

1. Which organization recently released 'Digital Economy Report 2024'?

- A. World Bank
- B. UN Trade and Development
- C. International Monetary Fund
- D. UN Development Programme



- ✓ **The UN Trade and Development recently released the Digital Economy Report 2024. It emphasizes the need for sustainable digitalization strategies. Internet users grew from 1 billion in 2005 to 5.4 billion in 2023. The ICT sector's global GHG emissions were 1.5-3.2% in 2020. Digital-related waste surged 30% from 2010 to 2022, reaching 10.5 million tonnes. Data centers consumed 460 terawatts hours in 2022, expected to double by 2026. Critical mineral demand may surge by 500% by 2050.**
- ✓ **Recommendations include adopting circular economy models, enforcing environmental standards, investing in renewable energy, and promoting sustainable business models.**

2. Umlingla Pass is located in which state/UT?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Ladakh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ **NewSpace Research and Technologies successfully tested a 100-kg Max Take Off Weight (MTOW) UAV at Umling La Pass. Located at 19,024 ft. in Eastern Ladakh along the Ladakh Range, Umling La Pass is the highest motorable road in the world, constructed by the Border Road Organization under Project Himank. The road enhances connectivity to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and improves local connectivity in the Chisumle-Demchok sector to Leh, boosting tourism. Other significant passes in Ladakh include Khardung La, Chang La, and Tanglang La.**

3. What is 'Salvinia molesta'?

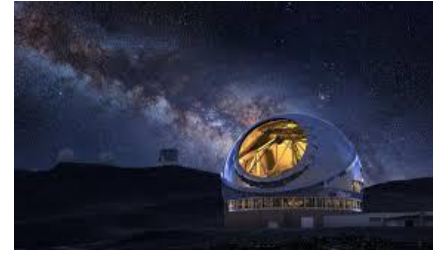
- A. Invasive weed
- B. Asteroid
- C. Earth observation satellite
- D. AI Tool



- ✓ **An exotic host-specific beetle, Cyrtobagus salvinia from Brazil, has eradicated the invasive weed Salvinia molesta from Sarani Reservoir (Satpura Dam) in Betul district, Madhya Pradesh. Located on the Tawa River, a tributary of the Narmada River, this reserve faced issues due to Salvinia molesta, a free-floating aquatic fern native to Brazil, also known as "Water Fern" or "Chinese Jhalaar." This weed also affects the ecology of Kerala, Odisha, Uttarakhand, and Maharashtra.**

4. Recently, Indian scientists have developed an open-source tool to generate an infrared star catalogue for which telescope?

- A. Himalayan Chandra Telescope
- B. Thirty Meter Telescope
- C. Cassegrain Telescope
- D. GROWTH-India Telescope



- ✓ Indian scientists have developed an open-source tool to generate an infrared star catalogue for the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT). This international project aims to revolutionize our understanding of the universe as the world's most advanced optical and infrared observatory. Key features include a 30-meter segmented primary mirror composed of 492 hexagonal segments, making it the largest in the Northern Hemisphere.

5. Recently, where was the NATO Summit 2024 held?

- A. Washington D.C.
- B. London
- C. Paris
- D. Sydney



- ✓ The recent NATO summit in Washington, D.C., extensively discussed Ukraine's potential membership. The alliance also considered providing at least €40 billion (\$43.28 billion) in military aid to Ukraine over the next year. NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance comprising 32 member states.

6. Bhoj Wetland is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Kerala
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ Bhoj Wetland in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh is at risk of being delisted from the Ramsar Convention's list of Wetlands of International Importance due to potential ecological damage. Concerns have been raised about proposed road construction impacting the wetland's catchment area. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat has requested clarification from India, marking the first step in the delisting process. India's Environment Ministry, the nodal authority for wetlands, will assess whether the construction will alter the wetland's ecological character.

7. What is 'Squalus hima'?

- A. A new species of dogfish shark discovered from southwest coast of India
- B. A novel type of coral reefs found in Arabian Sea
- C. An endangered frog species found in eastern ghats
- D. A newly discovered species of spider found in northeastern region



- ✓ **Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India discovered a new deep-water dogfish shark species, Squalus hima, off Kerala's southwest coast. This genus, known as spurdogs, features smooth dorsal fin spines, a small mouth, and no body spots. Squalus hima is distinct from other species in vertebrae count, teeth count, and fin structure. Exploited for liver oil rich in squalene, it's crucial for pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.**

8. Which state won the 'Best State in Horticulture Award 2024' in the Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024?

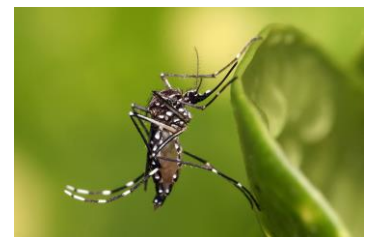
- A. Assam
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Nagaland
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ **Nagaland won the 'Best State in Horticulture Award 2024' for innovative horticulture programs benefiting many farmers and rural people. Women Resource Development and Horticulture Minister Salhoutuonuo Kruse received the award in New Delhi. The state's horticulture sector enhanced livelihoods, created jobs, ensured nutritional security, and achieved GI registration for three crops. Nagaland formed 13 farmers' producer companies and certified 6,800 hectares organically, earning national recognition.**

9. Dengue (break-bone fever) is transmitted by which type of mosquitoes?

- A. Anopheles mosquitoes
- B. Aedes mosquitoes
- C. Culex mosquitoes
- D. Culiseta mosquitoes



- ✓ **The High Court of Karnataka took suo motu cognizance of the dengue rise across the state. Dengue, a mosquito-borne viral infection common in tropical and subtropical areas, is spread by Aedes mosquitoes. While many infections are mild, severe cases can cause dengue hemorrhagic fever, leading to rapid breathing, vomiting, and bleeding gums. With 400 million infections annually, treatment focuses on supportive care, as no specific medicine exists.**

10. Technology Development Fund scheme is a programme of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

- ✓ **The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) sanctioned seven new private sector projects under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme. Established to promote self-reliance in defence technology under the 'Make in India' initiative, the TDF is a Ministry of Defence program executed by DRDO. It supports MSMEs and startups, providing up to 90% funding for projects costing up to INR 50 crore.**

11. What is the main purpose of the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)?

- A. To increase foreign direct investment in India
- B. To simplify and streamline the process of remitting funds outside India
- C. To encourage foreign tourists to visit India
- D. To control the flow of foreign currency into India



भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Accounts (FCA) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) at GIFT City, Gujarat, under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).**
- ✓ **Introduced in 2004, LRS simplifies remitting funds outside India, allowing residents, including minors, to remit up to USD 250,000 per financial year. This excludes corporates and trusts, and covers any permissible current or capital account transactions.**

12. Which organization recently released the 'World Population Prospects Report 2024'?

- A. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
- B. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- C. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- D. World Bank



United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

- ✓ **The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) recently released the World Population Prospects Report, projecting the global population to peak at 10.3 billion by the mid-2080s, up from 8.2 billion in 2024. Key findings include a current fertility rate of 2.25 births per woman and a life expectancy of 73.3 years. India's population is expected to peak in the early 2060s.**

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