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FOURTH WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS

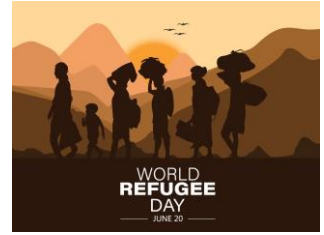


MAY 2024

MAY 22-31

1. Which day is observed as 'World Refugee Day' every year?

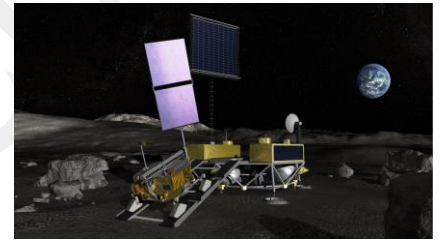
- A. May.20
- B. May.21
- C. May.22
- D. May.23



- ✓ **World Refugee Day, observed on May 20, raises awareness about refugees displaced by war, persecution, and economic factors. Originating from African Refugee Day in 1975, the UN adopted it in 2000. The first World Refugee Day was in 2001, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol. The 2024 theme is "Hope Away from Home."**

2. Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX) is a joint mission of which two space organizations?

- A. ISRO and JAXA
- B. NASA and ISRO
- C. ESA and ISRO
- D. ISRO and CNSA



- ✓ **The India-Japan partnership is gearing up for the Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX), set to launch in 2025 aboard Japan's H3 rocket. Coordinated by ISRO and JAXA, the mission aims to explore the moon's southern polar region, particularly focusing on water presence. It showcases advanced surface exploration tech, with a rover searching autonomously for water and sampling soil.**

3. Which organization recently released its updated Bacterial Priority Pathogens List (BPPL) 2024?

- A. World Health Organisation
- B. Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases
- C. United Nations International Children's Fund
- D. United Nations Development Programme



- ✓ **The World Health Organization (WHO) released its updated Bacterial Priority Pathogens List (BPPL) 2024, aiding the fight against antimicrobial resistance.**
- ✓ **Originally launched in 2017 with 13 pathogens, the 2024 list now includes 24, categorized into critical, high, and medium priority groups. Developed using the multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) method, it guides investment in research and development (R&D) and public health interventions to combat antibiotic-resistant bacterial pathogens.**

4. An endangered species, Red Panda was recently spotted in which wildlife sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh?

- A. Talle Valley Wildlife Sanctuary
- B. Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary
- C. Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary
- D. Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary



- ✓ A red panda was recently sighted in Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh. This herbivore species uses its bushy tail for balance and warmth. It's shy, arboreal, and an ecological indicator. Resembling a house cat, it inhabits mountainous forests across Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, and Nepal, with half its habitat in the Eastern Himalayas. Threatened by habitat loss, it's classified as Endangered by IUCN, listed on CITES Appendix I, and protected under India's Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

5. Which two Indian players recently won the Thailand Open 2024 badminton men's doubles title?

- A. HS Prannoy and Lakshya Sen
- B. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty
- C. Sai Praneeth and Sameer Verma
- D. Nikhil Kanetkar and Dhruv Kapila



- ✓ Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, ranked world no 3, clinched the Thailand Open 2024 men's doubles title by defeating Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi. The Indian duo won 21-15, 21-15 in 46 minutes at Bangkok's Nimibutr Stadium. This marks their second title of 2024, following their victory at the French Open. It's also their second Thailand Open win.

6. Recently, who has won 2024 Italian Open title in the women's category?

- A. Y. Putintseva
- B. Iga Swiatek
- C. C. Gauff
- D. Aryna Sabalenka



- ✓ Alexander Zverev won his second Italian Open singles title, while world no 1 Iga Swiatek claimed her third Italian Open title. Swiatek defeated Aryna Sabalenka in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3, to win her 21st career title. This marks Swiatek's third Italian Open victory in the last four years.

7. Which day is observed as National Anti-Terrorism Day annually?

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



- ✓ **Anti-Terrorism Day in India commemorates the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was killed by an LTTE suicide bomber on May 21, 1991, in Sriperumbudur. This day highlights the nation's commitment to combating terrorism and promoting peace, unity, and security. It encourages citizens to stand united against divisive and violent forces, reinforcing India's resolve to maintain national and global stability.**

8. Recently, which Indian created history by becoming the first Indian space tourist?

- A. Ashutosh Sharma
B. Gopi Thotakura
C. Akhilesh Gupta
D. Balram Bhargava



- ✓ **Gopi Thotakura, an Indian expatriate, became the first Indian space tourist and the second Indian in space on Blue Origin's NS-25 mission. The mission, New Shepard's seventh human spaceflight, included six crew members, among them Gopi Thotakura. The crew also featured historical figure Ed Dwight, the first black astronaut candidate selected by President Kennedy.**

9. R21/Matrix-M vaccine is developed for the prevention of which disease?

- A. Dengue
B. Smallpox
C. Malaria
D. Mumps



- ✓ **The Serum Institute of India (SII) has begun exporting the 'R21/Matrix-M' malaria vaccine to Africa to combat the disease. This new vaccine, recommended by WHO, joins the RTS, S/AS01 vaccine. Developed by Oxford University's Jenner Institute and SII, it received support from EDCTP, Wellcome Trust, and EIB. Affordable and effective, it's approved for children and licensed in multiple African countries, marking a significant step in global malaria prevention efforts.**

10. Which Indian para athlete created a world record of 55.06 seconds in the women's 400m T20 category, at the ongoing Para Athletics World Championship 2024 in Kobe, Japan?

- A. Deepthi Jeevanji
B. Palak Kohli
C. Ekta Bhyan
D. Deepa Malik



- ✓ **Indian para-athlete Deepthi Jeevanji set a world record of 55.06 seconds in the women's 400m T20 category at the Para Athletics World Championship 2024 in Kobe, Japan, winning gold.**

- ✓ She previously set a new Asian record in the qualifying round with 56.18 seconds. Jeevanji also won gold at the Asian Para Games 2023. Additionally, Yogesh Kathuniya won silver in the men's F56 discus throw with 41.80 meters.

11. What is the main purpose of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service Programme?

- A. Agricultural Research
- B. Disaster management
- C. Wildlife Conservation
- D. Urban planning



- ✓ In response to the crash of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's helicopter in East Azerbaijan, the European Union activated its Copernicus EMS mapping service. Named after Nicolaus Copernicus, the programme provides earth observation data since its launch in 1998. The Copernicus Emergency Management Service (EMS) Programme provides timely and accurate geo-spatial information to help manage natural disasters, man-made emergencies, and humanitarian crises.

12. Recently, which organization released a report titled 'Water for Shared Prosperity'?

- A. WHO
- B. UNEP
- C. World Bank
- D. IMF



- ✓ The World Bank unveiled "Water for Shared Prosperity" at the 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia, defining shared prosperity as equitable growth, especially for the poorest. It identifies four key pillars: human, social, and natural capital, and economic opportunities.
- ✓ The report highlights disparities in water access due to population growth, urbanization, and climate change. In 2022, 197 million lacked safe drinking water, 211 million lacked basic sanitation, with 450 million in high-poverty, low-water-access areas globally.

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1. What is the primary objective of the Scheme for Care and Support to Victims?

- A. To provide financial support for education
 - B. To offer integrated support and assistance to minor pregnant girl child victims
 - C. To provide vocational training to minor girls
 - D. To ensure safety and security in schools
- ✓ **There are many gaps in the Scheme for Care and Support to Victims. The Scheme for Care and Support to Victims by the Ministry of Women and Child Development aids minor pregnant girl child victims under the POCSO Act.**
- ✓ **Funded by the Nirbhaya Fund, it offers integrated support from case reporting until age 18, with possible aftercare until 23. Features include health insurance, legal aid, and financial assistance of ₹6,000 initially and ₹4,000 monthly under Mission Vatsalya.**

2. Recently, which prison received the Biodiversity Conservation Award, constituted by the Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (APSBB)?

- A. Kadapa Central Prison
 - B. Rajahmundry Central Prison
 - C. Nellore Central Prison
 - D. Visakhapatnam Central Prison
- ✓ **Rajahmundry Central Prison was honored with the Biodiversity Conservation Award by Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board. The recognition applauds the prison's eco-friendly initiatives, including groundwater preservation, natural farming, and crafting with natural materials. State Biodiversity Boards, mandated by the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, are present in all states but not in Union territories, where the National Biodiversity Authority acts as their counterpart.**



3. Emblica Chakrabarti, a new plant species, recently discovered in which district of Kerala?

- A. Ernakulam
 - B. Kozhikode
 - C. Kasaragod
 - D. Kollam
- ✓ **A new plant species, Emblica Chakrabarti, was found in Kerala's Ernakulam district, specifically in Adichilthotti within the Edamalayar forest range. Belonging to the Phyllanthaceae family, Emblica plants typically thrive as shrubs in tropical rainforests, reaching up to 2 meters in height. They flower and bear fruit from December to June. This discovery adds to the biodiversity of the region, highlighting its ecological significance.**



4. What is the rank of India in the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024?

- A. 35
- B. 39
- C. 45
- D. 50



- ✓ In 2024, India rose to 39th place on the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index, indicating a post-pandemic tourism revival. The US tops the list, with India leading in South Asia and among lower-middle-income nations. Improved infrastructure and resources fuel India's travel sustainability. Previously 54th in 2021, changes in index parameters affect comparability. The top five includes US, Spain, Japan, France, and Australia.

5. Recently, which state government has reserved 33% of government contract jobs for women?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Kerala



- ✓ The Karnataka government mandates a 33% reservation for women in outsourced government services and posts, aligning with the existing quota policy for permanent positions. This reservation is within the stipulated quota for SC/ST and other backward communities, ensuring women's representation in outsourced jobs across various government departments and organizations.

6. What is the theme of 'International Day for Biological Diversity 2024'?

- A. Be part of the Plan
- B. We're part of the solution #ForNature
- C. From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity
- D. Building a shared future for all life



- ✓ Biodiversity, essential for human well-being, was first coined by Walter G Rosen in 1985. It faces threats like habitat loss, pollution, and climate change, leading to species extinction and ecosystem degradation. The 2024 International Day of Biodiversity on May 22 highlights the theme "Be Part of the Plan".

7. What is the primary objective of the PM-WANI scheme?

- A. To provide free laptops to students
- B. To provide affordable and high-speed internet connectivity to rural and remote areas
- C. To improve mobile network coverage in urban areas
- D. To promote digital payment systems



Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface

- ✓ **Public Wi-Fi hotspots under the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme are nearing 200,000 in India. Launched in December 2020 by the Department of Telecommunications, PM-WANI aims to provide affordable, high-speed internet in rural and remote areas. The scheme establishes a public Wi-Fi network using Wi-Fi Access Points set up by Public Data Offices (PDOs), which operate on an open-architecture system, enabling multiple service providers to offer internet services.**

8. What is 'Naegleria Fowleri'?

- A. Amoeba
- B. Invasive weed
- C. Protein
- D. Asteroid



- ✓ **A girl from Malappuram, Kerala, recently died from a Naegleria fowleri infection. This amoeba, found in soil and warm freshwater, causes Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM) if it reaches the brain through the nose. Known as the "brain-eating amoeba," Naegleria fowleri infections are rare but almost always fatal, destroying brain tissue once infection occurs.**

9. Chandru G, who recently clinched the WBC India Cruiserweight Championship title, belongs to which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Bihar
- D. Punjab



- ✓ **Tamil Nadu's Chandru G won the WBC India Cruiserweight Championship with a fourth-round knockout of Jaskaran Singh from Punjab. Chandru, entering with a 10-0 record, overcame a slow start and Jaskaran's height advantage. By the second round, he dominated with heavy combinations. A decisive right cross in the fourth round led to the referee stopping the fight. Chandru dedicated the victory to his supporters and Tamil Nadu.**

10. Gangamma Jatara, a folk festival, recently celebrated in which state?

- A. Odisha
- B. Kerala
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ The week-long annual Gangamma Jatara folk festival, celebrated in the first half of May, is a significant event in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. Honoring Goddess Gangamma, believed to be Lord Venkateswara's younger sister, the festival attracts devotees to the Tataiahgunta Gangamma temple. Unique traditions include the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam sending a symbolic birthday gift, "Parisu," from Lord Venkateswara to Goddess Gangamma.

11. Recently, which country has hosted the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Kochi?

- A. India
- B. Australia
- C. France
- D. Russia



- ✓ India hosted the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46) in Kochi, organized by the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research and the Ministry of Earth Sciences. ATCM is an annual meeting of the 1959 Antarctic Treaty's signatories. India introduced a new working group to regulate tourism and protect Antarctica's ecosystem. Representatives from 56 member countries attended, marking India's first-time hosting since 2007.

12. Which ministry has recently proposed new rules for radar speed guns used to measure vehicle speeds on roads?

- A. Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- B. Ministry of MSME
- C. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ The Consumer Affairs Ministry has proposed new rules for radar speed guns. Radar equipment must be verified and stamped within a year of installation. Existing equipment requires re-verification when due.

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1. Recently, which country has become the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- A. Spain
- B. Morocco
- C. Algeria
- D. Brazil



- ✓ Spain has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as its 99th member. The ratification was handed over in New Delhi by Ambassador José María Ridao Domínguez to Joint Secretary Abhishek Singh. The ISA, co-founded by India and France during COP21 in 2015, aims to promote solar energy deployment, enhancing energy access, security, and transition in member countries to combat climate change.

2. Recently, where was the first Asian Relay Championships 2024 held?

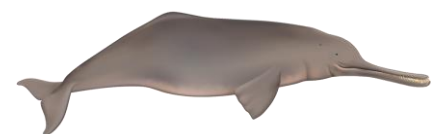
- A. Beirut, Lebanon
- B. Bangkok, Thailand
- C. Beijing, China
- D. New Delhi, India



- ✓ The Indian athletic contingent won three medals at the inaugural Asian Relay Championships in Bangkok, Thailand, held on May 20-21, 2024. The Indian team secured one gold in the 4×400-meter mixed relay, setting a national record of 3 minutes 14.1 seconds with Muhammed Ajmal, Jyothika Sri Dandi, Amoj Jacob, and Subha Venkatesan.
- ✓ The men's 4×400-meter relay team won silver, clocking 3 minutes 05.76 seconds, and the women's 4×400-meter relay team also secured silver with a time of 3 minutes 33.55 seconds. Sixteen countries participated, and this event was a qualifier for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

3. According to a recent report by the Wildlife Institute of India, which state has the maximum number of Gangetic dolphins in India?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ According to the Wildlife Institute of India, about 4,000 dolphins inhabit the Ganga and its tributaries, with Uttar Pradesh home to approximately 2,000. To protect these dolphins, the UP government declared a Dolphin Sanctuary in Chambal, where 111 dolphins have been recorded.

- ✓ The Namami Gange initiative aims to stabilize and double the dolphin population by 2030, integrating pollution control, wetland conservation, and public participation. The river dolphin is a globally endangered species, thriving in various rivers like Ganga, Yamuna, and Chambal.

4. What is the name of the Indian-origin professor who has been awarded the 2024 Shaw Prize in Astronomy?

- A. Raghu Raj Bahadur
B. Abhijit Banerjee
C. Shrinivas R. Kulkarni
D. Ganesh Thakur



- ✓ Shrinivas R Kulkarni, an Indian-origin professor at Caltech, receives the 2024 Shaw Prize in Astronomy for groundbreaking contributions to the field. Recognized for his research on millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, and supernovae, Shrinivas R Kulkarni's work has advanced understanding of variable and transient celestial phenomena.

5. Recently, where was the 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024' held?

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



- ✓ Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan attended 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024' on May 22, emphasizing the need to strengthen India's cyber defence. Conducted by the Defence Cyber Agency from May 20-24 in New Delhi, the exercise aims to enhance cyber defence capabilities, promote collaboration, and unify cyber security efforts. Chauhan praised the initiative for fostering jointness among stakeholders to tackle emerging cyber threats effectively.

6. Saga Dawa, a Buddhist festival, recently celebrated in which state?

- A. Sikkim
B. Nagaland
C. Assam
D. Manipur



- ✓ Sikkim celebrated Saga Dawa, the 'Triple Blessed Festival', on May 23, 2023, coinciding with Buddha Purnima. This sacred Buddhist festival marks the birth, enlightenment, and passing of Buddha Shakyamuni. Celebrated on the 15th day of the fourth month of the Tibetan Buddhist calendar, Buddhists in Sikkim offer prayers in monasteries to honor these significant events in the life of Siddhartha Gautama as Lord Buddha.

7. Recently, who has become oldest woman to climb Mount Everest?

- A. Kami Rita
- B. Jyoti Ratre
- C. Sangeeta Bahl
- D. Premlata Agarwal



- ✓ **Jyoti Ratre, a 55-year-old entrepreneur and fitness enthusiast from Madhya Pradesh, became the oldest Indian woman to summit Mount Everest on May 19. Her achievement comes six years after Sangeeta Bahl's record. She has already conquered the highest peaks on five continents and aims to summit Mount Vinson and Denali to complete all seven.**

8. Recently, where was the 16th Meeting of India-UK Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism held?

- A. London
- B. New Delhi
- C. Chennai
- D. Birmingham



- ✓ **The 16th India-UK Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism met in New Delhi, led by KD Dewal from India's Ministry of External Affairs and Chris Felton from the UK. They discussed ongoing counter-terrorism cooperation, emphasizing the need for strengthened international efforts.**
- ✓ **Both nations shared assessments of terrorist threats, including those from globally sanctioned entities and individuals, highlighting the importance of comprehensive and sustained counter-terrorism measures.**

9. Which Indian Navy ships recently completed their visit to Manila, Philippines as part of the Operational Deployment of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet to the South China Sea?

- A. INS Vikrant, INS Shardul, and INS Kesari
- B. INS Delhi, INS Shakti, and INS Kiltan
- C. INS Karanj, INS Vela, and INS Vagir
- D. INS Satpura, INS Betwa, and INS Kora



- ✓ **Indian Navy ships INS Delhi, INS Shakti, and INS Kiltan concluded their visit to Manila, Philippines, as part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet deployment to the South China Sea. The Ministry of Defence highlighted the visit's significance, showcasing India's robust relations with the Philippines and its dedication to strengthening bilateral ties. Activities during the port call encompassed Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE), sports events, cultural exchanges, cross-deck visits, and collaborative community outreach programs.**

10. Which public sector company was awarded with the third rank in the Talent Development category at the ATD BEST Awards 2024?

- A. NTPC
- B. NHPC
- C. REC
- D. SJVN



- ✓ **NTPC earned the third rank globally for Talent Development at the ATD BEST Awards 2024. The award, presented on May 21 in New Orleans, was accepted by Ms. Rachana Singh Bhal, NTPC's chief general manager of strategic HR & talent management. The ATD BEST Awards, established in 2003, recognize organizations excelling in employee development. NTPC, India's largest power sector company, was founded in 1975.**

11. Recently, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has proclaimed which day as the International Day of the Markhor?

- A. May.23
- B. May.24
- C. May.25
- D. May.26



- ✓ **The United Nations General Assembly designated May 24 as the International Day of the Markhor, following a resolution sponsored by Pakistan and eight other countries. This day aims to raise awareness and promote the conservation of the Markhor, an iconic and ecologically significant species native to the mountainous regions of Central and South Asia.**

12. Recently, which airport has made history by becoming the first airport in India to achieve the Zero Waste to Landfill (ZWL) accolade?

- A. Thiruvananthapuram International Airport
- B. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
- C. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
- D. Chennai International Airport



- ✓ **Thiruvananthapuram International Airport is the first in India to achieve the Zero Waste to Landfill accolade from the Confederation of Indian Industry. The airport diverted 99.50% of waste from landfills, including 100% of plastic and municipal solid waste. This success was achieved through a robust value chain and the 5R principles: Reduce, Reuse, Reprocess, Recycle, and Recover, demonstrating exceptional waste management practices.**

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1. What is 'Planetary Alignment'?

- A. It is a term used to describe the positioning of planets in solar system
- B. A rare celestial event involving black hole
- C. It is used to describe about distance between earth and moon
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **Next month, on June 3, six planets—Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune—will align in the sky. This alignment, an optical illusion of perspective, will be visible from Earth. Mars and Saturn will be visible to the naked eye, though dimly, while Uranus and Neptune will require telescopes or binoculars. Mercury and Jupiter will be hard to see due to their proximity to the Sun. Planetary alignment refers to the illusion of planets forming a line in space when viewed from a specific vantage point, rather than being perfectly aligned.**

2. Which day is observed as 'World Preeclampsia Day' annually?

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



- ✓ **World Preeclampsia Day, on May 22nd, raises awareness of the life-threatening pregnancy complication. Preeclampsia, occurring after the 20th week of pregnancy or postpartum, involves dangerously high blood pressure and organ issues. It stems from placental health problems. Symptoms include hypertension, protein in urine, and swelling. It poses risks to both mother and fetus, possibly leading to preterm birth or death**

3. Which country recently conducted a successful test of the ASMPA supersonic cruise missile?

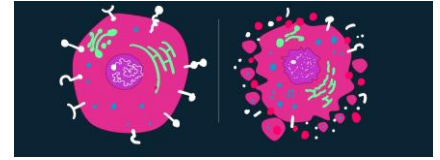
- A. Russia
- B. France
- C. Japan
- D. China



- ✓ **France recently achieved a milestone in defense with successful testing of ASMPA supersonic missile, capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. ASMP/ASMP-A is a land-attack supersonic cruise missile, vital to France's nuclear deterrence. ASMP-A, operational since 2009, has a range of 500 km and a 300 kt thermonuclear warhead. ASMPA-R, a renovated version, aims to enhance range and warhead capability.**

4. What is 'Ferroptosis'?

- A. Invasive plant
- B. A type of virus
- C. A form of regulated cell death
- D. A type of submarine



- ✓ A recent study reveals that ferroptosis drives COVID-19 lung disease. Ferroptosis, distinct from apoptosis, results from lipid peroxide buildup on cell membranes. This form of cell death relies on iron and involves reduced glutathione and glutathione peroxidase activity, amplifying lipid peroxidation. Understanding ferroptosis could offer insights into combating COVID-19 lung damage.

5. Mrugavani National Park is located in which state?

- A. Telangana
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Kerala



- ✓ Telangana Forest Department informed NGT that the area of MNP in Chilkur was reduced by 80 hectares on paper. NGT was hearing a case concerning extra high-tension electrical lines through the eco-sensitive zone. MNP, located in Hyderabad, Telangana, boasts tropical waterless deciduous forest, including Teak, Bamboo, and Sandal. Its fauna includes Spotted deer, Indian hare, forest cat, civet, Indian rat snake, Russell's viper, cheetal, and the flowerpecker bird.

6. What is the name of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) anchor, recently launched by Doordarshan on its DD Kisan channel?

- A. Kaveri and Saryu
- B. Vikas and Fasal
- C. Krish and Bhoomi
- D. Ganga and Vriksh



- ✓ India's public broadcaster Doordarshan's DD Kisan channel launched two AI anchors, Krish and Bhoomi. The channel, broadcasting in 50 languages, pioneers the use of AI anchors for agricultural updates, weather forecasts, and research news. These computer-based anchors, resembling humans, operate continuously without fatigue. This initiative mirrors global trends, following China's introduction of AI news anchors in 2018, and India's earlier introduction on Aaj Tak in 2023.

7. Arti, who recently received the Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award, belongs to which district of Uttar Pradesh?

- A. Unnao
- B. Raebareli
- C. Bahraich
- D. Saharanpur



- ✓ **Arti, an 18-year-old E-rickshaw driver from Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich district, received the Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award from King Charles III at Buckingham Palace. She arrived in her Pink E-rickshaw, provided under UP's Mission Shakti scheme. Sponsored by Prince Trust International, the award recognizes young women's achievements despite challenges.**

8. According to the World Steel Association, which is the only country among the world's top steel producing nations to see growth in production in April 2024?

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Russia
- D. Japan



- ✓ **India stands out as the only top-five crude steel-producing country to exhibit growth in April 2024, recording a 3.9% increase compared to April 2023, reaching 12.1 million tonnes. This growth contrasts with the global decline of 5.0%, totaling 155.7 million tonnes. China, the largest producer, experienced a 7.2% decrease, while Japan, the USA, and Russia also faced declines.**

9. Recently, which armed force conducted a 'Pollution Response Seminar & Mock Drill' in West Bengal?

- A. Indian Coast Guard
- B. Indian Air Force
- C. Indian Navy
- D. National Security Guard



- ✓ **Indian Coast Guard (ICG) hosts 'Pollution Response Seminar and Mock Drill' at Haldia, West Bengal on May 22-23, 2024. Key stakeholders and oil handling agencies collaborate to combat sea oil spills.**
- ✓ **Table-top exercises enhance response capabilities. State-of-the-art equipment demos improve readiness. Commander stresses synergy for effective implementation of National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan. Collective responsibility to protect marine resources emphasized, reaffirming ICG commitment to safer seas and cleaner coasts.**

10. Dombivli Boiler Blast, a tragic incident, recently happened in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ A boiler blast at a Dombivli, Maharashtra chemical company killed 8 and injured 60. Over the past decade, India reported 130 significant chemical accidents, resulting in 259 deaths and 563 injuries, per NDMA. Notable incidents include the Bhopal Gas Tragedy (1984), Visakhapatnam Gas Leak (2020), Chennai Oil Spill (2017), and Neyveli Boiler Blast (2020). Key factors: poor safety regulations, lack of training, equipment failure, and inadequate emergency preparedness.

11. Recently, which organization successfully utilized the REJUPAVE road construction technology in Ladakh under Project Vijayak?

- A. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
- B. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- C. Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
- D. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)



- ✓ In Ladakh, the BRO's Project Vijayak used REJUPAVE technology, developed by CSIR-CRRI, to build high-altitude bituminous roads on the Drass-Umbala-Sankoo Road in Drass, the world's second coldest inhabited place. REJUPAVE, made from biomass and renewable resources, reduces heating needs and maintains temperature during transit.

12. Recently, the world's first 100% biodegradable pen has been launched in which country?

- A. India
- B. Nepal
- C. Myanmar
- D. Bhutan



- ✓ Over 50 billion ballpoint pens are trashed yearly, with 95% made of plastic. Saurabh H Mehta from New Delhi created the world's first 100% biodegradable pen. He founded bioQ, focusing on eco-friendly stationery, and launched NOTE (No Offence to Earth) to eliminate plastic in pens. The NOTE pen features a recycled paper refill, non-toxic ink, and a removable metal tip, exploring materials like paper tubes, bamboo, and metal for its exterior.

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1. What is 'Gliese 12 b'?

- A. Submarine
- B. Critical mineral
- C. Earth sized exoplanet
- D. A type of vaccine



- ✓ Astronomers, using NASA's TESS and other telescopes, have discovered Gliese 12b, a temperate, Earth-sized exoplanet orbiting the red dwarf Gliese 12 in Pisces, 40 light-years away. Gliese 12b, similar in size to Earth or Venus, has a mass 3.87 times that of Earth and orbits its star every 12.8 days. It receives 1.6 times more energy than Earth and has an estimated surface temperature of 107°F (42°C).

2. Which day is observed as 'World Thyroid Day' annually?

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



- ✓ World Thyroid Day, annually on May 25th, raises awareness about the thyroid gland and related conditions. The thyroid, a butterfly-shaped gland near the neck's base, regulates vital functions by releasing thyroid hormones (T4 and T3). These hormones influence metabolism, body temperature, heart rate, and protein production. Thyroid disorders, common in women but affecting all ages and genders, include Hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid) and Hyperthyroidism (overactive thyroid), impacting hormone production.

3. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Odisha
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has initiated a three-day elephant census at Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, located at the junction of Eastern and Western Ghats in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. It spans 1,411.6 sq km, declared a tiger reserve in 2013, fostering a continuous habitat for tigers and other wildlife. The reserve boasts the world's largest tiger population, over 280 tigers, and is home to indigenous tribes like the Irula and Kurumba.

4. PM KUSUM scheme comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- B. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- C. Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry



- ✓ **The Ministry of Renewable Energy warns farmers against fake websites and apps soliciting registration fees for solar water pump installation under PM-KUSUM Scheme. Launched in 2019, PM-KUSUM aims to de-dieselise farming, boost farmer income, and ensure energy security. It targets adding 34,800 MW of solar capacity by March 2026 with Rs 34,422 crore funding. Farmers receive subsidies up to 30-50% for solar pumps and grid-connected plants.**

5. Project ISHAN is related to which sector?

- A. Airspace sector
- B. Agricultural sector
- C. Health sector
- D. Educational sector



- ✓ **India launches Mission Indian Single Sky Harmonized Air Traffic Management (ISHAN) to merge its fragmented airspace into a unified system headquartered in Nagpur, aiming to revolutionize air traffic management. Currently, Indian airspace is divided into 4 regions managed separately. ISHAN consolidates them into one centered in Nagpur, enhancing efficiency. AAI, formed in 1995, operates under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.**

6. What are eVTOLs?

- A. These are vehicles that can take off and land vertically using electric propulsion
- B. It's a medicine to cure cancer
- C. It's a new variety of weedicide
- D. It's a pyrolysis system which is run on the solid waste



- ✓ **IIT Madras-incubated ePlane Company plans to debut eVTOL (electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing) aircraft in Bengaluru. eVTOLs use electric propulsion for vertical takeoff and landing, employing lithium-ion batteries to power electric motors driving rotors or propellers. They aim to alleviate urban traffic congestion, reduce air pollution, and enhance connectivity and emergency services.**

7. Which institute's scientists recently developed a new vaccine candidate to battle malaria?

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru University
- B. IIT, Kanpur
- C. Banaras Hindu University
- D. IIT, Roorkee



- ✓ Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) discovered a potential malaria vaccine candidate targeting the parasite's Prohibitin protein. Published in iScience by Cell Press, their research offers hope for better prevention and treatment. Malaria, transmitted by Anopheles mosquitoes, remains a significant health burden globally, with 249 million cases and 60,800 deaths in 2022. The vaccine development could revolutionize malaria control, addressing a disease that has plagued humanity for centuries.

8. Periyar River is the longest river in which state?

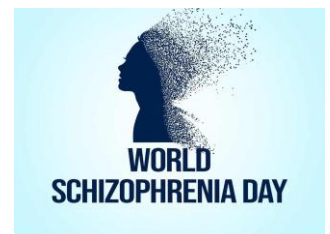
- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Goa
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ A recent mass fish kill devastated the Periyar River in Kerala, causing widespread destruction and outrage. The Periyar River, Kerala's longest, originates in the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu and flows northward, passing through the Periyar National Park into the man-made Periyar Lake. It eventually joins the Vembanad Lake before reaching the Arabian Sea. The river, spanning 244 km, sustains a vast area and is vital for Kerala's economy, notably with the Idukki Dam, the state's largest hydroelectric project.

9. What is the theme of 'World Schizophrenia Day 2024'?

- A. Breaking the Stigma, Sharing Our Stories
- B. Celebrating the Power of Community Kindness
- C. Do what you can do
- D. Embracing recovery



- ✓ World Schizophrenia Day, observed on May 24, aims to raise awareness about the serious mental illness affecting over 21 million people worldwide. It seeks to dispel myths, including the misconception of split personalities, associated with schizophrenia. Symptoms include confused thinking, delusions, and hallucinations. 2024 theme for this day is "Celebrating the Power of Community Kindness".

10. Recently, National Council for Cement and Building Materials-Incubation Centre (NCB-IC) was inaugurated by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- B. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- C. Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry



वाणिज्य एवं
उद्योग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY**

- ✓ Recently, the National Council for Cement and Building Materials-Incubation Centre (NCB-IC) was inaugurated by the Joint Secretary, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. At NCB-IC, startups/entrepreneurs receive mentorship from NCB scientists and industry experts for product development. DPIIT-recognised startups now total 1,36,584. NCB, under DPIIT, is a leading R&D organization focusing on cement, building materials, and construction industries, offering research, technology development, education, and industrial services.

11. Which country named the cyclonic storm 'Remal' that recently hit the Bay of Bengal?

- A. Oman
- B. Myanmar
- C. Bangladesh
- D. India



- ✓ The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) warns that a low depression in the Bay of Bengal has intensified into severe cyclonic storm Remal, with wind speeds of 100-120 km/h. Cyclone Remal, named by Oman, is the season's first in the region and will bring heavy rain and thundershowers to West Bengal and Bangladesh.

12. Who has become the first Indian gymnast to win a gold medal at the 2024 Asian Gymnastics Championships?

- A. Dipa Karmakar
- B. Pranati Nayak
- C. Rucha Divekar
- D. Kalpana Debnath



- ✓ Dipa Karmakar of Tripura made history by becoming the first Indian gymnast to win gold at the Asian Championships. She won the women's vault final at the 2024 Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, with a score of 13.566. North Korea's Kim Son-hyang and Jo Kyong-byol took silver and bronze. Despite this victory, Dipa finished 16th in the all-around, missing the 2024 Paris Olympics quota.

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1. Nyishi Tribe is the largest ethnic group of which state?

- A. Assam
- B. Bihar
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Mizoram



- ✓ **Kabak Yano, a mountaineer and cricketer, made history as the first Nyishi tribe woman and fifth woman from Arunachal Pradesh to scale Mt. Everest. The Nyishi, the largest ethnic group in Arunachal Pradesh, primarily reside in eight districts and parts of Assam. With a population of around 300,000, they practice slash-and-burn agriculture and excel in various handicrafts. Religiously, they follow Christianity, Hinduism, and the indigenous Donyi Polo.**

2. Recently, how many nations have signed the Zero Debris Charter at the ESA/EU Space Council?

- A. 11
- B. 12
- C. 13
- D. 14



- ✓ **Twelve nations signed the Zero Debris Charter at the ESA/EU Space Council, committing to sustainable human activities in Earth orbit. The European Space Agency (ESA) initiated the Charter in November 2023. It aims to eliminate space debris by 2030 through ambitious technical targets and global cooperation.**

3. State-owned GAIL (India) Ltd recently launched its first Green Hydrogen Plant in which region of Madhya Pradesh?

- A. Vijaipur
- B. Balaghat
- C. Dheerpur
- D. Betul



- ✓ **GAIL (India) Ltd. inaugurated its first 10 MW Green Hydrogen Plant in Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh, under the National Green Hydrogen Mission. Approved on January 4, 2022, the mission aims to make India a global hub for green hydrogen. It includes incentives for electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production, support for pilot projects, development of Green Hydrogen Hubs, and a policy framework for a green hydrogen ecosystem and standards.**

4. What is 'Stellaria mcclintockiae'?

- A. A new variant of COVID
- B. A new plant species
- C. Asteroid
- D. Nuclear Ballistic submarine



- ✓ **A new plant species, *Stellaria mcclintockiae*, was discovered on the muddy slopes of Kerala's Nelliampathy hills, at elevations of 1,250-1,400 meters. This annual herb, growing up to 15 cm tall, belongs to the genus *Stellaria* (family Caryophyllaceae). It features distinct petals, pollen morphology, bracts, sepals, and seed architecture. As the first *Stellaria* species found in South India, researchers recommend it be classified as critically endangered.**
-

5. Virupaksha Temple is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ **A portion of Hampi's Virupaksha Temple in Karnataka, specifically the 'saalu mantap' pavilion, collapsed due to torrential rains. Dedicated to Lord Virupaksha, a form of Shiva, the temple is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site at Hampi, the former capital of the Vijayanagara kingdom. It showcases Dravida temple architecture with grand gopuras, Vimana, intricate carvings, and pillared halls.**
-

6. Mundra Port is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ **Adani Group's Mundra Port recently hosted the largest container ship to dock in India, the nearly 400-meter MSC Anna. Mundra Port, located on the north shores of the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat, is India's largest private and container port, handling 33% of the country's container traffic. Operated by APSEZ, it has a capacity of 260 MMT and handles over 155 MMT annually, including diverse cargo types.**
-

7. Irrawaddy River is located in which country?

- A. Nepal
- B. Myanmar
- C. India
- D. Bhutan



- ✓ Myanmar's military regime has formed a body to evaluate hydropower projects on the Irrawaddy River, potentially reviving the controversial Myitsone Dam. Amid worsening power shortages since the 2021 coup, the regime aims to address these issues and boost domestic production.

8. Recently, Ministry of Ayush and the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) hosted a sensitization program at which place?

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



- ✓ The Ministry of Ayush and the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) hosted a program in New Delhi to enhance collaborations between the insurance sector and Ayush healthcare providers. The event, attended by CEOs and CMDs of insurance companies and Ayush hospital owners, aims to improve the accessibility and affordability of Ayush treatments. Key figures emphasized the commitment to making healthcare affordable, accessible, and high-quality.

9. Which organization recently hosted 'Pharma Research in AyurGyan and Techno Innovation (PRAGATI-2024)' at the India Habitat Centre?

- A. AMAI
- B. CCRAS
- C. IISER
- D. National Institute of Biomedical Genomics



- ✓ The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) hosted PRAGATI-2024 at the India Habitat Centre, focusing on research opportunities and collaborations with the Ayurveda drug industry. This meeting aims to connect researchers with industrial partners for drug and device development. A dossier of 35 formulations and three instruments, including Ayush 64, Ayush SG, and Ayush Gutti, will be presented for discussion. The initiative will benefit Ayurvedic clinicians and patients.

10. Which organization recently adopted Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy & the Rule of Law, known as AI convention?

- A. Council of Europe (COE)
- B. United Nations
- C. UNICEF
- D. ILO



- ✓ **The Council of Europe (COE) adopted the Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law, known as the 'AI convention.'** This treaty aims to ensure AI systems comply with human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

11. Which team has won the 'Indian Premier League 2024'?

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



- ✓ **The Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), coached by Chandrakant Pandit, won their third IPL title by defeating Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) by eight wickets in the final of the 17th IPL at M A Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai, on May 26, 2024. Led by Shreyas Iyer, KKR bowled SRH out for 113 runs, the lowest in an IPL final.**

12. Recently, the Vice President of India inaugurated Centre for Carbon Fibre and Prepregs (CCFP) at which place?

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



- ✓ **Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the Centre for Carbon Fiber and Prepregs at the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) in Bengaluru. He witnessed innovations like the Hansa NG trainer and SARAS multipurpose aircraft. Addressing scientists, he highlighted India's progress in disruptive technologies, quantum computing, AI, and machine learning.**

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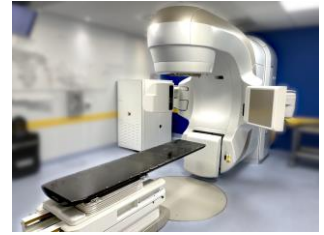
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1. What is the primary use of a Linear Accelerator (LINAC) device?

- A. To diagnose TB
- B. For external beam radiation treatments for patients with cancer
- C. To measure heat waves
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **The Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research (SAMEER) signed an MoU on MRI and Linear Accelerator technology transfer with industry. The Linear Accelerator (LINAC) is used for cancer treatment through external beam radiation.**
- ✓ **It accelerates electrons using microwave technology to produce high-energy x-rays that target and destroy cancer cells. SAMEER is an autonomous R&D lab in Mumbai under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.**

2. INS Kiltan belongs to which class of submarines?

- A. Kamorta class
- B. Kalvari class
- C. Vagir class
- D. Karanj class



- ✓ **Indian Naval Ship Kiltan arrived at Muara, Brunei, warmly welcomed by the Royal Brunei Navy. This indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare stealth corvette is the third Kamorta-class corvette under Project 28.**
- ✓ **Designed by the Indian Navy and built by GRSE in Kolkata, it features a carbon fibre composite superstructure for enhanced stealth and lower maintenance. It hosts advanced indigenous weapons and sensors, including torpedoes, ASW rockets, and air surveillance radar.**

3. What is 'Oedocladium sahyadricum'?

- A. Protein
- B. Algae
- C. Virus
- D. Bacteria



- ✓ **A team of botanists at Catholicate College, Pathanamthitta, discovered a new algal species, Oedocladium sahyadricum, in the Western Ghats. Named after the Sahyadri region, it is dioecious, terrestrial, and mat-forming on damp soil. The alga, velvety green turning yellowish-green when mature, has potential applications in medicine, agriculture, and natural pigment production. This is Kerala's first recorded species of Oedocladium.**

4. What is the theme of 'World Hunger Day 2024'?

- A. Thriving Mothers, Thriving World
- B. Zero Hunger: A World without Hunger
- C. Leave No One Behind
- D. Unchain Our Food



- ✓ **World Hunger Day 2024, observed annually on May 28, raises awareness about global hunger and malnutrition. The theme, "Thriving mothers. Thriving world." highlights the impact of malnutrition on women and children, affecting over 1 billion worldwide.**
- ✓ **The day advocates for sustainable food systems to combat hunger's root causes like war and climate change. It emphasizes the intergenerational effects of malnutrition and aims to provide proper nutrition to millions worldwide.**

5. Recently, where was the International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS-2024) held?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Vienna
- C. Washington
- D. Tehran



- ✓ **The IAEA's International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS) 2024, held in Vienna, highlighted nuclear waste concerns. Currently, 145 states report incidents of lost, stolen, or mishandled nuclear materials to the IAEA. Radioactive substances are widely used in medical, educational, and industrial sectors. The main concern is extremists using these materials in a "dirty bomb," which, though less deadly than an atomic bomb, could cause mass panic in urban areas.**

6. Rajaji Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Kerala
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ **A tigress translocated from Corbett Tiger Reserve to Rajaji Tiger Reserve has given birth to four cubs, according to the Chief Wildlife Warden. Rajaji National Park, established in 1983 and located in Haridwar, Uttarakhand, is a vital link to other tiger habitats in Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. The reserve, named after freedom fighter C. Rajgopalachari, became India's 48th tiger reserve in 2015.**

7. Which space organization has recently launched a tiny satellite to measure heat lost from Earth's poles?

- A. NASA
- B. ISRO
- C. JAXA
- D. CNSA



- ✓ **NASA recently launched one of two climate satellites to study heat emissions at Earth's poles, named PREFIRE (Polar Radiant Energy in the Far-InfraRed Experiment). This mission is vital for analyzing Earth's energy budget, which determines its temperature and climate. Currently, there's no way to measure far-infrared radiation emitted from the Arctic and Antarctica, leaving a gap in understanding the planet's energy balance. The second satellite will be launched soon to address this gap.**

8. Pravaah Portal is launched by which institution?

- A. RBI
- B. SBI
- C. NABARD
- D. SEBI



- ✓ **RBI Governor unveiled three major initiatives: Pravaah portal, Retail Direct Mobile App, and a FinTech Repository. Pravaah is a secure web-based portal for seeking authorizations, licenses, and regulatory approvals from the RBI. Key features include online application submission, status tracking, query responses, and timely decisions. It enhances the efficiency of regulatory processes, with 60 application forms available, including a general-purpose form for various requests.**

9. Recently, who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Committee A at 77th World Health Assembly?

- A. Rajesh Bhushan
- B. Apurva Chandra
- C. A K Mittal
- D. Amit Agarwal



- ✓ **Apurva Chandra, Union Health Secretary of India, has been appointed Chairperson of Committee A at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, held from May 27 to June 1. Committee A addresses crucial health topics like universal health coverage, emergency preparedness, antimicrobial resistance, climate change, and WHO financing. Chandra highlighted India's COVID-19 management and commitment to global health, reflecting the "One World, One Family" philosophy and promoting health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**

10. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL or IOC) recently signed an MoU with which armed force of India to promote hydrogen and fuel cell technology?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ The Indian Army and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to incorporate green and sustainable transport solutions. Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande and IOCL Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya were present. The Army received a hydrogen fuel cell bus, marking the start of this collaboration, aimed at fostering innovation and advancing sustainable transport, according to the defence ministry.

11. Recently, where was the 'Asian Armwrestling Championship 2024' held?

- A. New Delhi, India
- B. Astana, Kazakhstan
- C. Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- D. Beijing, China



- ✓ Indian armwrestlers won seven medals at the Asian Armwrestling Championship in Tashkent, Uzbekistan: one gold and six bronze. Shrimat Jha secured India's only gold in the left-hand para category and a bronze in the right-hand para category. Laxaman Singh Bhandari and Sachin Goyal won two and one bronze medals, respectively. Ibi Lollen won two bronze medals in women's categories. Preeti Jhangiani, PAFI president, praised the team's success.

12. Recently, which Indian peacekeeper received the 'United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year for 2023'?

- A. Lakshmi Sehgal
- B. Radhika Sen
- C. Sophia Qureshi
- D. Priya Jhingam



- ✓ Major Radhika Sen, an Indian peacekeeper in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, received the United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year for 2023. Serving with MONUSCO, she led the Engagement Platoon, established Community Alert Networks, and conducted mixed-gender patrols. Her efforts included providing education and training for locals, empowering women, and fostering a safe, inclusive environment. Her service ran from March 2023 to April 2024. The award, established in 2016, honors peacekeepers integrating gender perspectives. Major Sen is the second Indian recipient after Major Suman Gawani in 2019, who served in South Sudan.

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1. What is the theme for 'International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2024'?

- A. Women in Peacekeeping
- B. Fit for the future, building better together
- C. The Road to a Lasting Peace
- D. People Peace Progress



- ✓ **The International Day of the UN Peacekeepers is observed on May 29 to honor the service and sacrifice of over 4,000 fallen peacekeepers and to promote global peace efforts. Established by a UN General Assembly resolution in 2002, it marks the anniversary of the first UN peacekeeping mission in 1948. The first observance was in 2003. The 2024 theme is "Fit for the Future, Building Better Together."**

2. BHEL recently signed an agreement with which research centre for hydrogen production using alkaline electrolyser system?

- A. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
- B. Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research
- C. Council of Industrial and Scientific Research
- D. Indian Agriculture Research Institute



- ✓ **State-run Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) has signed a Technology Transfer Agreement with the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) for a 50-kW alkaline electrolyser system to produce hydrogen. BARC, India's premier nuclear research facility based in Trombay, Mumbai, operates under the Department of Atomic Energy, overseen by the Prime Minister. It supports extensive research across nuclear science and engineering.**

3. Sharavati River flows entirely within which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Karnataka
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ **The National Green Tribunal directed the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and mines and geology department to halt illegal sand mining in the Sharavathi river coastal zone. The Sharavathi River, in western Karnataka, flows west to the Arabian Sea. It spans 128 km and its basin covers 2,985 sq km. The river forms Jog Falls and generates 40% of Karnataka's hydropower with seven dams and five tunnels.**

4. Genetically modified (GMO) mosquitoes were recently released in which country of Africa to fight malaria?

- A. Kenya
- B. Djibouti
- C. Tanzania
- D. Botswana



- ✓ Genetically modified mosquitoes were released in Djibouti to combat malaria as part of the two-year-old 'Djibouti Friendly Mosquito Programme'.
- ✓ This method releases engineered male mosquitoes that mate with females, passing on a gene that prevents female offspring from surviving to adulthood, reducing the population of malaria-transmitting *Anopheles stephensi* mosquitoes. Similar methods have been successful in Brazil, the Cayman Islands, Panama, and India.

5. Vivekananda Rock Memorial is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha
- D. West Bengal



- ✓ The Prime Minister meditate for 48 hours at the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanyakumari, marking the end of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. The memorial, built in 1970 to honor Swami Vivekananda, is on a small island off Kanyakumari where the Bay of Bengal, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Sea meet. It features the 'Shripada Mandapam,' 'Vivekananda Mandapam,' and a life-sized bronze statue of Vivekananda.

6. What was the primary goal of the Magellan mission?

- A. To explore Mars
- B. To map the surface of Venus using radar imaging
- C. To explore the Moon's surface
- D. To study the exoplanets



- ✓ Scientists analyzing archived data from NASA's Magellan mission discovered new lava flows on Venus, indicating volcanic activity between 1990 and 1992. Launched on May 4, 1989, aboard the space shuttle Atlantis, Magellan aimed to map Venus's surface using radar imaging.
- ✓ Named after Ferdinand Magellan, it was the first interplanetary mission launched from a space shuttle. In 1994, Magellan intentionally plunged into Venus, gathering atmospheric data before ceasing operations.

7. Which organization recently released the 'Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2024' report?

- A. International Labor Organization (ILO)
- B. World Trade Organization (WTO)
- C. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- D. World Bank



International
Labour
Organization

- ✓ **The International Labour Organisation (ILO) released the 2024 Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook report. Key highlights include an improved Employment to Population Ratio (EPR) in the region at 58.2% (2023), with Indian women contributing significantly. India faces an aging population, with the old age dependency ratio projected to increase from 0.10 to 0.22 by 2050.**

8. Recently, a 'Himalayan Serow' was spotted in which National Park of Assam?

- A. Manas National Park
- B. Namdapha National Park
- C. Nameri National Park
- D. Orang National Park



- ✓ **Recently, a Himalayan serow was spotted in Nameri National Park, resembling a blend of goat, donkey, cow, and pig. Serows are herbivores, typically inhabiting altitudes between 2,000 to 4,000 meters in the Himalayas. The Himalayan serow, a subspecies of the mainland serow, is vulnerable according to the IUCN Red List. Nameri Tiger Reserve, situated in Assam's Sonitpur district, encompasses the park and is contiguous with Pakke Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh.**

9. How much assistance has the Government of India granted to Papua New Guinea for the recent flood and landslide disaster?

- A. \$1 million
- B. \$2 million
- C. \$3 million
- D. \$4 million



- ✓ **India provided \$1 million in immediate aid to Papua New Guinea after a flood and landslide disaster claimed 2,000 lives. Prior assistance was extended in 2018 after an earthquake and in 2019 and 2023 following volcanic eruptions. Diplomatic relations between India and Papua New Guinea began in 1975. PNG appointed its first defense adviser to India, enhancing defense cooperation. PNG has supported India's positions in international forums like the UN and Commonwealth.**

10. What is microcephaly?

- A. A condition where a baby's eyes is much smaller than normal
- B. A condition where a baby's head is much smaller than normal
- C. A condition where a baby's head is much larger than normal
- D. A condition where a baby's heart is much larger than normal



- ✓ **Recent research confirms the SASS6 gene's significance in microcephaly and neuron development. Microcephaly results in a significantly smaller head size in babies, often associated with poor motor skills, speech difficulties, and abnormal facial features. It stems from abnormal cell division during embryonic brain development and can be diagnosed prenatally. Consanguineous marriages increase the risk due to heightened chances of inheriting two mutated copies of the SASS6 gene, vital for cell division and centriole formation.**

11. RudraM-II- air-to-surface missile is developed by which organization?

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. JAXA
- D. ESA



- ✓ **The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight-tested the RudraM-II air-to-surface missile from a Su-30 MK-I aircraft off Odisha's coast. The test met all objectives, validating its propulsion, control, and guidance systems. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh praised the achievement. The RudraM-II, a solid-propelled missile, enhances the Armed Forces' capabilities, utilizing advanced DRDO technologies.**

12. Recently, which Indian space startup successfully launched Agnibaan's sub-orbital rocket?

- A. Astrogate Labs
- B. Bellatrix Aerospace
- C. Dhruva Space
- D. Agnikul cosmos



- ✓ **Indian space startup Agnikul Cosmos successfully launched its first sub-orbital test vehicle, Agnibaan SOrTeD, powered by the world's first single-piece 3D-printed rocket engine. This milestone, achieved after four previous launch attempts, marks the second private startup launch in India and the first from a private launchpad at Sriharikota.**

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1. What is 'K-9 Vajra'?

- A. Self-propelled artillery system
- B. Nuclear ballistic submarine
- C. 3D printed semi-cryogenic engine
- D. Asteroid



- ✓ **Several key 'Made in India' defense projects await final approval post-elections, including more K-9 Vajra self-propelled howitzers. The K-9 Vajra, built by Larsen & Toubro with technology from South Korea's Hanwha Défense, is a 155 mm, 52-caliber self-propelled artillery system. It can fire various shells, has all-welded steel armor, and strikes targets up to 50 km away with a burst rate of three rounds per 15 seconds.**

2. Recently, where was the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4) held?

- A. Trinidad and Tobago
- B. Antigua and Barbuda
- C. Bahamas
- D. Barbados



- ✓ **The SIDS4 conference, held from May 27-30, 2024, gathered over 3,000 delegates to develop the "Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS" (ABAS), aiming for resilient prosperity in Small Island Developing States. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) announced funding through its Infrastructure for Resilient Island States Programme (IRIS) at the United Nations 4th International Conference on SIDS in Antigua and Barbuda.**

3. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In or ICERT) is a functional organization of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- B. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- C. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- D. Ministry of Communications



- ✓ **India's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) warned of a high-severity vulnerability in Google Chrome for desktops. CERT-In, the national agency for computer security incidents under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, aims to secure Indian cyberspace. Operational since January 2004, CERT-In is responsible for responding to and mitigating cybersecurity threats in India.**

4. Earth Cloud Aerosol and Radiation Explorer (EarthCARE) satellite mission is a joint venture between which two space agencies?

- A. ESA & JAXA
- B. NASA & ISRO
- C. CNSA & JAXA
- D. ISRO & ESA



- ✓ **The EarthCARE Mission, a joint effort by ESA and JAXA, aims to understand the interplay between clouds, aerosols, and radiation, crucial for Earth's radiation balance amid the climate crisis. The sun-synchronous orbit mission uses instruments like Atmospheric Lidar and a cloud profiling radar. Clouds and aerosols significantly influence Earth's heat budget, affecting climate through their roles in reflecting sunlight and trapping radiation. Human activities notably impact aerosol levels.**

5. Recently, the researchers of which country developed a tiny wooden satellite named 'LignoSat'?

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Japan
- D. Australia



- ✓ **Japanese researchers have developed the world's first wooden satellite, Lignosat, in collaboration with NASA and JAXA. This tiny cuboid craft, made from resilient magnolia wood, will be launched by a SpaceX rocket. Lignosat aims to reduce space clutter and promote environmentally friendly space activities. Unlike traditional aluminium satellites, Lignosat will burn harmlessly upon re-entry.**

6. Which country has recently assumed the chair of the Colombo Process for the term 2024-26?

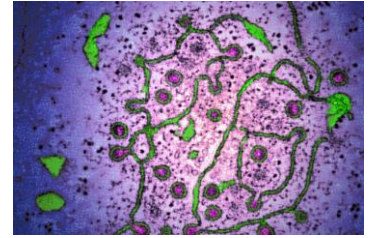
- A. India
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Nepal
- D. Bhutan



- ✓ **India assumed the Chair of the Colombo Process for 2024-26, its first time since 2003. The Colombo Process, a regional consultative platform for managing overseas employment and labor, includes 12 Asian member states like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. India, a founding member, focuses on skills recognition and ethical recruitment. The UN's International Organization for Migration supports this process.**

7. Researchers recently identified 40 novel 'Nidoviruses' in which organisms using AI?

- A. Vertebrates
- B. Invertebrates
- C. Both Vertebrates and Invertebrates
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **Researchers identified 40 novel Nidoviruses in vertebrates using AI. Nidoviruses are enveloped, positive-strand RNA viruses infecting both vertebrates and invertebrates. When hosts are co-infected with different viruses, gene recombination can occur, potentially creating new, more hazardous viruses.**

8. According to ILO, the Global Unemployment rate is expected to fall slightly to what percent in 2024?

- A. 4.5%
- B. 4.9%
- C. 5.3%
- D. 5.5%



International
Labour
Organization

- ✓ **The International Labour Organization (ILO) predicts a slight decrease in global unemployment, with a projected rate of 4.9 percent in 2024, contrary to previous forecasts of a rise. Despite this improvement, the agency warns of "slow progress" in addressing inequalities. The report indicates that the unemployment rate is expected to remain stable at 4.9 percent in 2025.**

9. What is the theme for the World Health Assembly (WHA) 2024?

- A. All for Health, Health for All
- B. Health for peace, Peace for Health
- C. Saving Lives, Driving Health for All
- D. Support Nurses and Midwives



- ✓ **The Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly convenes in Geneva, Switzerland, from May 27 to June 1, under the theme "All for Health, Health for All." Live webcasts of the proceedings will be accessible, featuring simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.**

10. Which Indian mountaineer has recently made history by becoming the first person to scale Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse twice in one season?

- A. Prerna Dangi
- B. Ajeet Bajaj
- C. Satyadeep Gupta
- D. Jai Vardhan Bahuguna



- ✓ Indian mountaineer Satyadeep Gupta achieved a historic feat by becoming the first person to climb Mount Everest and Mount Lhotse twice in one season. He also set the record for the fastest traverse from Mount Everest to Mount Lhotse, completing it in 11 hours and 15 minutes. Accompanied by guides, Gupta summited Mount Everest on May 21, followed by Mount Lhotse on May 22, marking the first Double Dual Ascent in a single season.

11. How much sovereign loan has been sanctioned by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to India in the year 2023?

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



- ✓ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) sanctioned \$2.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in 2023. The loan will fund urban development, power sector promotion, industrial corridor development, horticulture support, connectivity enhancement, and climate resilience building. Sovereign loans are given to the Indian government for various projects across states. ADB aims to drive India's structural transformation, job creation, infrastructure development, green growth, and social inclusiveness, including funding for the Visakhapatnam–Chennai Industrial Corridor.

12. Recently, where was the 6th Meeting of India-Japan Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism held?

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



- ✓ The 6th Meeting of the India-Japan Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism took place in New Delhi on 29 May. Key discussions involved regional terrorist threats, state-sponsored terrorism, and the misuse of technology by terrorists. Both nations emphasized enhancing cooperation through information exchange, capacity building, and multilateral cooperation. The next meeting will be in Tokyo at a mutually convenient date.

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