire biotech ecosystem, from public pharmaceutical companies and biotech startups to academia, non-profits, and government agencies.
- Q. With reference to the Child Nutrition Report 2024, consider the following statements:
 - 1. It is released by UNICEF and examines the status and drivers of child food poverty in early childhood.
 - 2. One in four children under the age of five around the world is experiencing severe food poverty.
 - 3. Over two-thirds of the children under the age of five living in severe food poverty live in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer: C

- ✓ One in four children under age 5 around the world is experiencing severe food poverty, according to the recently released Child Nutrition Report 2024.
- ✓ About Child Nutrition Report 2024:
- ✓ It was released by UNICEF.
- ✓ This global report examines the status, trends, inequities, and drivers of child food poverty in early childhood, including the impact of global and local food and nutrition crises.
- ✓ The report focuses on low- and middle-income countries, where most children living in child food poverty reside, and on the implications of child food poverty for undernutrition and poor development.
- ✓ UNICEF defines child food poverty as children's inability to access and consume a nutritious and diverse diet in early childhood (i.e., the first five years of life).
- ✓ Highlights of the 2024 Report:
- ✓ One in four children under age 5 around the world (some 27% of children under age 5—or 181 million) is experiencing severe food poverty and is vulnerable to life-threatening malnutrition.

- ✓ Over two-thirds of the 181 million young children living in severe food poverty live in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, with 20 countries accounting for 65% of the children living in severe food poverty.
- ✓ These countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Somalia, South Africa, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Yemen.
- ✓ The report also found that children in both poor and non-poor households face severe food poverty.
- ✓ About half (97 million) of the children in severe food poverty live in middle- and upper-income households.
- Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage:
 - 1. It provides technical assistance to developing countries for addressing climate change-related loss.
 - 2. It plays a crucial role in facilitating the effective use of the Loss & Damage Fund from COP28.

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 third Glasgow Dialogue on Loss and Damage took place at the 60th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB60) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Bonn, Germany this week.
- ✓ About Santiago Network for Loss and Damage
- ✓ It is a global initiative established in December 2019 to support developing countries in averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage caused by climate change.
- ✓ The network aims to catalyse technical assistance from various organizations, bodies, networks, and experts to enhance the capacity of vulnerable countries to manage climate-related loss and damage
- ✓ It aims to build capacity by connecting vulnerable nations with technical assistance providers, including civil society, NGOs, and the private sector.
- ✓ The network also plays a crucial role in facilitating the effective use of the Loss & Damage Fund from COP28.

- Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the National Health Claim Exchange:
 - 1. It is a digital platform which will bring together insurance companies and healthcare sector service providers.
 - 2. It aligns with the goals of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, which aims to simplify the health insurance claims procedure.

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 Health Ministry along with the IRDAI are launching the National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX), a digital platform which will bring together insurance companies, healthcare sector service providers and government insurance scheme administrators.
- ✓ About National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX):
- ✓ National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX), a digital platform which will bring together insurance companies, healthcare sector service providers and government insurance scheme administrators.
- ✓ It aims to enhance efficiency, transparency, and accuracy in claims processing by facilitating the exchange of health insurance claims data among various stakeholders, including payers, providers, beneficiaries, regulators, and observers.
- ✓ The integration with NHCX is expected to enable seamless interoperability of health claims processing, enhancing efficiency and transparency in the insurance industry, benefiting policyholders and patients
- ✓ The NHCX aligns with the goals of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, which aims to simplify the health insurance claims procedure and create a unified digital platform for healthcare services
- Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT):
 - 1. It is a subcomponent of the National Green Hydrogen Mission.
 - 2. National Green Tribunal is responsible for executing the scheme.

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

- ✓ Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has issued Request for Selection (RfS) for Selection of Green Ammonia Producers for the production of Green Ammonia in India through cost based competitive bidding under Mode 2A of Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) programme.
- ✓ About SIGHT
- ✓ It is a subcomponent of the National Green Hydrogen Mission (under Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), aimed at bolstering domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production.
- ✓ Financial commitment: The programme has an outlay of ₹ 17,490 crore until 2029-30.
- ✓ Dual incentive mechanisms: Incentive for Electrolyser Manufacturing
- ✓ Implementation: The Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) is responsible for executing the scheme.
- ✓ National Green Hydrogen Mission
- ✓ It was launched on 4th January 2023 with an outlay of Rs. 19,744 crores up to FY 2029-30.
- ✓ It will contribute to India's goal to become Aatmanirbhar (self-reliant) through clean energy and serve as an inspiration for the global clean energy transition.
- ✓ The Mission will lead to significant decarbonization of the economy, reduced dependence on fossil fuel imports, and enable India to assume technology and market leadership in Green Hydrogen.
- Q. Who won the only gold medal for India at the 2024 Archery Asia Cup Stage 3 event?

A) Deepika Kumari

B) Jyothi Surekha Vennam

C) Aditi Swami

D) Kumud Saini

Answer: D

- ✓ Kumud Saini won the sole gold medal for India at the Archery Asia Cup 2024 Stage 3, being held in Suwon, South Korea, on 8 June 2024.
- ✓ The Indian archery team finished its campaign in the Asia Cup with five medals one gold, two silvers and two bronze.
- ✓ 17-year Kumud Saini was the only Indian archer to bag a medal in the individual events.
- ✓ In the final, Kumud defeated South Korean girl Park Yerin 143-140 to win the gold medal.
- ✓ Medal winners for India at the 2024 Archery Asia Cup Stage 3
- ✓ Following are the medal winners for India at the Suwon event.
- ✓ Gold Medal

- ✓ Kumud Saini in the Women's compound individual event.
- ✓ Silver Medal
- ✓ Kumud Saini, Maya Bishnoi and Tejal Rajendra Salve in the Women's compound team event.
- ✓ Kumud Saini and Manav Jadhao in the Mixed compound team event.
- ✓ Bronze Medal
- ✓ Manay Jadhao, Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru and Kushal Dalal in the Men's compound team event
- ✓ Bhargaviben Bhagora, Basanti Mahato, and Sharvari Somnath Shende in the Women's recurve team event.
- ✓ The 2024 Archery Asia Cup Stage 3 was held in the South Korean city of Suwon from 4 to 9 June 2024. It was the third event of the 2024 Archery Asia Cup.
- Q. How many medals were won by the Indian archers at the 2024 Archery Asia Cup Stage 3 event?

A) 3

B) 4

C) 5

D) 7

Answer: C

- ✓ Five medals one gold, two silvers and two bronze.
- Q. Maya Bishnoi and Tejal Rajendra Salve belong to which sport?

A) Hockey

B) Table tennis

C) Badminton

D) Archery

Answer: D

- Q. A J T Johnsingh, who died recently, belonged to which state?
 - A) Kerala

B) Bihar

C) Tamil Nadu

D) Karnataka

Answer: C

- ✓ Distinguished Indian wildlife conservationist and biologist Asir Jawahar Thomas Johnsingh, also known as A J T Johnsingh, passed away in Bengaluru, Karnataka .
- ✓ About A J T Johnsingh
- ✓ AJT Johnsingh was born in Nanguneri, Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. His birthplace lies in the Western Ghats, an evergreen forest with a variety of wildlife. He was born into a family of agriculturists. He developed a passion for nature and wildlife from childhood.

- ✓ Johnsingh was deeply influenced by Colonel Edward James 'Jim' Corbett's tales, which were based on Indian wildlife.
- ✓ He joined the country's premier institute for research on wildlife and its management, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in Dehradun, as a faculty member and retired as the Dean.
- ✓ He knew many tiger habitats in the country. He played a vital role in the establishment of Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserves (Tamil Nadu) located in the Western Ghats.
- ✓ He was awarded India's fourth highest civilian award -Padma Shri.
- Q. Ramoji Rao, who died recently. When was noted filmmaker Ramoji Rao conferred Padma Vibhushan?
 - A) 2017
 - B) 2016
 - C) 2015
 - D) 2014

Answer: B

- ✓ Ramoji Film City founder & media mogul Ramoji Rao passed away.
- ✓ Cherukuri Ramoji Rao, the head of the Ramoji film city and the Telugu news and entertainment network ETV, passed away in Hyderabad, Telangana, on 8 June 2024.
- ✓ Ramoji Rao was 87 years old. Ramoji Rao was undergoing treatment at the local hospital and breathed his last in the early hours of 8 June 2024.
- ✓ Ramoji Rao, the Businessman
- ✓ Cherukuri Ramoji Rao headed the Ramoji Group, which has diversified business interests in entertainment, retail, and education.
- ✓ He founded the Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad. It is one of the world's largest integrated film cities and India's only thematic holiday destination with a focus on cinema.
- ✓ Ramoji Rao was conferred India's highest civilian award, Padma Vibhushan, in 2016 by President Pranab Mukherjee for his contributions to literature, journalism, and media.
- ✓ In 2000, he won the National Film Award for Best Feature Film in Telugu (producer) -Nuvve Kavali.
- ✓ Ramoji Rao was also a philanthropist. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, he donated Rs 10 crore each to the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Chief Ministers' Relief Funds.

Q.	TT 71 •	_ 41	TT 71 1	T 1	C - C - 4	D	celebrat	_ 17
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A) June 5

B) June 6

C) June 7

D) June 4

Answer: C

- ✓ The World Food Safety Day is celebrated every year on June 7 to remind people of the need to have safer and healthy food for disease-free life.
- ✓ Theme 2024: "Prepare for the Unexpected"
- ✓ The day was declared by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018.
- ✓ The first World Food Safety Day (WFSD) was held on 7 June 2019.
- ✓ Purpose: WFSD aims to draw attention and inspire action to help prevent, detect and manage foodborne risks, contributing to food security, human health, economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism and sustainable development.
- Q. Which day is observed as the World Oceans Day as recognised by UN?

A) June 6

B) June 9

C) June 7

D) June 8

Answer: D

- ✓ World Oceans Day is marked annually on the 8 June to celebrate the role of the oceans in our everyday life and inspiring action to protect the ocean and sustainably use marine resources.
- ✓ The theme of UN World Oceans Day 2024 is Awaken New Depths.
- ✓ World Oceans Day was officially recognised by the United Nations in 2008.
- ✓ The concept was originally proposed in 1992 by Canada's International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) and the Ocean Institute of Canada (OIC) at the Earth Summit UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Q. The World Tumor Day is observed since 2000 on_

A) June 8

B) June 7

C) June 6

D) June 5

Answer: A

✓ World Tumor Day is observed on June 8 every year to spread awareness about this deadly disease, ensure its early diagnosis, as well as as pay tribute to brain tumor patients and their families.
The day was first initiated by the German Brain Tumor Association (GBTA) in 2000

Q. The World Accreditation Day (WAD) is observed annually on_

A) 7 June

B) 9 June

C) 8 June

D) 6 June

Answer: B

- ✓ The World Accreditation Day (WAD) is celebrated every year on 9 June to promote the role of accreditation in trade & economy.
- ✓ WAD is a global initiative, jointly established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation.
- Q. Who has won the men's single title of the 2024 French Open tennis tournament?

A) Carlos Alcaraz

B) Rafael Nadal

C) Denis Shapovalov

D) Novak Djokovic

Answer: A

- ✓ Carlos Alcaraz of Spain and Iga Swiatek of Poland won the 2024 French Open men's and women's Tennis Single titles, respectively.
- ✓ It was the first French Open singles title for Alcaraz and the fourth singles title for the world no.1 Iga Swiatek.
- ✓ The 123rd edition of the French Open, also known as Roland Garros, was held at the Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France, from 26 May to 9 June 2024. It is the second Grand Slam event of a calendar year after the Australian Open.
- ✓ The Stade Roland Garros is a stadium which has many courts. The finals are always played on the Philippe Chatrie Court. The French Open is played on clay court.
- ✓ Third Singles Grand Slam Title for Alcaraz
- ✓ The 21 year old Sapniard won his career's third Grand Slam title by winning the French Open single title. Carlos Alcaraz had previously won the US Open in 2022 and the Wimbledon in 2023.

- ✓ In the 2024 French Open, Carlos Alcaraz defeated Tokyo Olympic Champion Alexander Zeverev of Germany in five sets, 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2.
- Q. Who among the following beat Jasmine Paolini of Italy to win the Women's single title in 2024 French Tennis Open?

A) Magda Linette

B) Victoria Azarenka

C) Sachia Vickery

D) Iga Swiatek

Answer: D

- ✓ Iga Swiatek wins her fourth French Open Singles Title
- ✓ World no.1 Iga Siatek of Poland defended her French Open singles title for the third time in a row. Iga Swiatek defeated Jasmine Paolini of Italy 6-2, 6-1 in the final played on 8 June 2024.
- ✓ Iga Swiatek has now won the French Open singles title four times, in 2020,2022,2023 and 2024.
- ✓ American Tennis great Chris Evert holds the record for maximum women's singles title seven times.
- ✓ This was the fifth Grand Slam title for 23 year old Iga Swiatek. She has also won the US Open women's singles title in 2022.





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Event	Winner	RunnersUp	Trophy Name
Men's Single	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)	Alexander Zeverev (Germany)	Musketeers' cup
Women's Single	Iga Swiatek (Poland)	Jasmine Paolini(Italy)	Suzanne-Lenglen cup
Men's Double	Mate Pavic (Croatia) and Marcelo Alevaro (El Salvador)	Andrea Vavasorri and Somen Balloli (Both Italian)	Jacques-Brugnon cup
Women's Double	Coco Gauff (USA) and Katerina Siniakova (Czech)	Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini (Both Italian)	Simonne-Mathieu cup
Mixed Doubles	Desirae Krawczyk (USA) and Neal Skupski (Britain)	Laura Siegemund (Germany) and Édouard Vasselin (France)	Marcel Bernard cup

TENNIS TOURNAMENT IN NEWS 2024

- Carlos Alcaraz of Spain defeated Alexander Zeverev of Germany and Iga Swiatek of Poland defeated Jasmine Paolini of Italy, won the 2024 French Open men's and women's Tennis Single titles, respectively
- ➤ Indian men's tennis player Sumit Nagpal won the men's singles title at the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament in Germany.
- Sumit Nagpal defeated Alexander Ritschard of Switzerland.
- > Rohan Bopanna from India and Matthew Ebden from Australia won the Men's Doubles Title at the Miami Open, a prestigious ATP Masters tennis tournament.
- > Sumit Nagal became the first Indian man to win a match in a Masters 1000 tournament on clay. The top-ranked Indian singles player defeated Matteo Arnaldi of Italy.

- Indian tennis star Rohan Bopanna has etched his name in the history books by becoming the oldest player to claim the No. 1 spot in the men's doubles rankings at the age of 43 at the 2024 Australian Open.
- ➤ World number two ranked men's tennis player Carlos Alcaraz and world number one ranked women's tennis player Iga Swiatek won the Indian Wells 1000 men's and women's titles, respectively
- ➤ Indian tennis player Yuki Bhambri and his French partner Albano Olivetti won the 2024 BMW Open tennis tournament title.
- ➤ 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
- Q. What is the name of the cup which is given to the winner of the French Open tennis men's singles title?

A) Suzanne-Lenglen cup

B) Simonne-Mathieu cup

C) Marcel Bernard cup

D) Musketeers cup

Answer: D

Q. What is the name of the trophy which is given to the winner of the French Open tennis women's singles title?

A) Marcel Bernard cup

B) Jacques-Brugnon cup

C) Suzanne-Lenglen cup

D) Simonne-Mathieu cup

Answer: C

Q. Who has been elected as the 79th president of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)?

A) Denis Francis

B) Csaba Kőrösi

C) Philemon Yang

D) Abdulla Shahid

Answer: C

- ✓ The UN General Assembly (UNGA) elected former Cameroonian Prime Minister Philemon Yang as president of the 79th UNGA session.
- ✓ Yang will succeed Denis Francis of Trinidad and Tobago, president of the 78th UNGA session, when the 79th UNGA session opens on Sept. 10 at the UN headquarters in New York.

- ✓ Yang served as Cameroonian prime minister from 2009 to 2019, and since 2020, he has been serving as the Grand Chancellor of National Orders at the Presidency of the Republic.
- ✓ The theme of UNGA 79th Session is "Unity in Diversity, for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for everyone everywhere".
- ✓ The 79th session of the General Assembly will convene on 10 September, with the body's high-level general debate starting on 24 September 2024.
- ✓ United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)
- ✓ Formation: 1945
- ✓ Headquarters : New York City
- ✓ 79th President : Philemon Yang.
- ✓ The UNGA is responsible for the UN budget, appointing the non-permanent members to the Security Council.
- Q. What is the theme of global hackathon named "HARBINGER 2024" launched by RBI?

A) Safe Digital Transactions

B) Digital and Financial Literacy

C) Smarter Digital Payments

D) Zero Financial Frauds' and 'Divyang Friendly

Answer: D

- ✓ RBI announces HaRBInger 2024 with focus on Zero Financial Frauds, Being Divyang Friendly.
- ✓ In a move aimed at enhancing the safety, security, and inclusivity of India's financial ecosystem, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the launch of the third edition of the RBI's global hackathon, "HaRBInger 2024 Innovation, "HaRBInger 2024 Innovation for Transformation.
- ✓ "The hackathon focuses on two important themes: 'Zero Financial Frauds' and 'Divyang Friendly'.
- ✓ The Apex Bank has been encouraging innovation in identified focus areas through its annual hackathons.
- ✓ Governor Das emphasised the importance of leveraging technology to combat financial fraud and widen the reach of financial services.
- Q. PhonePe has partnered with PickMe to enable UPI-based QR payments for Indian travellers in which country?

A) Maldives

B) Sri Lanka

C) Bhutan

D) South Africa

Answer: B

- ✓ PhonePe partners with Sri Lanka's PickMe for UPI transactions.
- ✓ PhonePe has announced its collaboration with Sri Lankan ride hailing platform PickMe to enable UPI-based QR payments for Indian travellers in Sri Lanka.
- ✓ The partnership will allow Indian tourists to conduct cashless transactions on PickMe rides, making PickMe the first ride-hailing platform in Sri Lanka to offer such a service to Indians travelling to Sri Lanka.
- ✓ Last month, PhonePe enabled UPI payments in collaboration with LankaPay across LankaQR merchant points via the Phonepe App.
- ✓ The transactions facilitated by the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and LankaPay National Payment Network, also aimed to cater to the needs of Indian tourists and entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka

PhonePe IN NEWS 2024

- ▶ PhonePe partners with Sri Lanka's PickMe for UPI transactions.
- ▶ PhonePe has joined forces with LankaPay to introduce UPI payments in Sri Lanka.
- Cross-border UPI payments service launched by PhonePe.
- > "UPI international" enables retail locations with a native QR (quick response) code in the UAE, Singapore, Mauritius, Nepal, and Bhutan.
- ➤ PhonePe has become the first digital payments app to enable the linkage of 2 lakh Rupay credit cards to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- ➤ PhonePe has launched the Indus Appstore, a made-in-India Android app marketplace.
- ➤ PhonePe, in collaboration with eSewa and the Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) Pokhara, is set to promote UPI during the Fewa New Year Festival in Nepal.
- ➤ PhonePe has appointed Ritesh Pai as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of its international payments business.
- > Star Health Insurance, a leading provider of retail health insurance in India, has collaborated with PhonePe, a prominent digital payments platform.
- ➤ PhonePe
- ➤ Founded : 2015
- ➤ Headquarters : Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ➤ Co-Founder & CEO : Sameer Nigam.
- ➤ PhonePe is an Indian digital payments and financial services company.

- ➤ PhonePe was founded in December 2015, by Sameer Nigam, Rahul Chari and Burzin Engineer.
- The PhonePe app, based on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), went live in August 2016.
- Q. Arun-3 Hydro Electric Project, recently seen in news, is associated with which country?

A) Bhutan

B) Sri Lanka

C) Nepal

D) Bangladesh

Answer: C

- ✓ The Arun III hydropower project in Nepal, which is being constructed with Indian assistance, marked its breakthrough.
- ✓ Nepali Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal in the presence of Indian Ambassador Naveen Srivastava triggered the last blast to mark the breakthrough of the 11.8 KM headrace tunnel of Nepal's first export-oriented project.
- ✓ The 900 MW hydropower project being constructed on the Arun River with a budget of about USD 1.4 billion, is a run-off-the-river type project whose construction started in May 2018.
- ✓ The Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) was awarded with the project through international competitive bidding in March 2008. The Investment Board Nepal and SJVN signed an agreement for the development of the Arun III project in November 2014.

HYDROPOWER IN NEWS 2024

- > About Arun-III Hydro Power Project:
- ➤ It is a 900 MW run-of-the-river hydropower project being constructed on the Arun River in Sankhuwasabha District of Eastern NEPAL.
- Arun is a tributary of the Koshi River in Nepal.
- NHPC Limited, which is India's largest hydropower utility, has recently obtained a foreign currency loan worth JPY 20.00 billion from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).
- > SJVN Limited launched India's first Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Jhakri, Himachal Pradesh.
- > Tata Power To Develop Two 2800 MW Pumped Hydel Project In Maharashtra.



- Rajasthan's first standalone pumped hydro project of 1800 MW got the nod for its initiation in Shahpur/ Shahbad, Baran.
- Agreement on power purchase was signed between Ratle Hydroelectric Project of Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan Urja Vikas and IT Services Limited.
- There are currently hydroelectric power projects being constructed in the country that, when completed, will have a combined capacity of 15 GW. By 2031-32, it is expected that the country's hydro capacity will increase from 42 GW to 67 GW
- Q. As per the announcement made by Bisleri International, who will be the new brand ambassador for Bisleri Limonata?

A) Sachin Tendulkar

B) MS Dhoni

C) Aditya Roy Kapur

D) Virat Kohli

Answer : C

- ✓ Bisleri Limonata announced the appointment of Aditya Roy Kapur as its first brand ambassador. The 'Limey Minty Cooler' by Bisleri International also launched a new campaign, titled #DoubleTheChill.
- ✓ The campaign features Aditya Roy Kapur and Chunky Pandey in a beach setup. Kapur, sporting a bright yellow shirt, is playfully teased by Pandey that a single yellow isn't enough.

LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR IN NEWS 2024

- Aditya Roy Kapur : Bisleri
- Shah Rukh Khan: Muthoot Pappachan Group
- 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
- ➤ Neeraj Chopra : Eveready Battery

Q. Which country recently unveiled a monumental 700-metre pedestrian bridge named the 'Bridge of National Unity'?

A) Hungary

B) Poland

C) Germany

D) France

Answer: A

- ✓ Hungary recently unveiled the 'Bridge of National Unity,' a 700-metre pedestrian bridge spanning Budapest's Danube River. Symbolizing unity, it marks a milestone in Hungary's architectural landscape.
- ✓ The bridge was built at a cost of four billion HUF [10 million euros], financed from the national budget.
- ✓ The government says that no European Union funds were used. Designed by renowned architect Péter Rácz

BRIDGE IN NEWS 2024

- ➤ Hungary recently unveiled the 'Bridge of National Unity,' a 700-metre pedestrian bridge spanning Budapest's Danube River.
- ➤ India's longest sea bridge, the Atal Setu or Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), is all set to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Mumbai Trans Harbour Link is a bridge that spans 21.8 km in length and will connect the cities of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai.
- Following the collapse of the 'Francis Scott' Bridge in Baltimore, Maryland (USA), Maryland Governor Wes Moore declared a state of emergency.
- ➤ 1st Glass Skywalk Bridge of UP is ready to open in Chitrakoot.
- Q. How much money has the Rajasthan government allocated for the development of the Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit?

A) Rs 300 crore

B) Rs 400 crore

C) Rs 100 crore

D) Rs 200 crore

Answer: C

- ✓ Rajasthan Govt to Invest ₹100 Cr. for Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit.
- ✓ Chief Minister of Rajasthan Bhajan Lal Sharma announced that the state government will develop the Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit with an investment of Rs 100 crore.

- ✓ The Chief Minister made this announcement on 8 June 2023 while inaugurating the Maharana Pratap Jayanti celebration in Udaipur.
- ✓ The 484th birthday of Maharana Pratap of Mewar was celebrated on 9 June 2024 (according to the Hindu calendar).
- ✓ Bhajan Lal Sharma's government, in its maiden budget, has allocated Rs 100 crore for the development of the Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit.
- ✓ Places associated with Maharana Pratap of Mewar's life will be developed as part of the project. These include Udaipur, Chawand, Haldighati, Gogunda, Kumbhalgarh, Dewar, Chhapli, and Chittorgarh.
- Q. Who has won the men's singles title of the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament?

A) Alexander Ritschard

B) Sumit Nagpal

C) Nikoloz Basilashvili

D) Javier Barranco Cosano

Answer: B

- ✓ Sumit Nagapal wins his 6th ATP Challenger Tennis Title.
- ✓ Indian men's tennis player Sumit Nagpal won the men's singles title at the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament in Germany.
- ✓ It was the sixth ATP Challenger title for India's top-ranked men's tennis singles player.
- ✓ This win will improve the ATP ranking of Sumit Nagpal making him eligible for the 2024 Summer Paris Olympics.
- ✓ In the final of the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament played on 9 June 2024 in Germany, Sumit Nagpal defeated Alexander Ritschard of Switzerland in three sets 6-1, 6(5)-7(7), 6-3
- ✓ The Heilbronn Neckarcup title was Sumit Nagpal's sixth career title and fourth on clay court. It was also Nagpal's second title in 2024, following his win in the Chennai Open earlier this year.
- ✓ Sumit Nagpal also won the Challenger Tour titles in Tampere (Finland) and Rome (Italy)last year, in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in 2019 and the Bengaluru Open title in 2017.
- Q. Apart from Narendra Modi who has been the Prime Minister of India for three consecutive terms after the promulgation of the constitution?

A) Indira Gandhi

B) Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru

C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

Answer: B

- ✓ Narendra Modi sworn in for a historic third time as Prime Minister.
- ✓ Narendra Damadordas Modi was sworn in as the Prime Minister of India for the third consecutive time by President Droupadi Murmu on 9 June 2024. He was administered the oath of office of secrecy by President Droupadi Murmu in a simple ceremony in the Rastrapathi Bhawan in New Delhi. He is the second person after Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru to be sworn in as the Prime Minister of India for the third consecutive time.
- ✓ Along with the Prime Minister, 71 ministers 30 cabinet ministers and 41 ministers of state, five with independent charge, were also administered the oath of office by President Murmu.
- ✓ Narendra Modi equals Pandit Nehru's Record
- ✓ Narendra Modi equalled the record of India's first prime minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru records of being sworn in as the prime minister of India for the third consecutive time after the implementation of the constitution.
- ✓ Pandit Nehru became the prime minister of India on 15 August 1947 as India gained independence.
- ✓ The first Lok Sabha election was held in 1951-52, and Pandit Nehru was sworn in as Prime Minister by President Dr Rajendra Prasad in 1952.
- ✓ He was again sworn in as Prime Minister in 1957 after the Congress party won the majority in the second Lok Sabha(1957-62).
- ✓ He again became the Prime Minister in 1962 after the Congress party secured a majority in the third Lok Sabha (1962-67).
- ✓ Narendra Modi was sworn in as the 15th Prime Minister of India in 2014 after his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led coalition National Democratic Alliance (NDA) secured a majority in the 16th Lok Sabha (2014-19).
- ✓ Narendra Modi was the chief minister of Gujarat before he was sworn in as the Prime Minister by President Pranab Mukherjee.
- ✓ Narendra Modi was again sworn in as Prime Minister a second time when the ruling coalition NDA secured a majority in the 17th Lok Sabha. He was sworn in by the President Ram Nath Kovind.
- ✓ Indira Gandhi's record of being Prime Minister Four Times
- ✓ Indira Gandhi holds the record for being the Prime Minister of India four times.
- ✓ She became the Prime Minister for the first time in 1966 after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri.

- ✓ Under her leadership the Congress party won a majority in the fourth Lok Sabha (1967- 1971) and she was sworn in as the Prime Minister .
- ✓ Her party won a thumping majority in the fifth Lok Sabha (1971-77), and she was the Prime Minister during this time(1971-1977).
- ✓ She was again sworn in as the Prime Minister in 1980 after her party won the majority in the seventh Lok Sabha (1980-84).
- ✓ World leader's attendance at the swearing-in ceremony
- ✓ Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu,
- ✓ Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe,
- ✓ Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina,
- ✓ Bhutan Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay
- ✓ Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth,
- ✓ Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', and
- ✓ Seychelles Vice-President Ahmed Afif.
- ✓ Women Ministers in Modi's Council of Ministers
- ✓ Among the 72 ministers (including the Prime Minister), seven are women ministers. They are as follows with their party and rank :
- ✓ Cabinet Minister Nirmala Sitharaman (BJP) from Tamil Nadu,
- ✓ Cabinet Minister Annapurna Devi (BJP) from Jharkhand,
- ✓ Minister of State Savitri Thakur (BJP) from Madhya Pradesh. She is a tribal leader.
- ✓ Minister of State Nimuben Bambhaniya,(BJP) from Gujarat.
- ✓ Minister of State Raksha Khadse (BJP) from Maharashtra,
- ✓ Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje(BJP) from Karnataka.
- ✓ Minister of State Annupriya Patel (Apna Dal), From Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh has the highest representation and the largest number of seats in the Lok Sabha, eighty
- ✓ Seven Former Chief Ministers in Modi's Council of Ministers
- ✓ The newly constituted Council of Ministers of Prime Minister Modi includes seven former state chief ministers. They are as follows:
- ✓ Narendra Modi (BJP) -former chief minister of Gujarat
- ✓ Shivraj Singh Chauhan (BJP) . Madhya Pradesh,

- ✓ Rajnath Singh (BJP), Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ Manohar Lal Khattar (BJP) Haryana
- ✓ Sarbanand Sonowal (BJP) Assam
- ✓ Jitan Ram Manjhi (HAM) Bihar
- ✓ HD Kumaraswamy (JD(S)) Karnataka.
- ✓ Youngest and Oldest member of Modi's Cabinet.
- ✓ Youngest ever to be a Union Cabinet Minister.
- ✓ K Ram Mohan Reddy of the Telugu Desam party is the youngest ever to become a cabinet minister in India. He is 36 years old and a three-time member of parliament from the Srikakulam constituency of Andhra Pradesh. He broke the record of Smriti Irani (BJP), who became a cabinet minister at the age of 38 in 2014.
- ✓ Oldest ever to be a Union Cabinet Minister.
- ✓ Jitan Ram Manji former chief minister of Bihar and the leader of the Hindusran Awami Morcha is the oldest ever member to become a cabinet minister.79 years old Jitan Ram Majhi was elected as a Lok Sabha member for the first time from Gaya constituency of Bihar in 2024.
- ✓ Jitan Ram Manhji broke the record of Najma Heptullah (BJP), who became cabinet minister at the age of 74 years in 2014 under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Q. Who became the 42nd signatory to the Artemis Accords at a ceremony at NASA Headquarters in Washington?

A) Ethiopia

B) Mexico

C) Romania

D) Slovakia

Answer: D

- ✓ Slovakia became the 42nd signatory to the Artemis Accords at a ceremony at NASA Headquarters in Washington.
- ✓ The Artemis Accords were established in 2020 by the United States and seven other countries to set out a practical set of principles to guide civil space exploration and use.
- Q. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of PNB MetLife India Insurance?

A) Sameer Bansal

B) Ashish Srivastava

C) Alok Srivastava

D) Manish Sharma

Answer: A

- ✓ Private life insurer, PNB MetLife India Insurance appointed Sameer Bansal as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company effective from July 1, 2024.
- ✓ The appointment is subject to regulatory approvals.
- ✓ He will succeed Ashish Srivastava, who has been appointed MD for MetLife Inc.'s Global Shared Services team in India.
- Q. Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS) lies in which one of the following states?

A) Gujarat

B) Odisha

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Karnataka

Answer: C

- ✓ A new tiger reserve will soon be established in Uttar Pradesh, following evidence of tiger population in the Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS).
- ✓ About Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS):
- ✓ Location: It is located in the Shravasti, Balrampur, and Gonda districts of Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The forest of SWS was owned by Maharaja of Balrampur before the implementation of the Zamindari Abolition Act 1952 and was known as Balrampur Estate.
- ✓ It was declared a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1988.
- ✓ The Sohelwa Wild Life Division is situated on the Indo-Nepal International Border.
- Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Mount Fuji:
 - 1. It is the tallest peak in Japan located near the Pacific Coast.
 - 2. It is a stratovolcano that has been dormant since its last eruption.

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

- ✓ A town in Japan is taking steps to stop tourists from causing trouble while attempting to capture the perfect picture of Mount Fuji, a month after a nearby destination was forced to take drastic measures.
- ✓ About Mount Fuji:

- ✓ It is the tallest peak in Japan, standing at 3,776 meters.
- ✓ It is situated only 100 km west of the Japanese capital city of Tokyo on Honshu Island, near the Pacific Coast.
- ✓ Unlike other famous high-elevation mountains in the world, Mt. Fuji is not part of a large mountain range.
- ✓ The UNESCO designated Mount Fuji a World Heritage site in 2013
- Q. Which one of the following was the objective of Operation Bluestar?
 - A) A peacekeeping mission by the United Nations in the Middle East.
 - B) An Indian military operation to remove Sikh separatists from the Golden Temple.
 - C) A military operation to rescue hostages in Mumbai.
 - D) A counter-terrorism operation conducted by the Indian Army in Kashmir.

Answer: B

- ✓ Slogans favouring Khalistan (sovereign state for Sikhs) were raised recently in the premises of the Golden Temple complex in Punjab's Amritsar during the 40th anniversary of 'Operation Bluestar'.
- ✓ About Operation Bluestar:
- ✓ It was an Indian military operation in June 1984 ordered by Prime Minister India Gandhi to root out a group of militant Sikh separatists who had occupied the Golden Temple in Punjab's Amritsar, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.
- ✓ The leader of the group was Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a Sikh fundamentalist, former head of the Sikh seminary Damdami Taksal, and a key figure in the then-emerging separatist Khalistan movement.
- ✓ According to the Indian government, about 400 people were killed, including 87 soldiers.
- ✓ Operation Blue Star led to the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was killed by her Sikh bodyguards in revenge five months after the operation
- Q. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) is chaired by which one of the following?
 - A) Union Defence Minister of India
- B) Home Minister of India
- C) Prime Minister of India
- D) None of the above

Answer: C

✓ Prime Minister Modi took oath today along with 71 ministers of the new coalition government. Thirty of them are Cabinet Ministers, five independent charge, and 36 Ministers of State.

- ✓ About Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)
- ✓ It is headed by the Prime Minister.
- ✓ The Committee discusses, debates, and is the apex body when it comes to the appointments of the officials in the national security bodies.
- ✓ It also makes all the important decisions on defence policy and expenditure and, generally, all matters of India's security.
- ✓ Members: PM, Ministers of Defence, Home Affairs, Finance and External Affairs.
- ✓ What are Cabinet Committees?
- ✓ Cabinet Committees are extra-constitutional, meaning, they are not mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
- ✓ They are partly designed to reduce the burden on the Union Cabinet by allowing smaller groups of ministers to make decisions on specific policy areas.
- ✓ They are constituted or reconstituted when a new government takes over or the Cabinet undergoes a reshuffle.
- ✓ There are a total of 8 cabinet committees.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Security.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.
- ✓ Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.
- ✓ Appointments Committee of the Cabinet
- Q. Consider the following statements:
 - 1. The Proportional Representation (PR) system ensures representation of all parties based on their vote share.
 - 2. First Past the Post (FPTP) refers to the system where the candidate with the most votes in a constituency wins.

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 ruling NDA has won 293 seats with a 43.3% vote share while the Opposition bloc INDIA has secured 234 seats with a 41.6% vote share. Other regional parties and independents polled around 15% but ended up with only 16 seats in total.
- ✓ About Proportional Representation
- ✓ The Proportional Representation (PR) system ensures representation of all parties based on their vote share.
- ✓ The most commonly used PR system is the 'party list PR' where voters vote for the party (and not individual candidates) and then the parties get seats in proportion to their vote share.
- ✓ First Past the Post System
- ✓ India currently uses the First Past the Post (FPTP) system, where the candidate with the most votes in a constituency wins.
- ✓ The FPTP system is simple and provides stability to the executive, but it can lead to unrepresentative governments.
- ✓ Mixed Member Proportional Representation (MMPR)
- ✓ To balance stability and proportionate representation, the Mixed Member Proportional Representation (MMPR) system can be considered.
- ✓ Under MMPR, there is one candidate elected through FPTP from each territorial constituency, and additional seats are allocated to parties proportionally based on their vote share.
- Q. Trishna mission, a collaboration between ISRO and which space agency, aims to monitor surface temperature and water management on a global scale?

A) CNES

B) NASA

C) ROSCOSMOS

D) JAXA

Answer: A

- ✓ Trishna: Isro's joint mission with France to Provide unprecedented climate data.
- ✓ In a major boost to global efforts to monitor and mitigate climate change, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is collaborating with the French Space Agency CNES on an ambitious new satellite mission called Trishna.
- ✓ Short for Thermal infraRed Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment, Trishna is engineered to deliver high spatial and temporal resolution observations of Earth's surface temperature, vegetation health, and water cycle dynamics.

- ✓ Slated for launch in 2025, Trishna will be a game-changer in using space-based thermal infrared imaging to study the impacts of climate change and support sustainable management of precious natural resources like water.
- ✓ The 770 kg satellite will operate from a sun-synchronous orbit at 761 km altitude, carrying two cutting-edge imaging payloads

ISRO JOIN VENTURE MISSION 2024

- ➤ ISRO said in a statement that the Thermal Infra Red Imaging satellite for High resolution Natural Resource Assessment (TRISHNA) mission is a joint venture between ISRO and the French National centre for space studies (CNES).
- ➤ Proba-3 Mission of European Space Agency's (ESA) to Study Sun will be Launched by ISRO.
- NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) is scheduled to launch in the first quarter of 2024.
- NISAR will be launched on the ISRO Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark-II from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- ➤ NISAR, according to ISRO, is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory being constructed in collaboration with NASA, a 2,800 kilograms SUV-sized satellite.
- Q. What is the title of Bill Gates' upcoming memoir, scheduled to be released on February 4, 2025?

A) The Windows of Opportunity

B) Code Red: Inside Microsoft

C) Source Code: My Beginnings

D) Gates Unlocked: A Tech Odyssey

Answer: C

- ✓ Bill Gates announces new memoir, 'Source Code.
- ✓ Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has revealed plans to release his highly anticipated memoir, titled "Source Code: My Beginnings." Set to hit the shelves on February 4, 2025, this literary endeavor promises to offer an intimate glimpse into the life and experiences that shaped one of the world's most influential tech pioneers.

✓ Gates, a renowned author of several books on diverse topics ranging from business and technology to global health and climate change, now turns his focus inward.

BOOKS & AUTHORS IN NEWS 2024

- ➤ The Winner's Mindset: Shane Watson
- > Source Code: My Beginnings: Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates
- India's Nuclear Titans: Soumya Awasthi and Shrabana Barua
- ➤ Just a Mercenary?: Notes from My Life and Career : former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Duvvuri Subbarao
- ➤ The Idea of Democracy : Sam Pitroda
- From A Car Shed To The Corner Room & Beyond: S Raman
- The Gems of Indian Art: Harish Khullar
- ➤ UNEQUAL: Why India Lags Behind Its Neighbours : Swati Narayan
- Gandhi: A Life in Three Campaigns: M.J. Akbar and K. Natwar Singh
- Assam's Braveheart Lachit Barphukan : Arup Kumar Dutta
- An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy: Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
- Q. Which political leader recently took oath as the Chief Minister of Sikkim for a second consecutive term?
 - A) Prem Singh Tamang
 - B) Pawan Chamling
 - C) Bimal Gurung
 - D) Hemant Soren

Answer: A

- ✓ Prem Singh Tamang takes oath as Sikkim CM for second consecutive term
- ✓ Sikkim Krantikari Morcha supremo Prem Singh Tamang (56) took oath as the Chief Minister of the Himalayan state for a second consecutive term.
- ✓ Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath of office and secrecy to Prem Singh Tamang and his Council of Ministers during the swearing-in ceremony at Paljor Stadium

NEWLY CHIEF MINISTER IN NEWS 2024

- > Prem Singh Tamang 6th current Chief Minister of Sikkim. [Sikkim Krantikari Morcha]
- Nayab Saini was sworn in as the 11th chief minister of Haryana. [(BJP)]
- > Champai Soren is serving as the 7th and current Chief Minister of Jharkhand [Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)].
- Nitish Kumar is has served as the 22nd chief minister of Bihar.
- ➤ Bihar's longest serving chief minister, and also holding the post for 9th term. [Janata Dal United (JDU) Mahagathbandhan BJP)].
- ➤ Bhajan Lal Sharma is serving as the 14th and current Chief Minister of Rajasthan [(BJP)]
- > Dr. Mohan Yadav is serving as the 19th and Current Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh [(BJP), he represents Ujjain South]
- Lalduhoma is Indian Police Service officer who is serving as the 6th Chief Minister of Mizoram [Zoram People's Movement (ZPM)].
- Vishnu Deo Sai serving as the 4th Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. [(BJP)].
- Anumula Revanth Reddy is serving as the second and current Chief Minister of Telangana .[Indian National Congress (INC)]
- Q. Who was appointed as the first woman helicopter pilot in the Indian Navy during the passing out parade at INS Rajali Naval Air Station?

A) Anamika B. Rajeev

B) Smitha P. Tomar

C) Priya J. Singh

D) Aarti S. Sharma

Answer: A

- ✓ Indian Navy gets first woman helicopter pilot.
- ✓ The Navy celebrated a historic moment as it welcomed its first woman helicopter pilot, Sub-Lieutenant Anamika B. Rajeev, during the passing out parade at INS Rajali Naval Air Station in Arakkonam, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ In another feat, Lieutenant Jamyang Tsewang became the first Commissioned Naval Officer from the Union Territory of Ladakh to graduate as a qualified helicopter pilot at the same ceremony.

✓ A passing out parade was held on Friday to mark the graduation of the 102nd Helicopter Conversion Course (HCC) and completion of stage I training of the 4th Basic Helicopter Conversion Course (BHCC) at Naval Air Station – INS Rajali, Arakkonam, Tamil Nadu.

FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2024.

- > Sub Lieutenant Anamika B. Rajeev became the Indian Navy's first woman helicopter pilot.
- Claudia Sheinbaum Elected As Mexico's First Woman President.
- ➤ Idashisha Nongrang has been named first woman Director General of Police (DGP) of Meghalaya state.
- Professor Naima Khatoon has been appointed as the Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).
- Democratic Republic Of Congo Appoints Judith Suminwa Tuluka As African Nation's First Woman Prime Minister.
- Suman Kumari has become the first woman sniper of the Border Security Force (BSF).
- Maryam Nawaz was sworn in as the first woman Chief Minister (CM) of Pakistan's Punjab province.
- > Justice Ritu Bahri was today sworn in as the first woman Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court.
- Nina Singh becomes first woman to be appointed as DG of CISF.
- > Captain Fatima Wasim has become the first woman medical officer to be posted at the operational post of Siachen Glacier.
- Captain Geetika Kaul of Snow Leopard Brigade had become the first woman medical officer to be deployed in Siachen.
- Commander Prerna Deosthalee has been appointed as the first woman officer to command a warship in the Indian Navy (INW).
- Q. Who made history as the first mixed martial arts fighter from India to win a bout at the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in UFC Louisville?

A) Ritu Phogat

B) Puja Tomar

C) Arjan Bhullar

D) Asha Roka

Answer: B

✓ Puja Tomar becomes first Indian to win in UFC.

- ✓ India's Puja Tomar scripted history as she became the first mixed martial arts fighter from the country to win a bout at the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in UFC Louisville.
- ✓ Debutant Tomar eked out a 30-27, 27-30, 29-28 split-decision win over Brazil's Rayanne dos Santos in the straw-weight (52kg) bout.
- ✓ The 30-year-old, known as "cyclone", signed a contract with the UFC last year in October to become the first woman from India to compete in the biggest Mixed Martial Arts promotion.
- ✓ Anshul Jubli and Bharat Kandare have represented India on the world stage in the UFC, as has Canadabased Arjan Singh Bhullar.
- Q. Who emerged as the champions at the Norway Chess tournament in Stavanger?

 - A) Magnus Carlsen and Hou Yifan B) Viswanathan Anand and Kateryna Lagno
 - C) Magnus Carlsen and Ju Wenjun
- D) Fabiano Caruana and Irina Krush

Answer: C

- ✓ Magnus Carlsen and Ju Wenjun win Norway Chess 2024.
- ✓ Magnus Carslen and Ju Wenjun emerged as the champions at the Norway Chess tournament at Stavanger. Carlsen, with 17.5 points, was the clear winner in the open section, as was Ju, with 19, in the women's.
- ✓ In the final round, the local hero
- defeated Fabiano Caruana of the United States in Armageddon.
- ✓ His closest rival, Hikaru Nakamura (USA) was beaten by R. Praggnanandhaa, also in Armageddon.

CHESS GRANDMASTER IN NEWS 2024

- Magnus Carslen and Ju Wenjun emerged as the champions at the Norway Chess tournament at Stavanger.
- World No 1, Magnus Carlsen 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.
- Q. What penalty did the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) impose on 11 individuals for their involvement in a 'pump and dump' scheme related to the scrip of Svarnim Trade Udyog?

A) Rs 7.75 crore

B) Rs 92.37 lakh

C) Rs 12.37 crore

D) Rs 5.75 crore

Answer: A

- ✓ Market regulator SEBI fines 11 individuals for pump and dump scheme
- ✓ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has slapped a fine of Rs 7.75 crore on 11 individuals for allegedly operating a 'pump and dump' scheme in scrip of Svarnim Trade Udyog .
- ✓ The markets regulator has also debarred them from the securities market and ordered disgorgement of Rs 92.37 lakh with 12 per cent annual interest.
- ✓ The pump and dump scheme was operated through recommendations shared through Telegram channels, resulting in public shareholders purchasing the stock at an inflated price

PENALTY IN NEWS 2024

- > SEBI has slapped a fine of Rs 7.75 crore on 11 individuals for allegedly operating a 'pump and dump' scheme in scrip of Svarnim Trade Udyog.
- ➤ 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
- ➤ 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.
- Q. Where did the Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank) recently open its East Africa Representative Office?

A) Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

B) Nairobi, Kenya

C) Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

D) Kampala, Uganda

Answer: B

- ✓ India's EXIM Bank opens East Africa office to boost business & trade in continent.
- ✓ The Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank) recently opened its East Africa Representative Office in Nairobi, Kenya, aiming to expand India's business footprint in the resource-rich and demographically young continent of East Africa.
- ✓ This is part of a plan to grow its business around the world. The goal of this project is to improve India's trade and business ties with East Africa, which is known for having a lot of resources and young people.
- ✓ India Exim Bank has provided over 200 Lines of Credit exceeding US\$12 billion to 42 African countries on behalf of the Indian Government
- Q. What change is the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposing regarding the definition of bulk deposits for scheduled commercial banks (excluding regional rural banks), small finance banks, and local area banks?
 - A) Increasing the minimum deposit amount from ₹2 crore to ₹4 crore.
 - B) Decreasing the minimum deposit amount from ₹3 crore to ₹2 crore.
 - C) Increasing the minimum deposit amount from ₹3 crore to ₹5 crore
 - D) Increasing the minimum deposit amount from ₹2 crore to ₹3 crore.

Answer: D

✓ RBI plans to raise bulk deposit limit to ₹3 crore from ₹2 crore.

- ✓ With deposit growth lagging credit growth, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it plans to revise upwards the definition of bulk deposits for scheduled commercial banks (excluding regional rural banks), small finance banks and local area banks.
- ✓ RBI is proposing to revise the definition of bulk deposits as 'single Rupee term deposit of ₹3 crore and above' for scheduled commercial banks/SCBs (excluding regional rural banks/RRBs) and Small Finance Banks. Currently, 'single Rupee term deposit of ₹2 crore and above' are classified as bulk deposits by these banks.
- ✓ Further, the central bank also plans to define the bulk deposit limit for Local Area Banks as 'Single Rupee term deposits of ₹1 crore and above', as applicable in case of RRBs

INCREASE LIMIT IN NEWS

- Reserve Bank of India raised the bulk fixed deposit threshold from Rs 2 crore to Rs 3 crore, enhancing liquidity management.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) took a significant step by announcing an increase in the UPI payment limits from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh.
- ➤ RBI has conducted a review of bulk deposit limits for financial institutions, specifically focusing on Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). As a result, the bulk deposit limit for RRBs has been significantly increased from Rs 15 lakh to Rs 1 crore.
- ➤ RBI Raises Offline Payment Transaction Upper Limit to ₹500 from ₹200.
- ➤ RBI has raised the Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) limit from Rs 5,000 to Rs 15,000 per transaction for e-mandates on cards, Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) and Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for recurring transactions.
- RBI has decided to increase the existing limit for gold loans under a scheme called "bullet repayment" from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 4 lakh for urban cooperative banks.
- Reserve Bank of India has increased the limit of fund transfer under the Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme from Rs 50,000 per transaction to Rs 2 lakh per transaction.
- ➤ Union Cabinet approved the enhancement in the limit of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) by Rs 50,000 crore to Rs 5 lakh crore.
- Reserve Bank of India has increased the maximum amount outstanding in respect of full-KYC PPIs (KYC-compliant PPIs) from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh

- Q. The Finance Ministry released an additional instalment of tax devolution to states to spur economic development. Which state received the largest chunk of the funds?
 - A) Bihar

B) Uttar Pradesh

C) Madhya Pradesh

D) West Bengal

Answer: B

- ✓ In a move to spur economic development in states, Finance Ministry has released an additional instalment of tax devolution to states for June 2024. The total amount released to states for June now stands at Rs 1,39,750 crore.
- ✓ The biggest chunk of the fund went to Uttar Pradesh at Rs 25,069.88 crore, followed by Bihar at Rs 14,056.12 crore, Madhya Pradesh got Rs 10,970.44 crore, and West Bengal was devolved Rs 10,513.46 crore.
- Q. What social practice has the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) expressed serious concern about in parts of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat?

A) Dowry system

B) Child marriage

C) Nata Pratha

D) Caste discrimination

Answer: C

- ✓ The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to four states- Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat. This notice follows a 2020 case in which a father sold his daughter for 2.5 lakhs and later filed a complaint with the commission upon discovering her dead body.
- ✓ The NHRC has expressed serious concern over the social practice of Nata Pratha, where girls are sold by their family members under the guise of marriage in parts of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat
- Q. Which states lead the chart in terms of the number of farmers who voluntarily gave up the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) scheme from June 2023 to May 2024?
 - A) Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Punjab
 - B) Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan
 - C) Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh
 - D) West Bengal, Odisha, and Assam

Answer: B

- ✓ Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan lead the chart of 1.16 lakh farmers who have voluntarily given up the benefits of the annual Rs 6,000 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) scheme across the country from June 2023 to May 2024, according to data available with the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- Q. What decision has the European Commission (EC) made regarding Tanzania in relation to its conservation grant for East Africa under the NaturAfrica initiative?
 - A) Tanzania has been granted an additional 18 million Euros for conservation efforts.
 - B) Tanzania has been added to the list of eligible countries for the conservation grant.
 - C) Tanzania has been removed from the list of eligible countries for the conservation grant.
 - D) Tanzania's grant has been increased to 20 million Euros

Answer: C

- ✓ The European Commission (EC) has removed Tanzania from the list of countries eligible for its 18 million Euro conservation grant to be launched in East Africa as part of its NaturAfrica initiative. This decision has implications for conservation efforts in East Africa, particularly concerning the Eastern Rift Savannahs and Watersheds (ERiSaWa) component of the initiative
- Q. Who won the silver medal in the Men's 5000-metre race at the Portland Track Festival High-Performance Meet in Portland, US?

A) Gulveer Singh

B) Dylan Jacobs

C) Eric Van Der Els

D) Eliud Kipchoge

Answer: A

- ✓ In athletics, India's Gulveer Singh has clinched the silver medal in the Men's 5000-metre race at the Portland Track Festival High-Performance Meet in Portland, US. Dylan Jacobs of USA bagged the gold, while his compatriot Eric Van Der Els won the bronze medal.
- Q. The term 'Air LORA', recently seen in the news, refers to:
 - A) a cyber defense system for protecting critical infrastructure
 - B) a satellite launched for global internet coverage
 - C) an air-to-ground ballistic missile
 - D) a new energy-efficient jet engine

Answer: C

- ✓ Israel Aerospace Industries unveiled a new air-launched variant of its Lora ballistic missile recently.
- ✓ About Air LORA:
- ✓ It is an air-launched variant of the Long-Range Artillery (LORA) ballistic missile.
- ✓ It is designed and developed by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).
- ✓ It is a long-range air-to-ground missile (AGM) developed for strike missions against high-value and well-protected targets such as command centres, air force bases, infrastructure, and naval vessels in dense littoral environments.
- Q. AIM ICDK Water Challenge 4.0 is an initiative under which one of the following?
 - A) Central Water Commission (CWC)
 - B) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
 - C) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation
 - D) NITI Aayog

Answer: D

- ✓ Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog (AIM) announced the launch of two groundbreaking initiatives aimed at fostering innovation and sustainability in India: the 'AIM ICDK Water Challenge 4.0' and the fifth edition of 'Innovations for You' handbook, spotlighting SDG entrepreneurs of India.
- ✓ About AIM ICDK Water Challenge 4.0
- ✓ The AIM ICDK Water Challenge 4.0 is an initiative launched by the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) under NITI Aayog to address critical water-related challenges through inventive solutions.
- ✓ The challenge is a collaborative effort with the Innovation Centre Denmark (ICDK) at the Royal Danish Embassy in India.
- ✓ About AIM ICDK Water Challenge 4.0
- ✓ The AIM ICDK Water Challenge 4.0 is an initiative launched by the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) under NITI Aayog to address critical water-related challenges through inventive solutions.
- ✓ The challenge is a collaborative effort with the Innovation Centre Denmark (ICDK) at the Royal Danish Embassy in India
- ✓ Participants will be able to showcase their innovations at the Digital Tech Summit in Copenhagen from October 30th to 31st, 2024, funded by the Government of Denmark.

- Q. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), consider the following statements:
 - 1. It is a credit-linked subsidy scheme initiated to provide affordable housing to low and moderate-income residents across the country.
 - 2. PMAY-G (Gramin) beneficiaries are identified using the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011.

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 newly formed Cabinet has decided to further expansion of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and construct 3 crore additional rural and urban houses.
- ✓ About Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) is a credit-linked subsidy scheme initiated to provide affordable housing to low and moderate-income residents across the country.
- ✓ The newly formed government has approved the proposal to provide 3 crore additional rural and urban houses under PMAY.
- ✓ The scheme has two components: PMAY-U for the urban poor and PMAY-G and PMAY-R for the rural poor.
- ✓ PMAY-U (Urban)
- ✓ Objective: To provide housing for all in urban areas.
- ✓ Beneficiaries: Economically Weaker Section (EWS), Low-Income Group (LIG), and Middle-Income Group (MIG).
- ✓ Subsidy Schemes:
- ✓ Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme: Offers interest subsidy on home loans for EWS, LIG, and MIG categories.
- ✓ In-Situ Slum Redevelopment: Utilizes land as a resource to provide houses to eligible slum dwellers.
- ✓ Affordable Housing in Partnership: Promotes partnerships with public and private sectors to provide affordable housing.
- ✓ Beneficiary-Led Construction: Provides financial assistance to individuals to construct or enhance their own houses.
- ✓ PMAY-G (Gramin)

- ✓ Objective: To provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families who are homeless or living in kutcha or dilapidated houses.
- ✓ Beneficiaries: Identified using the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011.
- ✓ Features:
- ✓ Financial Assistance: Rs. 1.2 lakh in plain areas and Rs. 1.3 lakh in hilly, difficult, and Integrated Action Plan (IAP) areas.
- ✓ Construction: Houses are to be constructed by beneficiaries with technical assistance from the government.
- ✓ Convergence with other schemes: Encourages convergence with other schemes like Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) for toilet construction, and MGNREGA for wage employment.
- Q. When is the World Day Against Child Labour observed?

A) June 11

B) June 12

C) June 13

D) June 14

Answer: B

- ✓ The World Day Against Child Labour is held every year on June 12 to raise awareness and activism to prevent child labour.
- ✓ The Theme for 2024: End Child Labour Now!
- ✓ It is an International Labour Organization (ILO)-sanctioned holiday first launched in 2002, and is intended to foster the worldwide movement against child labour in any of its forms.
- ✓ This year, the World Day will be conducted as a virtual campaign and is being organized jointly with the Global March Against Child Labour and the International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture (IPCCLA).
- Q. Which financial institution recently announced its acquisition of a stake in the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (IFSC) during an event celebrating the launch of its IFSC Banking Unit in GIFT City?

A) HDFC Bank

B) Bank of Baroda

C) ICICI Bank

D) Bank of India

Answer: D

- ✓ Bank of India acquires 6.1% stake in CCIL IFSC.
- ✓ The Bank of India(BoI) has acquired a 6.125 per cent stake in the recently incorporated Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (IFSC) listed in the GIFT SEZ in Gujarat for ₹6.125 crore.

✓ Promoted by Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL), CCIL IFSC is the proposed entity to build and operate a real-time foreign currency settlement system at GIFT City. The entity will act as a clearing house and system operator at GIFT City.

TAKE IN NEWS 2024

- ➤ Bank of India(BoI) has acquired a 6.125 per cent stake in the recently incorporated Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (IFSC) listed in the GIFT SEZ in Gujarat for ₹6.125 crore
- ➤ Competition Commission of India (CCI) has cleared South Korea-based Shinhan Bank's proposed acquisition of an 11 per cent stake in HDFC Credila Financial Services.
- ➤ Canara Bank has approved initiating the process of diluting a 14.50% stake in its subsidiary, Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company, through an initial public offering (IPO).
- ➤ HDFC Bank and its group entities the authority to acquire an aggregate stake of up to 9.5% in ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank, YES Bank, Bandhan Bank, and Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SFB)
- ➤ The government of India has announced plans to sell up to 7% of its stake in NLC India.
- This move aims to raise between Rs 2,000 crore and Rs 2,100 crore, contributing to the government's disinvestment goals.
- ➤ HSBC and State Bank of India (SBI) have made strategic investments in CCIL IFSC Limited, acquiring 6.125% stakes each, valued at ₹6.125 crore each.
- > HDFC Bank to Divest 100% Stake in HDFC Education and Development Services.
- ➤ SBI Mutual Fund Acquires 3% Stake in Savita Oil Technologies.
- Reliance to buy 13% of Paramount's stake in Viacom18 for Rs 4,286 crore
- Q. Which Indian navy vessel is participating in the 8th edition of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX-24) at Yokosuka, Japan?

A) INS Vikramaditya

B) INS Chakra

C) INS Shivalik

D) INS Viraat

Answer: C

- ✓ 8th edition of Japan India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX)-24 start in Japan
- ✓ The 8th edition of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise(JIMEX-24) has started at Yokosuka, Japan.

- ✓ The JIMEX-24 exercise is being hosted by the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF).
- ✓ The Japanese Navy is called the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force.
- ✓ The Indian Navy's indigenously built Stealth Frigate INS Shivalik is participating in the JIMEX -24 exercise.
- ✓ Other Maritime Exercises between India & Japan:
- ✓ Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX)
- ✓ Malabar Exercise (India US Japan Australia)
- ✓ DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual military exercise .

EXERCISE IN NEWS 2024

- The 8th edition of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise(JIMEX-24) has started at Yokosuka, Japan
- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Navy are taking part in two mega multinational war games named Exercise Red Flag and RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific).
- ➤ Joint military Exercise Shakti between the Indian and the French forces will be held at the Joint Training Node of the Indian Army in Umroi, Meghalaya, from 13 -26 May 2024
- > The 5th edition of the 'Dustlik' joint military exercise between India and Uzbekistan begins in Uzbekistan
- > Recently, a two-day 'Sagar Kavach' exercise was organised in the Lakshadweep Islands.
- A bilateral tri-service exercise Tiger Triump-24 between India and the US will be held on the Eastern Seaboard in the US from March 18 to 31.
- An Indian Army contingent on Monday departed for Seychelles to participate in the 10th edition of joint military exercise "LAMITIYE-2024" with Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF). The joint exercise will be conducted in Seychelles from March 18-27, 2024.
- ➤ The naval forces of China, Iran, and Russia recently launched a joint exercise called the "Maritime Security Belt-2024" near the Gulf of Oman.
- The joint exercise 'Bharat-Shakti' of the three armies of India (Army, Navy and Air Force) will be organized in Asia's largest field firing range located in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- ➤ The United States Coast Guard's (USCG) Bertholf ship reached Port Blair ahead of the 'Sea Defenders-2024' joint exercise.
- > Exercise Samudra Laksamana kicked off on February 28 and will continue until March 2, taking place at or off the coast of Visakhapatnam

- ➤ North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) started its largest military exercise in Europe, the Steadfast Defender 2024, recently.
- > The 5th edition of the joint military exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' is being organized at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan.

Q. Which country will host the 16th BRICS summit meeting?

A) Russia

B) South Africa

C) Brazil

D) China

Answer: A

- ✓ 1st BRICS Ministerial meeting held with expanded membership in Russia.
- ✓ The first ministerial meeting of the BRICS group of countries with the newly added members took place in the Russian city of Nizhny Novgorod on 10 June 2024.
- ✓ The two-day (10 and 11 June 2024) meetings of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations was hosted by Russia, as it is the current chairman of the BRICS.
- ✓ Egypt, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia & Ethiopia Join first BRICS Ministerial meeting.
- ✓ Argentina declined to join the group, while Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates joined the group on 1 January 2024.
- ✓ Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa were already members of the group.
- ✓ Russia took over the chairmanship of BRICS from South Africa on 1 January 2024.
- ✓ Russia will host the 16th annual BRICS summit from 22 to 24 October 2024
- ✓ About BRICS
- ✓ BRICS is an intergovernmental organisation that originally consisted of four countries: Brazil, Russia, India, and China.
- ✓ British economist Jim O'Neill, working for Goldman Sachs, coined the acronym BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, and China) in 2001. He believed that these countries would dominate global economic growth by 2050.
- ✓ The first foreign minister's meeting of the BRIC countries was held in New York in 2006.
- ✓ The first summit meeting of the leaders of the BRIC countries was held in June 1996 in Yekaterinburg, Russia.
- ✓ The group's name was changed to BRICS after South Africa joined the group in 2010.

- ✓ With the addition of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, the total number of BRICS members has reached 10.
- ✓ The BRICS countries are economically an important group in the world. Around half of the world's population lives in BRICS countries.
- ✓ Their contribution in world crude oil production and export is around 40 per cent.
- ✓ They contribute to around 25 percent of the global economy and their contribution in global trade in goods is around two-fifth.

SUMMIT & CONFERENCE IN NEWS 2024

- > 1st BRICS Ministerial meeting held with expanded membership in Russia.
- ➤ Singapore hosted the first Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum meeting on 5& 6 June 2024.
- ➤ The three-day 3rd Indian Analytical Congress is being held in Uttarkhand's capital, Dehradun, from 5 -7 June 2024.
- ➤ The 21st edition of the Asia Pacific premier defence meet, the Shangri La Dialogue or the Asian Security Summit, ended in Singapore on 2 June 2024.
- India has set up its maiden pavilion at the World Hydrogen Summit and Exhibition 2024.
- India will host the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46) and the 26th Meeting of the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP 26) from May 20 to 30, 2024, in Kochi, Kerala.
- Defense Secretary Giridhar Armane attended the meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Defence Ministers in Astana, Kazakhstan on April 26, 2024.
- Q. World Migration Report and Migration Health Annual Report are published by:
 - A) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
 - B) International Labour Organization (ILO)
 - C) World Health Organization (WHO)
 - D) International Organization of Migration (IOM)

Answer: D

✓ At least 49 migrants died and 140 others were missing after their boat capsized off the coast of Yemen, the U.N. migration agency said on June 11.

- ✓ About International Organization of Migration (IOM)
- ✓ The IOM is an intergovernmental organization that provides services and advice concerning migration to governments and migrants, including internally displaced persons, refugees, and migrant workers.
- ✓ Establishment: IOM was established in 1951.
- ✓ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- ✓ Member States: IOM has 175 member states and 8 observer states.
- ✓ Mandate: To promote humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, through providing services and advice to governments and migrants.
- ✓ Publications: World Migration Report, Migration Health Annual Report.
- Q. Which entity will manage the terminal at Mongla port in Bangladesh, marking India's third overseas port operation?
 - A) Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd
 - B) India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL)
 - C) Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust
 - D) Shipping Corporation of India

Answer: B

- ✓ India to expand overseas port operations with Mongla terminal in Bangladesh.
- ✓ Following successful agreements for Chabahar Port in Iran and Sittwe in Myanmar, India is set to operate a terminal at Mongla port in Bangladesh. This will be the third overseas port operation by India as New Delhi rapidly sheds reticence in foraying abroad to expand its commercial interests in the ports and shipping sector.
- ✓ The terminal at Mongla will be managed by India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL). A senior official from the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways said that IPGL will henceforth be the preferred entity for India's international port operations.
- ✓ Mongla is Bangladesh's second-largest port. It lies close to the shore of the Bay of Bengal and the Pashur River.

- Q. Who led the Indian tripartite delegation at the 112th session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland?
 - A) S. Jaishankar

B) Rajesh Verma

C) Narendra Modi

D) Sumita Dawra

Answer: D

- ✓ Indian tripartite delegation at the 112th session of International Labour Conference (ILC).
- ✓ The Indian tripartite delegation led by Secretary (Labour & Employment), Ms. Sumita Dawra, participated in the 112th session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) of International Labour Organisation (ILO) being held in Geneva, Switzerland
- Q. Which facility did the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) propose to enhance small-value digital payments through UPI Lite wallets?

A) Automatic wallet replenishment

B) Increased daily transaction limits

C) Integration with Aadhaar

D) Introduction of loyalty points

Answer: A

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed a facility to allow customers to automatically replenish their UPI Lite wallets to promote small-value digital payments.
- ✓ Currently, the UPI Lite has a daily limit of Rs 2,000, while the upper limit for a single payment is Rs 500.
- ✓ Presently, the UPI Lite app can only hold a maximum of Rs 2000 at a time.
- ✓ This will further enhance the ease of making small value digital payments, he said while announcing the bimonthly monetary policy.
- ✓ This will enable customers to automatically replenish the balances in Fastag, NCMC, etc
- Q. What is the primary objective of SBI's 'SME Digital Business Loans' initiative?
 - A) To reduce the interest rates for SMEs.
 - B) To provide end-to-end loan sanction in up to 45 minutes for small and medium enterprises.
 - C) To eliminate the need for collateral in SME loans.
 - D) To focus on corporate banking over the next five years

Answer: B

- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has launched 'SME Digital Business Loans', offering end-to-end sanction turnaround time of up to 45 minutes for SMEs (small and medium enterprises).
- ✓ SBI identified the micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) line of business as the focal point for the bank's growth and profitability over the next five years.
- ✓ The proposition eliminates the need for traditional credit underwriting and lengthy appraisal processes, ushering in a new era of simplicity, speed, and accessibility in MSME lending.
- ✓ Notably, for loans up to Rs 50 lakh, SBI has waived the requirement for financial statements, relying instead on transaction history and GST returns for appraisal

SBI IN NEWS 2024

- > SBI has launched 'SME Digital Business Loans', offering end-to-end sanction turnaround time of up to 45 minutes for SMEs.
- ➤ SBI sanctioned ₹2,030 cr under co-lending tie-up with NBFCs.
- > SBI becomes 7th company to cross Rs 8 lakh crore market capitalisation.
- > SBI crossed the Rs 8 lakh crore mark after the bank's shares surged by 9 per cent during a rally in the stock market, hitting an all-time high of Rs 912.
- ➤ State Bank of India (SBI) has increased interest rates on retail domestic term deposits (Below ₹2 crore) by 25-75 basis points on deposits of less than one year tenor.
- > State Bank of India (SBI) recently announced it has become the first trading-cum-clearing member at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX).
- > SBI partners with HCLSoftware for digital transformation.
- Aurionpro secures a significant deal with SBI for iCashpro+, a cash management platform. Valued at Rs 100 crore, it involves phased delivery over 12 months, followed by 6-year maintenance.
- LIC emerged as the most valued Indian PSU firm, surpassing SBI.
- > State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a Line of Credit (LOC) of Euro 70 million (about Rs 630 crore) with German development bank KfW to promote solar projects in the country.
- > SBI Mutual Fund got permission from the RBI to buy up to a 9.99% share in Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates SBI branch in Sri Lanka.
- > State Bank of India ropes in MS Dhoni as brand ambassador.
- Currently, the government of India holds a 57.6% share of SBI.

- > STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI)
- Founded: 1 July 1955
- > Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- > Chairman : Dinesh Kumar Khara
- Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI
- The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.
- > Tagline of State Bank of India
 - (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
 - (2) With you all the way
 - (3) A bank of the common man
 - (4) The banker to every Indian
 - (5) The Nation banks on us.
- It is one of the largest and oldest banks in India.
- Q. Which regulatory body has recently proposed strict timelines for claim settlements of auto insurance policyholders in India?
 - A) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 - B) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
 - C) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
 - D) National Insurance Academy (NIA)

Answer: C

- ✓ 'Pay as you use': Vehicle owners can now opt for customised motor insurance policies.
- ✓ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has updated the master circular clarifying important rules for motor insurance policyholders. The regulator has proposed the implementation of strict timelines for claim settlements of auto insurance policyholders.
- ✓ IRDAI has asked insurers to offer two options as the first choice while buying a motor insurance policy —
 i) Pay as you drive insurance cover, ii) A comprehensive cover that includes coverage for depreciation.

- Q. With reference to the National Testing Agency (NTA), consider the following statements:
 - 1. It was established in 2017 by the Ministry of Education.
 - 2. It conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions.

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 Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to stay the counselling for admissions of students to medical colleges over alleged paper leak and irregularities in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) undergraduate (UG) examination 2024.
- ✓ About National Testing Agency (NTA)
- ✓ The NTA was established in 2017 by the Ministry of Education as a premier, specialist, autonomous and self-sustained testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions.
- ✓ Functions
- ✓ Conducting entrance examinations for admission to higher educational institutions
- ✓ Creating a question bank using modern techniques
- ✓ Establishing a strong research and development culture
- ✓ Collaborating with international organizations like ETS (Educational Testing Services)
- ✓ Undertaking any other examination entrusted to it by the Ministries/Departments of Government of India/State Governments.
- ✓ NEET
- ✓ The NEET (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test) is an entrance examination for students who wish to pursue undergraduate medical courses (MBBS/BDS) and postgraduate courses (MD/MS) in government or private medical colleges.
- ✓ Objective: To standardize the admission process for medical and dental courses across India, ensuring a uniform evaluation of candidates' eligibility.
- ✓ The NTA conducts NEET on behalf of the Ministry of Education

Q. Who has been appointed as the 15th chief minister of Odisha?

A) Naveen Patnaik

B) Mohan Charan Maji

C) Pravati Parida

D) K V Singh Deo

Answer: B

- ✓ Mohan Charan Majhi: BJP's first Chief Minister of Odisha.
- ✓ Mohan Charan Majhi of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was sworn in as the chief minister of Odisha by the state Governor, Raghubar Das, in a ceremony at the Janata Maidan, Bhubaneswar, on 12 June 2024.
- ✓ He is the first BJP leader to become the chief minister of Odisha.
- ✓ He is also the third tribal after Giridhar Gamang and Hemananda Biswal (both from the Congress party) to become the chief minister of Odisha.
- ✓ The Mohan Charan Majhi government has two deputy chief ministers, K V Singh Deo and Pravati Parida.
- ✓ Pravati Parida is Odisha's first female deputy chief minister.
- ✓ Mohan Charan Maji is the 15th chief minister of Odisha after the promulgation of the constitution.

ODISHA IN NEWS 2024

- Mohan Charan Majhi of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was sworn in as the 15th chief minister of Odisha.
- ➤ Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, launched Project ODISERV in Sambalpur, Odisha.
- > DRDO successfully flight-tested the RudraM-II from Su-30 MK-I platform of the Indian Air Force (IAF) off the coast of Odisha.
- > 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.
- The famous silver filigree (Rupa Tarakasi) of the millennium Cuttack city in Odisha recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- DRDO successfully tested the Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from Chandipur, Odisha

- Q. Who has been sworn in as the 18th chief minister of Andhra Pradesh?
 - A) Gottipatti Ravi Kumar
- B) Kandula Durgesh
- C) Jagan Mohan Reddy
- D) Nara Chandrababu Naidu

Answer: D

- ✓ Chandrababu Naidu sworn in as Andhra Pradesh CM for the fourth time.
- ✓ Nara Chandrababu Naidu, leader of the Telugu Desam Party(TDP), was sworn in as the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh for the fourth time by Governor S Abdul Nazeer at a swearing-in ceremony at Kesarpalli IT Park near Gannavaram Airport in Vijayawada.
- ✓ Chandrababu Naidu, who was elected from the Kuppam legislative assembly constituency, became the 18th chief minister of Andhra Pradesh

ANDHRA PRADESH IN NEWS 2024

- Chandrababu Naidu sworn in as Andhra Pradesh CM for the fourth time.
- The city of Hyderabad officially ceases to be the joint capital of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh on 2 June 2024.
- Andhra Pradesh CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy unveiled the 206 feet tall statue of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar at Swaraj Maidan in Vijayawada on 19 January 2024. The world's tallest statue of BR Ambedkar is in Vijayawada.
- Q. Which country introduced a resolution in the United Nations General Assembly to declare 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology?

A) Ethiopia

B) South Africa

C) Nigeria

D) Ghana

Answer: D

- ✓ United Nations General Assembly has declared 2025 the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology. The 193-member United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to this effect on 7 June 2024. Earlier, the United Nations had declared 2025 as the.
- ✓ International Year of Cooperatives,
- ✓ International Year of Peace and Trust and

- ✓ International Year of Glacier's Preservation.
- ✓ The United Nations can declare one or more themes as the focus of an International Year in order to promote, through awareness and action, the objectives of the theme.
- ✓ 2024 is being observed as the International Year of Camelids. (Bactrian camels, Dromedary camels, Llamas, Alpacas, Guanaco, and Vicuana are considered camelid animals.)
- ✓ By designating 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, the United Nations wants to increase public awareness about the importance of quantum science, encourage young people to study it and bolster support for using it to address current challenges.
- ✓ The African country Ghana submitted a resolution, co-sponsored by six other countries in the United Nations General Assembly, to declare 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology.
- Q. Which country will host the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2025?
 - A) Malaysia

B) China

C) Denmark

D) India

Answer: D

- ✓ The first FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2025 will be hosted in India.
- ✓ The Executive Board of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) has recently taken this decision.
- ✓ This tournament will be held in December 2025, in which 24 teams will participate
- Q. After whom has the International Astronomical Union named a crater on Mars?
 - A) Devendra Lal
 - B) C. V Raman
 - C) Satyendra Nath Bose
 - D) Vikram Sarabhai

Answer: A

- ✓ International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named three new craters located within the Tharsis volcanic region on Mars after India's science community and Indian places.
- ✓ The largest crater has been named "Lal Crater" in honour of Professor Devendra Lal.
- ✓ The Mursan Crater is named after the Mursan town in Uttar Pradesh, India, while the Hilsa Crater is named after the Hilsa town in Bihar, India.

Q. NASA is collaborating with which IIT in India to research multidrug-resistant pathogens?

A) IIT Delhi

B) IIT Madras

C) IIT Varanasi

D) IIT Mumbai

Answer: B

- ✓ Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) are researching multidrug-resistant pathogens on the International Space Station (ISS).
- ✓ The collaborative effort between IIT Madras and NASA's JPL will advance scientific knowledge and promote international partnerships
- Q. The International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) is marked every year on ___

A) 10 June

B) 12 June

C) 11 June

D) 13 June

Answer: D

- ✓ The International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) is celebrated annually on June 13 to celebrate the human rights of persons with albinism worldwide.
- ✓ The theme of International Albinism Awareness Day this year is "10 years of IAAD: Adecade of collective progress."
- ✓ The United Nations' General Assembly adopted a resolution on December 18, 2014, to establish June 13 as International Albinism Awareness Day.
- ✓ Albinism is a congenital disorder characterized in humans by the complete or partial absence of pigment in the skin, hair and eyes.
- Q. Who has been appointed as the 30th Chief of Army Staff?

A) Manoj Pande

B) Upendra Dwivedi

C) Anil Chauhan

D) Rana Pratap Kalita

Answer: B

- ✓ Lt General Upendra Dwivedi appointed as the 30th Indian Army Chief.
- ✓ The government of India has appointed Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi as the next Chief of Army Staff.

- ✓ Lt General Upendra Dwivedi will take over from the current Army chief, General Manoj Pande, who will retire on 30 June 2024.
- ✓ General Manoj Pande, who was due to retire on 31 May 2024, tenure was extended by the government by one month till 30 June 2024.
- ✓ Lt General Upendra Dwivedi will be the 30th chief of the Indian Army. Currently, he is the Vice Chief of the Army Staff.
- ✓ Lt General Upendra Dwivedi is an alumnus of Sainik School, Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Indian Army and its Chief
- ✓ The Indian army is the second largest Army in the world after China, with around 1.46 million active personnel.
- ✓ The Indian Army is under the Union Ministry of Defence, and the President of India is its Commander in Chief.
- ✓ The Army is led by a Chief of Army Staff(COAS), popularly called an Army Chief.
- ✓ At the time of Independence, the Army chief was General Sir Robert Lockhart.
- ✓ The first Indian to become the Army chief was Field Marshal K.M Carriappa.
- ✓ He became the Army chief on 15 January 1949, and to mark the historic occasion, Army Day is celebrated in India on 15 January every year.
- ✓ The Chief of Army Staff is a Four-Star Rank head of the Indian Army.

NEW UPDATED LIST OF CHIEF AND DIRECTOR GENERAL

- Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi: 30th Chief of the Army Staff
- Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi: 26th Chief of the Naval Staff
- Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari: 24th Chief of the Air Staff
- Nalin Prabhat: National Security Guard (NSG)
- Anish Dayal Singh: Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- Rahul Rasgotra: Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan: Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)
- ➤ Daljit Singh Chawdhary : Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)
- ➤ Nitin Agarwal : Border Security Force (BSF)
- Pradeep Chandran Nair: Assam Rifles

- Nina Singh: Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) [Nina Singh becomes 1st woman to head CISF]
- Rakesh Pal: Indian Coast Guard (ICG)
- Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh: National Cadet Corps (NCC)
- Q. Pema Khandu of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took the oath as the chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh for the _ consecutive time.

A) third

B) second

C) fifth

D) sixth

Answer: A

- ✓ Pema Khandu takes oath as the Arunachal Pradesh CM for third time.
- ✓ Pema Khandu of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took the oath as the chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh for the third consecutive time on 13 June 2024.
- ✓ The Arunachal Pradesh Governor, Lt Gen (Retd) K T Parnaik, administered the oath of office and secrecy at Dorjee Khandu Convention Hall in Itanagar.
- ✓ The Governor also administered the oath of office to eleven cabinet ministers, including Chowna Mein as the Deputy Chief Minister of the state.
- ✓ Pema Khandu's led BJP won 36 out of the 50 assembly seats that went to the polls.
- ✓ The Arunachal Pradesh legislative assembly has 60 seats, but elections were held only on 50 seats

ARUNACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2024

- > Pema Khandu takes oath as the Arunachal Pradesh Chief minister for third time
- > Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Sela Tunnel as part of his one-day visit to Arunachal Pradesh. Which is the world's longest twin-lane tunnel.
- Arunachal Pradesh presented its Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve during the Republic Day parade.
- > 9th edition of the Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival (PPHF), a state festival of Arunachal Pradesh, will take place at Seijosa in the Pakke Kessang district from January 18-20, 2024.
- ➤ 'Shar Amartala Torgya' Festival is an annual festival celebrated in the state of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Arunachal Pradesh is also known as the 'Land of the Rising Sun or the Land of the Dawn-lit Mountains'.

- Arunachal Pradesh was initially a Union Territory, which was made the 24th state of India in 1987.
- > Capital: Itanagar.
- ➤ Governor: Lt Gen (Retd) K T Parnaik
- Q. According to the BrandZ Most Valuable Global Brands report, which Indian information technology company has secured its position among the 100 most valuable brands in the world for the third consecutive year?

A) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)

B) Wipro Limited

C) Infosys

D) HCL Technologies

Answer: C

- ✓ Infosys Ranks Among Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands.
- ✓ According to the BrandZ Most Valuable Global Brands report, Infosys, a leading information technology company, has secured its position among the 100 most valuable brands in the world for the third consecutive year.
- ✓ Infosys is ranked as the 74th most valuable brand in the world and ranked as 20th most valuable global B2B (business-to-business) technology brand.
- ✓ IT bellwether Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is the most valuable Indian brand, ranked 46th globally.
- ✓ TCS is ranked 16th in the top 20 business technology and services platforms.
- ✓ A total of four Indian brands made the list in 2024 with a cumulative brand value of over \$130 billion.
- ✓ Notably, non-technology company HDFC Bank came in at 47 with a brand value of around \$43 billion. Airtel came in as the 73rd most valuable brand at a \$25 billion (approx) valuation.
- ✓ Globally, Apple has become the most valuable company in terms of market capitalisation and the first company to cross \$1 trillion in brand value, according to Kantar's BrandZ global ranking. It has surpassed Microsoft to regain its title as the most valuable company, marking a 15 per cent increase from the previous year. Following Apple, Alphabet's Google holds the second spot at \$753 billion, and Microsoft ranks third at \$713 billion.
- Q. AXISCADES Technologies Ltd announced the commencement of delivery for a substantial quantity of Man Portable Counter Drone Systems (MPCDS) to which organization?

A) Indian Navy

B) Indian Air Force

C) Indian Coast Guard

D) Indian Army

Answer: D

- ✓ Indian Army gets indigenous Man Portable Counter Drone System.
- ✓ AXISCADES Technologies Ltd announced in an exchange filing the commencement of delivery for a substantial quantity of Man Portable Counter Drone Systems (MPCDS) to the Indian Army.
- ✓ This contract signifies a significant achievement for AXISCADES as it embarks on providing these pioneering systems, the first of their kind, to be integrated into the Indian Defence Forces.
- ✓ AXISCADES stated that their Man Portable Counter Drone System emerges as a transformative addition to India's defence capabilities. Innovatively crafted and entirely indigenous, the MPCDS is compact, portable, and compatible with both battery and main power sources. Encompassing various frequency spectrums, such as Command & Control and Navigation, the system can identify and disrupt an extensive range of drones within a 5-kilometer radius.
- Q. Which company did Adani Defence and Aerospace sign a landmark agreement with to collaborate across strategic defence and military domains?

A) Mubadala Investment Company

B) EDGE Group

C) BAE Systems

D) Lockheed Martin

Answer: B

- ✓ Adani Defence & Aerospace And EDGE Group Sign Landmark Cooperation Agreement In Defence & Security.
- ✓ Adani Defence and Aerospace signed a landmark agreement with EDGE Group, the leading advanced technology and defence group in the UAE, to collaborate across strategic defence and military domains, combining their expertise in missiles, weapons, unmanned platforms, and cyber systems.
- ✓ The agreement aims to establish a global platform leveraging the defence and aerospace capabilities of both companies to bring together their respective product portfolios and cater to the requirements of global and local customers.
- ✓ The agreement will explore the establishment of R&D facilities in India and the UAE

UAE IN NEWS 2024

- > Indian Prime Minister will attend the World Government Summit 2024 as a guest of honour in UAE.
- ➤ World Government Summit (WGS) 2024: Theme: "Shaping Future Governments".

- > The joint military exercise 'Desert Cyclone' of India and United Arab Emirates is being organized in Mahajan, Rajasthan
- ➤ India, UAE ink MoU to strengthen educational cooperation for students, faculty.
- ➤ India, UAE sign MoU on linking of India's Unified Payments Interface with Instant Payment Platform of UAE.
- ➤ UAE becomes first Arab country to get observer status on Asia-Pacific money laundering.
- ➤ United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the fourth largest investor in India during 2022-23.
- ➤ About UAE
- > Capital : Abu Dhabi
- Currency : Emirati Dirham
- > President of UAE : Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan
- > Prime Minister: Sheikh Mohammed ibn Rashid Al Maktoum
- Q. Which organization recently organized the 'PRANA' National Conference focusing on Indian System of Medicines (ISM) professionals?
 - A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - B) National Commission for Indian Medical Systems
 - C) Indian Council of Medical Research
 - D) Medical Council of India

Answer: B

- ✓ National Commission for Indian Medical Systems organized a two-day National Conference, 'PRANA' Protecting Rights and Novelties in ASUS (Mind to Market for Indian System of Medicines [ISM] Professionals) in Collaboration with All India Council for Technical Education and Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell to mark its fourth foundation.
- ✓ These could become suitable for startups. The conference delved into varied facets of handhold innovators in ISM.
- ✓ The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine is the statutory body constituted under NCISM Act, 2020 vide Gazette notification extraordinary part II section 1 dated 21.09.2020 and which came into force from 11th of June 2021.

- Q. Which country introduced a resolution in the United Nations General Assembly to declare 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology?
 - A) Ethiopia

B) South Africa

C) Nigeria

D) Ghana

Answer: D

- ✓ United Nations General Assembly has declared 2025 the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology. The 193-member United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to this effect on 7 June 2024. Earlier, the United Nations had declared 2025 as the.
- ✓ International Year of Cooperatives,
- ✓ International Year of Peace and Trust and
- ✓ International Year of Glacier's Preservation.
- ✓ The United Nations can declare one or more themes as the focus of an International Year in order to promote, through awareness and action, the objectives of the theme.
- ✓ 2024 is being observed as the International Year of Camelids. (Bactrian camels, Dromedary camels, Llamas, Alpacas, Guanaco, and Vicuana are considered camelid animals.)
- ✓ By designating 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, the United Nations wants to increase public awareness about the importance of quantum science, encourage young people to study it and bolster support for using it to address current challenges.
- ✓ The African country Ghana submitted a resolution, co-sponsored by six other countries in the United Nations General Assembly, to declare 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology.

YEARS IN NEWS 2024

- ➤ United Nations Declares 2025 as the Year to Focus on Quantum Advancements
- Indian Navy has declared 2024 as the 'Year of Naval Civilians.'
- ➤ United Nations has declared 2024 as the International Year of Camelids.
- Indian Army has declared 2024 as the "Year of Technology Absorption."
- ➤ United Nations, at the behest of the Government of India, declared 2023 the International Year Millets.

Q. When will India host the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup, as announced by the International Hockey Federation (FIH)?

A) December 2024

B) December 2025

C) December 2026

D) December 2027

Answer: B

- ✓ India Named Hosts for 2025 FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup.
- ✓ India will host the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup in December 2025, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) announced.
- ✓ The tournament, set to feature 24 teams for the first time, will be the 14th edition of the Junior Hockey World Cup. The host city will be announced later.
- ✓ The most recent edition of the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup was held in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia in 2023. India lost to eventual champions Germany 4-1 in the semi-finals and went down to Spain 3-1 in the third-place playoff to settle for fourth place.
- ✓ This will be the fourth time India will host the Junior hockey World Cup. The 2013 edition was held in New Delhi while Lucknow and Bhubaneswar played hosts in 2016 and 2021, respectively

UPCOMING SPORTS VENUE IN NEWS 2024

- India will host the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup in December 2025.
- Australia and Uzbekistan confirmed as 2026 and 2029 AFC Women's Asian Cup hosts.
- > Brazil was declared the host of the 2027 Women's World Cup at the FIFA.
- India will host the BWF World Junior Championships 2025 at the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati.
- Saudi Arabia will host the 2034 Asian Games in Riyadh, its capital city.
- Saudi Arabia is to host the 2034 Men's FIFA World Cup.
- > England will host the 2027 World Test Championship (WTC) final in June, marking the fourth consecutive time
- South Africa is hosting the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup 2024.
- ➤ Prime Minister inaugurated the Khelo India Youth Games and expressed the government's commitment to hosting the 2029 Youth Olympics and the 2036 Olympic Games in the country

- Q. GAIL (India) plans to set up a 1500 KTA Ethane Cracker Project at Ashta, Distt. Sehore in Madhya Pradesh. What is the estimated capex for this project?
 - A) Rs 50,000 crore

B) Rs 60,000 crore

C) Rs 70,000 crore

D) Rs 80,000 crore

Answer: B

- ✓ GAIL to Set Up India's Largest Ethane Cracker Project with Rs 60,000 Crore Investment in MP.
- ✓ At an estimated capex of Rs 60,000 cr, GAIL (India) intends to set up a 1500 KTA Ethane Cracker Project at Ashta, Distt. Sehore in Madhya Pradesh, having product slate of various ethylene derivatives.
- ✓ The company has submitted its request to the Madhya Pradesh State Government for providing suitable enablers for the project. Around 800 hectares of land shall be provided by the MP Industrial Development Corporation, for which state government has already initiated the process.
- Q. Which organization has the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) partnered with to enhance semiconductor innovation and talent development?
 - A) Toshiba Corporation
 - **B) Sony Corporation**
 - C) Renesas Electronics Corporation
 - D) Panasonic Corporation

Answer: C

- ✓ IITH, Japanese Renesas Electronics Corp ink pact to boost semiconductor innovation, talent.
- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) has entered into a strategic collaboration with Japanese advanced semiconductor solutions provider Renesas Electronics Corporation with an eye on boosting semiconductor innovation and talent development in the country.
- ✓ The three-year memorandum of understanding (MoU), facilitated by the IITH Japan Desk set up through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), will focus on research and collaboration in the area of very-large-scale-integration (VLSI) and embedded semiconductor systems.
- ✓ As part of the pact, Renesas will support curriculum development, hands-on learning, and outreach programmes at IITH to nurture semiconductor talent.

- Q. Who has been appointed as Bangladesh's 18th Army chief for a three-year term starting from June 23, as announced by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR)?
 - A) Lieutenant General Waker-Uz-Zaman
 - B) General Aziz Ahmed
 - C) Admiral Aurangzeb Chowdhury
 - D) Air Chief Marshal Masihuzzaman Serniabat

Answer: A

- ✓ Lt Gen Waker-Uz-Zaman Appointed Army Chief of Bangladesh.
- ✓ Lieutenant General Waker-Uz-Zaman was named Bangladesh's 18th Army chief for a three-year term from June 23, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) announced.
- ✓ With this appointment, he will be promoted to the rank of general. His tenure as the army chief will last for three years, according to the ISPR handout.
- Q. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of SBICAP Ventures Limited (SVL)?
 - A) Prem Prabhakar

B) Rajesh Kumar

C) Amit Sharma

D) Rakesh Singh

Answer: A

- ✓ Prem Prabhakar Appointed MD and CEO of SBICAP Ventures Limited
- ✓ SBICAP Ventures Limited (SVL) was announced the appointment of Prem Prabhakar as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, effective 4th June 2024.
- Q. Who has become the acting chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) with effect from June 2, 2024, replacing Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra?

A) Vijaya Bharathi Sayani

B) Arun Kumar Mishra

C) Rajesh Kumar

D) Amit Sharma

Answer: A

- ✓ NHRC member Sayani appointed its acting chairperson.
- ✓ Vijaya Bharathi Sayani, a member of the National Human Rights Commission(NHRC), has become the acting chairperson of the central body with effect from June 2,2024

- ✓ He would be replacing Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra, who completed his tenure on June 1. Mishra served as the eighth chairperson of the right panel and was appointed to its top post in June 2021.
- ✓ A former Supreme Court judge, justice Mishra was also the first non-CJI to be appointed to the NHRC chief post since the amendment of the Protection of Human Rights Act in 2019. He had succeeded justice H L Dattu, a former Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- Who are the recipients of the Dilip Bose Award for lifetime achievement announced by the All India Q. **Tennis Association (AITA)?**
 - A) Nar Singh and Rohini Lokhande
- B) Leander Paes and Sania Mirza
- C) Mahesh Bhupathi and Leander Paes D) Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza

Answer: A

- ✓ Nar Singh, Rohini Lokhande win Dilip Bose lifetime achievement award.
- ✓ The All India Tennis Association(AITA) has announced the Dilip Bose Award for lifetime achievement to coach Nar Singh and Rohini Lokhande.
- ✓ This is a new lifetime achievement award for women coaches.
- ✓ Rohini was the first woman tennis coach to qualify from the National Institute of Sports.
- The All India Tennis Association instituted a lifetime achievement award in the name of Dilip Bose in 2002.
- ✓ The award along with a cash prize of Rs.50,000 will be presented during the 11th National coaches workshop to be held at the PYC Hindu Gymkhana in Pune.
- ✓ Rohini Lokhande became the first female National Institute of Sports qualified tennis instructor.
- Q. Nagarahole Tiger Reserve lies in which one of the following states?

A) Odisha

B) Maharashtra

C) Karnataka

D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: C

- ✓ An elephant that was part of the historic Mysuru Dasara celebrations died of electrocution near Karnataka's Nagarahole Tiger Reserve recently.
- ✓ About Nagarahole Tiger Reserve:
- ✓ Location: It is situated in the districts of Mysore and Kodagu in Karnataka, covering an area of 847.981 sq km.

- ✓ The reserve is named after a small river, 'Nagarahole' (literally a snake stream in Kannada), which meanders within the habitat before joining the river Kabini.
- ✓ It is contiguous with Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala) to its south and Bandipur Tiger Reserve to its southeastern parts
- Q. With reference to the General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR), consider the following statements:
 - 1. It is an anti-tax avoidance law in India to curb tax evasion and avoid tax leaks.
 - 2. All transactions that have the implication of avoiding tax can come under the scanner of GAAR.
 - 3. Tax mitigation measures for tax reduction are not permitted under the GAAR.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer: B

- ✓ The Telangana High Court has ruled against a taxpayer against whom the revenue department had invoked the General Anti-avoidance Rule (GAAR).
- ✓ About General Anti-Avoidance Rule (GAAR):
- ✓ GAAR is an anti-tax avoidance law in India to curb tax evasion and avoid tax leaks.
- ✓ It came into effect on 1st April 2017.
- ✓ The GAAR provisions come under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- ✓ GAAR is a tool for checking aggressive tax planning, especially those transactions or business arrangements that are entered into with the objective of avoiding tax.
- ✓ It is specifically aimed at cutting revenue losses that happen to the government due to aggressive tax avoidance measures practiced by companies.
- ✓ Tax mitigation is permitted under the Act. This tax reduction is acceptable even after GAAR has come into force
- ✓ This is illegal and liable to prosecution. Illegality, wilful suppression of facts, misrepresentation, and fraud—all constitute tax evasion, which is prohibited under law.
- ✓ This is also not covered by GAAR, as the existing jurisprudence is sufficient to cover tax evasion/Sham transactions

- Q. Consider the following:
 - 1. Canada
 - 2. Italy
 - 3. Japan
 - 4. United States
 - 5. Russia

How many of the above are the members of G7 (Group of Seven)?

- A) Only two
- B) Only three
- C) Only four
- D) All five

Answer: C

- ✓ G7 leaders start their annual summit on June 13 looking to double down on support for Ukraine in its war with Russia and offer a united face in confronting China's political and economic ambitions.
- ✓ About G7
- ✓ The G7 (Group of Seven) is an intergovernmental political and economic forum.
- ✓ Members: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States; European Union as a non-enumerated member
- ✓ The G7 was established in 1975. Russia was included in the late 1990s, creating the G8, but was suspended in 2014 after the annexation of Crimea.
- ✓ Function: The G7 meets annually to discuss and coordinate economic policies. The leaders address many global issues, including monetary policy, security, energy, and climate change.
- ✓ Significance: While the G7 cannot enact laws, its past decisions have had significant global consequences
- ✓ Summits: The annual G7 summit is hosted by one of the member countries, which rotates each year. The summits provide a platform for the leaders to discuss pressing global issues and coordinate policy responses.
- ✓ The 2024- G7 summit will take place from June 13-15 in Apulia, Italy. Italy holds the G7 presidency in 2024

- Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI):
 - 1. It focuses exclusively on the price changes of food items in a consumer's basket of goods and services.
 - 2. It is used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to track inflation.
 - 3. It uses 2010 as base year.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None

Answer: B

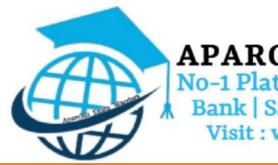
- ✓ Consumer Price Index numbers on base 2012=100 for rural, urban and combined for the month of May 2024.
- ✓ About Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI)
- ✓ The Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) is a measure of change in retail prices of food items consumed by the population.
- ✓ It is a specific measure of inflation that focuses exclusively on the price changes of food items in a consumer's basket of goods and services.
- ✓ The CFPI is a sub-component of the broader Consumer Price Index (CPI) and is used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to track inflation.
- ✓ The Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) started releasing CFPI for three categories -rural, urban and combined separately on an all-India basis with effect from May 2014.
- ✓ Methodology: Like Consumer Price Index (CPI), the CFPI is also calculated on a monthly basis and the methodology remains the same as CPI.
- ✓ The base year presently used is 2012.
- ✓ The CSO has revised the Base Year of the CPI and CFPI from 2010 to 2012 in January 2015



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