

THIRD WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



JUNE 2024

JUNE 15-21

- 1. Recently, who became the first Indian to win a three-star Grand Prix event in equestrian?
- A. Roshni Sharma
- B. Shruti Vora
- C. Alisha Abdullah
- D. Kalyani Potekar



- ✓ Shruti Vora, a 53-year-old from Kolkata, became the first Indian to win a three-star Grand Prix event in equestrian. She triumphed in the CDI-3 event at the FEI Dressage World Cup in Lipica, Slovenia, on June 7, 2024, scoring 67.761 points on her horse Magnanimous. Vora has previously represented India in the 2022 Dressage World Championships and the 2010 and 2014 Asian Games.
 - 2. Lipulekh Pass is located in which state?
 - A. Himachal Pradesh

 - C. Sikkim
 - D. Assam



- ✓ Indian traders have urged the central government to resume border trade with China through the Lipulekh Pass. Located in Uttarakhand at 5,334 meters, Lipulekh connects India with Tibet and is key for trade and the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra pilgrimage. Historically significant as a trade route, it was the first Indian border post for trade with China, opened in 1992, followed by Shipki La and Nathu La passes.
 - 3. What is 'Olympus Mons'?
 - A. A shield volcano on Mars

 ✓
 - B. Invasive plant
 - C. Nuclear Ballistic Submarine
 - D. Short Range Ballistic Missile



- ✓ Scientists discovered frost on Mars' tallest volcano, Olympus Mons, indicating an active water cycle. Olympus Mons, a 3.5-billion-year-old shield volcano in Mars' western hemisphere, is the highest point on Mars and the largest volcano in the solar system. It stands 16 miles (24 km) high, about three times taller than Mt. Everest.
 - 4. 'Kavli Prizes' are awarded for which fields?
 - A. Literature, Peace, and Music

- B. Economics, Environment and Chemistry
- C. Astrophysics, Nanoscience and Neuroscience

 ✓
- D. Agriculture, Physics and Maths

- ✓ The 2024 Kavli Prize winners were announced, honoring contributions in astrophysics, neuroscience, and nanoscience. David Charbonneau and Sara Seager received the astrophysics prize for exoplanet discoveries. In nanoscience, Robert Langer, Armand Paul Alivisatos, and Chad Mirkin were awarded for biomedical breakthroughs. In neuroscience, Nancy Kanwisher, Winrich Freiwald, and Doris Tsao were recognized for their pioneering work on facial recognition and brain mapping. The prizes, established in 2008, commemorate Fred Kavli.
 - 5. Which ministry recently launched an e-flow ecological monitoring system that allows real-time monitoring of river quality?
 - A. Ministry of Jal Shakti 🗹
 - B. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
 - C. Ministry of Agriculture
 - D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ The Union Jal Shakti Ministry launched an e-flow ecological monitoring system for real-time planning and monitoring of river projects and water quality. Developed by NMCG, it analyzes Ganga and Yamuna water quality, tracks Namami Gange program activities, and ensures STPs operate efficiently. This system supports sustainable Ganga River flow by monitoring crucial parameters across 11 projects.
 - 6. Teesta River, recently seen in news due to flood in West Bengal, is tributary of which river?

 - B. River Yamuna
 - C. River Narmada
 - D. River Kaveri



- ✓ Kalimpong in West Bengal faces extensive damage from heavy rains, causing flooding in the Teesta River. The Teesta, a Brahmaputra tributary, originates from glacial lakes in Sikkim, spanning 309 km. It flows south through deep gorges in the Siwalik Hills, before turning eastward into Bangladesh. Major tributaries include Lachung Chhu and Rangit River.
 - 7. Which organization recently released the "UNTAPPED: Collective Intelligence for Climate Action" report?
 - A. UNEP
 - B. UNDP **☑**
 - C. UNESCO
 - D. World Bank



- ✓ The UNDP's "Untapped Collective Intelligence for Climate Action" report highlights the potential of Collective Intelligence (CI) in climate adaptation and mitigation. CI enhances capabilities by combining diverse contributions through collaboration and technology.
- ✓ It bridges gaps in data by mobilizing citizens for real-time information, in action by involving more people, and in diversity by including varied perspectives, such as those of Indigenous communities, in climate processes and data collection.
 - 8. Divya Drishti AI tool has been developed under the technical guidance of which organization?
 - A. Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Robotics (CAIR) ☑
 - B. Centre for Advanced Technology
 - C. National Informatics Centre (NIC)
 - D. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)



- ✓ The AI tool "Divya Drishti," developed by a start-up under the guidance of the DRDO's Centre for Artificial Intelligence & Robotics (CAIR), a lab of DRDO, combines facial recognition with gait analysis to create a robust authentication system. This enhances identification accuracy and reduces the risk of false positives and identity fraud. Its applications include defence, law enforcement, corporate, and public infrastructure sectors.
 - 9. Kheer Bhawani Temple is located in which state/UT?
 - A. Sikkim
 - B. Assam
 - C. Jammu and Kashmir
 - D. Lakshadweep



- ✓ Thousands of Kashmiri Pandits gathered at the Kheer Bhawani temple in Tulmulla, Ganderbal, for the annual Zeisht Ashtami festival. Built by Maharaja Pratap Singh in 1912 and renovated by Maharaja Hari Singh, the temple is dedicated to Goddess Ragnya Devi, an incarnation of Durga. The Kheer Bhawani Mela is also celebrated at shrines in Kupwara, Anantnag, and Kulgam.
 - 10. Raja Parb is an agricultural-based festival of which state?
 - A. Odisha 2
- B. Assam

C. Punjab

D. Uttar Pradesh

✓ The President of India attended the Raja Parb celebration at Rashtrapati Bhavan for the first time. Raja Parb, an agriculture-based festival from Odisha, is celebrated with great enthusiasm, particularly by women and children, during the onset of monsoons. The three-day-long festival is one of Odisha's most significant celebrations.

winmeen.com	2024 JUN 15, 16 & 17	
11. Recently, India launched a Local Currency Settlement System with	which country?	
A. UAE ☑		
B. Russia		
C. Canada		
D. Maldives		
India and the UAE have launched a Local Currency Settlement Sy Indian Rupees and UAE Dirhams, reducing reliance on the U simplify trade processes, reduce transaction costs, and enhance countries through direct currency settlements.	JS Dollar. This initiative aims to	
12. Recently, the APEDA has facilitated the successful export of the pineapples to which country?	e first consignment of MD 2 variety	
A. Sri Lanka		
B. UAE ☑		
C. Myanmar		
D. France		
The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has facilitated the first export of MD 2 pineapples, also known as "Golden Ripe" or "Super Sweet," to the UAE. The shipment included 8.7 metric tons (650 boxes) of pineapples. Developed by Del Monte in the 1980s, MD 2 pineapples are primarily grown in Costa Rica, the Philippines, and Thailand, with Indian production in Maharashtra's Sindhudurg district.		
13. Which country will host the multinational air exercise 'Tarang Shak	kti 2024' in August?	
A. Germany		
B. Spain		
C. France		
D. India ☑		
The Indian Air Force will host its first multinational exercise, Ta Around 10 countries, including Australia, France, Germany, Japa US, are expected to participate, with others as observers. Init exercise was deferred. The event will enhance interoperability forces.	an, Spain, the UAE, the UK, and the ially scheduled for late 2023, the	

14. Which organization recently supported the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) to achieve sustainable waste management in the city?

A. UNEP

B. World Bank 2



D. IMF



✓ The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), with World Bank assistance, aims to enhance trash management by 2026-2027, focusing on stopping waste disposal at the Kodungaiyur dump. In a recent meeting with state officials, GCC discussed making solid waste management strategic, setting a Zero Waste goal, and eventually closing the Perungudi dumpsite following Kodungaiyur's success.

15. Matsya 6000 is developed by which institute?

A. IIT, Roorkee

B. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai ☑

C. IIT, Kanpur

D. National Institute of Oceanography



✓ India is set to become the 6th country with a Deep Sea Mission, planning the first harbor trial at 40-50 meters depth by September 2024. The Matsya 6000, a three-person submersible developed by Chennai's National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), will reach depths of 6,000 meters. Made of 80mm-thick titanium alloy, it can operate for 12-16 hours with a 96-hour oxygen supply. This mission is expected to boost India's economy significantly.

16. Recently, where was the 'Swiss Peace Summit' held?

A. India

B. Switzerland ☑

C. France

D. Germany



✓ The two-day Summit on Peace in Ukraine at Switzerland's Burgenstock resort concluded with hopes of ending the Russia-Ukraine war. Out of 100 delegations, 80 countries and four organizations supported the final joint communiqué. The Swiss Peace Summit, focused on facilitating dialogue and negotiations to end the conflict that started in February 2022, gathered international representatives to discuss and promote peace initiatives.

17. Recently, which organization has developed a new tool to predict the emergence of El Nino and La Nina conditions?

- A. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)

 ☑
- B. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)
- C. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- D. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)



- ✓ The Hyderabad-based Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has developed the Bayesian Convolutional Neural Network (BCNN) to predict El Nino and La Nina conditions. Utilizing AI, deep learning, and ML, BCNN forecasts ENSO phases by observing oceanatmosphere interactions and using the Nino3.4 index.
- ✓ Established in 1999 under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, INCOIS provides ocean data, information, and advisory services to various stakeholders.
 - 18. Which day is observed as 'World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought' every year?
 - A. June.16
 - B. June.17 ☑
 - C. June.18
 - D. June.19



- ✓ On June 17th, the world observes the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, raising awareness about land degradation's severe impacts. This year's theme, "United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future," highlights the vital importance of collective land stewardship to protect the environment and support communities globally.
 - 19. Which ministry recently organised the 'Global Wind Day' event with a central theme of 'Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India'?
 - A. Ministry of Defence
 - B. Ministry of Agriculture
 - C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

 ✓
 - D. Ministry of Urban Development

- नवीन एवं नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
- ✓ The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) celebrated Global Wind Day on June 15, 2024, highlighting India's wind energy achievements and future potential. With the theme "Pawan—Urja: Powering the Future of India," the event featured discussions on wind energy's role in meeting power demand, accelerating onshore adoption, and offshore development.
- ✓ India, with 46.4 GW of installed wind power capacity, aims to achieve 50% non-fossil fuel-based power by 2030 and net zero by 2070.

20. What is the rank of India in the 'Environment Performance Index 2024'?

- A. 156th
- B. 166th
- C. 176th ☑
- D. 186th



✓ Despite the Union government's environmental improvement claims, India ranks 176th out of 180 nations in the 2024 Environmental Performance Index (EPI), slightly better than its 180th position in 2022. Compiled by Yale and Columbia researchers, the EPI assesses green performance across multiple parameters. Since 2012, India has consistently declined in this index, highlighting ongoing environmental challenges.

21. Indian Railways recently operated the first trial train from Sangaldan to Reasi, crossing the world's highest rail bridge on which river?

- A. Sutlej
- B. Jhelum
- C. Chenab
- D. Yamuna



✓ Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the completion of the first trial run of the Sangaldan-Reasi train, crossing the world's highest railway bridge, the Chenab Bridge. Situated in Jammu and Kashmir, the bridge stands 359 meters above the Chenab River, approximately 35 meters taller than the Eiffel Tower.

22. Recently, where was the second edition of Exercise Red Flag 2024 held?

- A. Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma
- B. Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska

 ✓
- C. Beale Air Force Base, California
- D. Creech Air Force Base, Nevada



- ✓ An Indian Air Force contingent, including Rafale aircraft, participated in Exercise Red Flag 2024 at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. This advanced aerial combat training involved air forces from Singapore, UK, Netherlands, Germany, and the US.
- ✓ Conducted four times annually by the US Air Force, Red Flag simulates realistic combat scenarios with Red Force defending and Blue Force attacking, enhancing international air force cooperation and readiness. This marked the debut of IAF's Rafale in Red Flag exercises.

23. Recently, which regulatory body has been awarded the 'Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024' by Central Banking, London, UK?

A. RBI ☑

B. NABARD

C. SEBI

D. SBI



- ✓ In 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) received the "Risk Manager of the Year Award" from Central Banking in London. This accolade recognizes RBI's efforts in enhancing risk management policies and ensuring financial stability in India. Mr. Manoranjan Mishra, RBI's Executive Director, accepted the award, highlighting RBI's achievements in risk culture and setting benchmarks for global central banks in effective risk management practices.
 - 24. Recently, which state has won the award for maximum wind power installed capacity?

A. Tamil Nadu

B. Gujarat

C. Rajasthan

D. Odisha



✓ Gujarat received the "1st Rank" award for highest wind power installed capacity at the "Pawan - Urja: Powering the Future of India" event, celebrating Global Wind Day in New Delhi. Gujarat surpassed Tamil Nadu with 11,823 MW of installed capacity by May 2024, compared to Tamil Nadu's 10,743 MW. Karnataka ranked third with 6,312 MW. The award was accepted by Gujarat officials Mamta Verma and Jai Prakash Shivahare.

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1. Which country's scientists recently discovered new pattern of solar atmospheric rotation by using CHASE telescope?

- A. Japan
- B. India
- C. China 2
- D. France



- ✓ Chinese scientists using the CHASE telescope have discovered a new pattern in the sun's atmospheric rotation, providing the first accurate 3D picture of this phenomenon. Published in Nature Astronomy, this breakthrough enhances understanding of the sun's magnetic activity and atmospheric behavior. CHASE, a satellite project, aims to deepen knowledge of solar dynamics.
 - 2. Digital Health Incentive Scheme was launched under which initiative?
 - A. Mission Indhradhanush
 - B. Universal health care
 - C. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

 ☑
 - D. Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana



- ✓ The central government has extended the Digital Health Incentive Scheme (DHIS) for digitising patients' health records and linking them with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Account (ABHA ID) until June 30, 2025.
- ✓ Launched on January 1, 2023, under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, the DHIS aims to promote digital health practices in India. Eligibility includes health facilities and digital solution companies, with incentives based on the number of ABHA-linked digital health records created.
 - 3. What is 'Planet Nine'?
 - A. A hypothetical planet in the outer region of our solar system

 ✓
 - B. A moon of Neptune
 - C. Comets from the Kuiper Belt
 - D. A newly discovered moon of saturn



✓ Astronomers have been searching for a hypothetical ninth planet, Planet Nine, in the outer solar system for nearly a decade. Proposed to explain anomalies in the orbits of distant trans-Neptunian objects, Planet Nine is estimated to be 5-10 times the mass of Earth with a highly elliptical orbit, ranging from 400 to 800 AU from the Sun. Experts believe we may soon find it.

- 4. What is the main objective of 'SDG 7'?
- A. Promote nuclear energy development
- B. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50%
- C. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

 ✓
- D. Increase fossil fuel production worldwide



- ✓ The SDG 7: Energy Progress Report 2024 reveals the world is not on track to meet SDG 7 by 2030. Initiated in 2018, this annual report is the key reference for SDG 7 progress. It aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. The report is produced by IEA, IRENA, UNSD, World Bank, and WHO.
 - 5. Astronomers recently discovered a new supernova 'SN 2023adsy' by using which telescope?
 - A. Hubble Space Telescope
 - B. James Webb Space Telescope

 ☑
 - C. Spitzer Space Telescope
 - D. Chandra X-ray Observatory



- ✓ Using the James Webb Space Telescope, astronomers discovered SN 2023adsy, the most distant Type Ia supernova detected. A supernova is a cataclysmic explosion of a massive star, with Type I occurring when a star accumulates matter from a neighbor, and Type II when a star collapses under its gravity. Supernovas, the largest explosions in space, outshine galaxies, produce heavy elements, and occur once every 50 years in Milky Way-sized galaxies.
 - 6. What is 'Filoboletus manipularis'?
 - A. Spider
 - B. Fish
 - C. Mushroom
 - D. Invasive weed

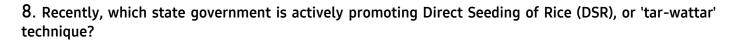


- ✓ Researchers recently discovered a rare bioluminescent mushroom species, Filoboletus manipularis, in Kasaragod forests. These mushrooms glow bright green at night due to a chemical reaction involving luciferin and luciferase. They thrive in tropical, humid environments with decaying organic matter. This bioluminescence likely attracts insects, aiding in spore dispersion.
 - 7. Which country recently hosted the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM)?
 - A. India 🗹
- B. Indonesia
- C. Bhutan
- D. China



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✓ India hosted the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) in Kochi and announced a successor to its Maitri research base, Maitri II. Saudi Arabia joined the Antarctic Treaty Parties. India emphasized inclusive governance, stating that geopolitics should not influence Antarctica's governance and that the treaty should not remain an exclusive club of select nations.



- A. Haryana
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Punjab **☑**
- D. West Bengal



- ✓ The Punjab government is promoting the DSR (or 'Tar-wattar') technique, which is more suitable for heavy or medium-to-heavy-textured soils due to better water retention. Light-textured soils, which require frequent irrigation, negate DSR's water-saving benefits. The Majha and Doaba regions of Punjab predominantly have suitable soil types for DSR, while Malwa has a mix of soil textures, including light-textured soils.
 - 9. Which two ministries signed a MoU on 'Krishi Sakhi convergence program (KSCP)'?
 - A. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Rural Development ☑
 - B. Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Jal Shakti
 - C. Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - D. Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Rural Development
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi awarded certificates to over 30,000 self-help groups as Krishi Sakhis in Varanasi on June 18, 2024. Recognizing women's pivotal role in agriculture, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, along with the Ministry of Rural Development, collaborated on the Krishi Sakhi Certification Programme through an MoU signed in August 2023, aimed at enhancing rural women's skills and empowerment in agricultural practices.
 - 10. Which company partnered with Tamil Nadu to provide IT skills training to over 200000 students in the state under Naan Mudhalvan program?
 - A. Google
- B. Microsoft
- C. Meta
- D. Oracle ☑



- ✓ Oracle has partnered with Tamil Nadu for the Naan Mudhalvan program, aiming to train 200,000+ students in advanced IT skills like cloud computing, AI, data science, ML, and blockchain. This initiative underscores Oracle's commitment to enhancing youth employability through digital and campus-based learning, offering certifications in cutting-edge technologies.
- ✓ The collaboration aims to equip students with skills essential for the future job market, emphasizing Oracle's role in fostering technological expertise among the youth.

11. Recently, who has made history as the first Indian to receive the prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award'?

- A. Vinod Ganatra
- B. Ravi Gaikwad
- C. Amit Dutta
- D. Ashvin Kumar



✓ Vinod Ganatra, a prominent children's filmmaker from India, has been honored with South Africa's prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' for his contributions to cinema. He is the first Indian to receive this accolade, presented at the 7th Nelson Mandela Children's Film Festival. Ganatra's career spans over four decades, producing numerous documentaries and youth programs, and winning 36 national and international awards, including the 'Liv Ullmann Peace Prize' and 'DadaSaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award.'

12. What is the theme of 'World Sickle Cell Day 2024'?

A. Hope Through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally ☑

B. Celebrating Progress





D. Increase public awareness and understanding of sickle cell disease

✓ World Sickle Cell Day is observed on June 19 to raise awareness about sickle cell disease, a genetic blood disorder. Established by a 2008 UN resolution, it aims to inform the public and stakeholders about early detection and prevention. The 2024 theme, "Hope through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally," emphasizes improving care and providing relief for patients worldwide.

IMPORTANT LINKS

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- 1. Nalanda University is located in which state?
- A. Jharkhand
- B. Gujarat
- C. Bihar 🗹
- D. Rajasthan



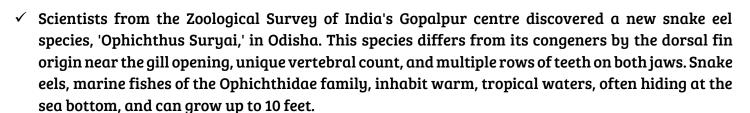
✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the new Nalanda University campus near the ancient ruins in Rajgir, Bihar. Founded by Kumargupta in the 5th century, Nalanda was a renowned monastic university for 600 years, flourishing under Harshavardhan and the Pala monarchs. It attracted students from across Asia, teaching subjects like Buddhism, medicine, and astronomy. Destroyed in 1193 by Bakhtiyar Khilji, it was rediscovered in 1812 and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

- 2. Recently, which country became the first Southeast Asian country to recognize same-sex marriage?
- A. Thailand
- B. Vietnam
- C. Malaysia
- D. Singapore



- ✓ Thailand became the first Southeast Asian country to recognize same-sex marriage. Despite its inclusive reputation, Thailand faced decades of challenges passing this law due to conservative societal and governmental values. The bill grants full legal, financial, and medical rights to marriage partners of any gender. It awaits formal endorsement by King Maha Vajiralongkorn and will become effective within 120 days.
 - 3. What is 'Ophichthus Suryai'?
 - A. A rare fish discovered in West Bengal
 - B. A invasive weed found in Northeastern states
 - C. A newly discovered species of snake eel

 ✓
 - D. Military weapon





- 4. Recently, a rare celestial phenomenon called a "double sun halo" was recently witnessed in which region of India?
- A. Western Ghats
- B. Ladakh 🗹
- C. Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- D. Thar desert



- ✓ Recently, a rare "double sun halo" was observed over Ladakh. This optical phenomenon features two concentric rings around the sun, caused by sunlight refracting through ice crystals in cirrus clouds. The inner halo has a 22-degree radius, while the outer halo spans 46 degrees. The unique alignment of hexagonal ice crystals in the clouds creates this dazzling effect.
 - 5. Recently, who was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for Telugu?
 - A. Ramesh Karthik Naik 🗹
 - B. Neelum Saran
 - C. Vikram Singh
 - D. Jyoti Gupta



- ✓ Ramesh Karthik Naik, a 26-year-old writer from Vivek Nagar, Nizamabad district, received the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar for Telugu literature. Instituted in 2011, this award honors young writers under 35 for their creative works in 24 languages. It includes a plaque, shawl, citation, and a ₹50,000 cheque. The Sahitya Akademi, established in 1954, promotes literature in Indian languages autonomously under the Government of India, playing a pivotal role in literary discourse and publication.
 - 6. Truenat platform is associated with which disease?
 - A. Dengue
 - B. Cancer
 - C. Tuberculosis
 - D. Malaria



- ✓ India's Truenat TB diagnostics, developed by Molbio, impressed at the World Health Assembly. Launched in 2017, it's a portable micro-PCR system for rapid diagnosis of TB types, including drugresistant strains.
- ✓ Delivering results in under an hour, it's deployed widely across India, aiding early treatment critical in a country with high TB mortality. India, comprising 27% of global TB cases, benefits from over 7,000 health centers using Truenat under its National TB Elimination Programme.

- 7. Recently, which country's scientists have developed a catalyst to produce cheaper biodiesel?
- A. Brazil, Malaysia and Indonesia
- B. Russia, Germany and France
- C. India, China and United Kingdom ☑
- D. Japan, Canada, and Israel



- ✓ Scientists from Assam, Odisha (India), China, and the U.K. have developed a water-repellent catalyst to significantly reduce biodiesel production costs. Biofuels are quickly produced from biomass, unlike slow fossil fuel formation. They're primarily liquid or gaseous and commonly blended with petroleum products for transportation.
 - 8. Recently, which state government has announced waiver of farm loans up to 2 lakh rupees to provide relief to over 1.91 lakh farmers in the state?
 - A. Bihar
 - B. Jharkhand
 - C. Haryana
 - D. Punjab



- ✓ The Jharkhand government has announced a farm loan waiver of up to 2 lakh rupees for over 1.91 lakh farmers. Loans taken by farmers between 50,000 and 2 lakh rupees until March 31, 2020, will be waived through a one-time settlement. This decision aims to provide significant relief to farmers, following an earlier crop loan waiver of up to 50 thousand rupees in the fiscal year 2021-22.
 - 9. According to the SIPRI report, how many nuclear warheads does India currently have?
 - A. 150
 - B. 105
 - C. 172 ☑
 - D. 127



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- Recently, SIPRI reported on nuclear warheads, revealing China's arsenal at 500 warheads, tripling India and Pakistan's counts. Some Chinese warheads are on high alert for the first time. India's arsenal stands at 172 warheads, slightly surpassing Pakistan's 170. India is expanding its nuclear triad with advanced submarines and long-range missiles.
 - 10. Kashi Vishwanath Temple corridor project is associated with which state?
 - A. Odisha

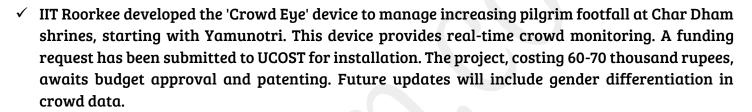
B. Assam

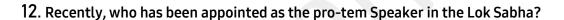
C. Punjab

D. Uttar Pradesh

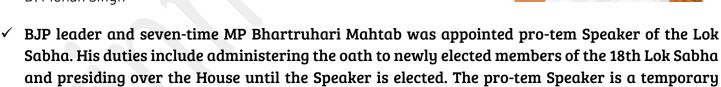


- ✓ Indian Prime Minister's recent visit to Varanasi marked his first since assuming office for the third time. He inaugurated the Kashi Vishwanath Temple corridor's first phase, linking it to the Ganga River banks, highlighting India's Sanatan culture. PM Modi praised Varanasi's historical resilience and cultural richness. He offered prayers at Kaal Bhairav Temple and witnessed Ganga Aarti.
 - 11. Recently, which IIT has developed a 'Crowd Eye' device that can send alerts when the number of pilgrims exceeds the capacity of shrines?
 - A. IIT Ahmedabad
 - B. IIT Roorkee ☑
 - C. IIT Kanpur
 - D. IIT Bombay





- A. Daggubati Purandeswari
- B. Bhartruhari Mahtab
- C. K Suresh
- D. Mohan Singh





A. Uttar Pradesh

B. Madhya Pradesh

position, essential for the initial functioning of a newly formed Lok Sabha.

C. Bihar

D. Haryana

✓ In 2024, the National Commission for Women (NCW) received the most complaints from Uttar Pradesh (6,492), followed by Delhi (1,119) and Maharashtra (764). Out of 12,648 total complaints, 3,567 concerned "right to dignity," 3,213 were for domestic violence, and 1,963 for dowry harassment. Manipur, despite significant violence, recorded only six complaints. Other states also reported varying numbers of complaints.



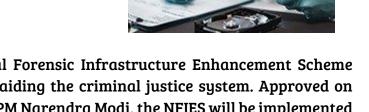
- 14. Recently, who won a gold medal at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland?
- A. Neeraj Chopra 🗹
- B. Toni Keranen
- C. Oliver Helander
- D. Anderson Peters



- ✓ Olympic Gold medallist Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal at the Paavo Nurmi Games 2024 in Finland with a throw of 85.97m on June 18. This was his third event of the season, after missing the Ostrava Golden Spike meet due to injury. Chopra's performance reaffirms his top form as he prepares for the Paris Olympics next month.
 - 15. Which day is observed as 'World Refugee Day' every year?
 - A. 19 June
 - B. 20 June **☑**
 - C. 21 June
 - D. 22 June



- ✓ World Refugee Day is celebrated annually on June 20 to raise awareness about refugees' plight and promote their inclusion. The 2024 theme is "For a World Where Refugees Are Welcomed." Established in 2001 to mark the 1951 Refugee Convention's 50th anniversary, it underscores international cooperation. Refugees flee due to conflict, persecution, and violence, highlighting the need for global solidarity and lasting solutions to the refugee crisis.
 - 16. What is the aim of the National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES), recently approved by government of India?
 - A. To improve healthcare infrastructure
 - B. To strengthen the criminal forensic infrastructure ☑
 - C. To enhance educational facilities
 - D. To develop transportation systems



✓ The Indian government approved the National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) to strengthen forensic infrastructure, aiding the criminal justice system. Approved on June 19, 2024, by the Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi, the NFIES will be implemented by the Home Ministry. It supports new criminal laws effective July 1, 2024, requiring mandatory forensic investigation for severe crimes. NFIES includes new campuses for the National Forensic Sciences University and additional Central Forensic Science Laboratories.

17. Recently, the Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN), in collaboration with Svyasa, organized a Conference on "Yoga for Space" at which place?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Chennai
- D. Bengaluru 🗹



✓ The Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN) and Svyasa University organized the "Yoga for Space" conference at S-Vyasa University, Bengaluru, for International Day of Yoga 2024, themed "Yoga for Self & Society." The event featured keynote addresses from Indian institutions and highlighted various activities promoting yoga, including global contests and innovative challenges. The conference emphasized yoga's role in fostering a healthy society and its potential applications for astronauts.

18. Which organization recently published the report 'Sustainable Development Report 2024'?

- A. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- B. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- C. World Bank





✓ The Sustainable Development Report 2024 reveals significant delays in achieving most 2015 SDG targets, such as reducing poverty and hunger. Published by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, it highlights that only 16% of goals are on track for 2030. Released before the UN Summit of the Future, it proposes key UN reforms and introduces an index for UN-based multilateralism. Finland, Sweden, and Denmark lead the rankings.

19. What is the rank of India on the 'Energy Transition Index 2024'?

- A. 63rd ☑
- B. 65th
- C. 73rd
- D. 75th



✓ India is ranked 63rd on the global Energy Transition Index 2024 by the World Economic Forum. The index monitors the global shift towards sustainable, secure, and accessible energy systems. Sweden tops the rankings, followed by Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, and France. Despite notable progress by emerging economies like Brazil and China, 83% of countries regressed in security, equity, or sustainability. The gap between advanced and developing economies is narrowing, despite disparities.

- 20. What is the main objective of the '5G Intelligent Village' initiative?
- A. To improve urban connectivity
- B. To enhance satellite communication
- C. To uplift rural communities through 5G technology ✓
- D. To develop new social media platforms



- ✓ The Department of Telecommunications announced two initiatives—5G Intelligent Village and Quantum Encryption Algorithm (QEA)—to drive innovation in the telecom sector.
- ✓ These proposals aim to harness 5G technology for equitable technological advancement, focusing on rural upliftment through Ultra-Reliable Low-Latency Communication (URLLC) and massive Machine Type Communication (mMTC). The initiatives target critical areas like agriculture, education, healthcare, governance, and sustainability, demonstrating the benefits of 5G connectivity in selected villages.
 - 21. e-Shram portal is launched by which ministry?

 - B. Ministry of Agriculture
 - C. Ministry of Home Affairs
 - D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ At the 112th International Labour Conference in Geneva, India's delegation, led by the Secretary of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, highlighted the e-Shram portal. Launched in 2021, the portal registers unorganized workers across 400 occupations, providing a comprehensive national database. Fully Aadhaar-verified, it aims to facilitate access to social security schemes.
 - 22. INS Sunayna belongs to which type of class?
 - A. Kalvari class
 - B. Saryu class ☑
 - C. Arihant class
 - D. None of the above



✓ INS Sunayna, a Saryu-class Offshore Patrol Vessel commissioned in Kochi and based under the Southern Naval Command, visited Port Victoria, Seychelles on June 15, 2024. This visit, alongside SCGS Zoroaster, aims to enhance cooperation between the Indian Navy and Seychelles Coast Guard under the SAGAR vision. Built at Goa Shipyard Ltd, INS Sunayna supports fleet operations, coastal patrols, ocean surveillance.

- 23. Vadhavan Port is to be constructed in which state?
- A. Gujarat
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Kerala
- D. Odisha



- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today approved setting up a Major Port at Vadhavan near Dahanu in Maharastra. The Project will be constructed by Vadhavan Port Project Limited (VPPL), an SPV formed by Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) and Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB) with a shareholding of 74% and 26%, respectively. The total project cost, including the land acquisition component is Rs.76,220 Crore.
- ✓ The Project, aligned with the objectives of PM Gati Shakti program, will add to further economic activity and also have the potential for direct and indirect employment opportunities for around 12 lakh individuals, thereby contributing to the local economy.
 - 24. Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutioN (MAVEN) mission was launched by which space organization?
 - A. NASA 🗹
 - B. ISRO
 - C. JAXA
 - D. CNSA



✓ NASA's MAVEN orbiter, launched in 2013, recently captured stunning purple-colored auroras in Mars' atmosphere. MAVEN's primary mission is to study the Martian upper atmosphere and understand how solar activity has stripped away much of its atmosphere, transforming the planet into a cold, barren desert. This research aims to unravel Mars' transition from a potentially habitable world to its current state, crucial for understanding its past potential for microbial life.

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