

1. Common Services Centres is an initiative of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- D. Ministry of Urban Development



- ✓ **The Common Services Centres Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) celebrated its 15th anniversary. Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), CSC SPV oversees the CSC Scheme, part of the Digital India Programme. CSCs serve as access points for delivering government, private, and social sector services to rural citizens, promoting digital and financial inclusion across India.**

2. What is the primary aim of the U-WIN portal?

- A. To track COVID-19 cases
- B. To maintain an electronic registry of routine immunizations
- C. To manage healthcare appointments
- D. To facilitate telemedicine services



- ✓ **U-WIN, launching on August 15, will transform maternal and child healthcare in India by digitizing vaccination records, replacing the manual system used by ASHA and other healthcare workers. Replicating the Co-WIN system, U-WIN maintains an electronic registry of routine immunizations. Currently in pilot mode in all states and Union Territories except West Bengal, it records vaccination events for pregnant women and children aged 0-5 under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP).**

3. Recently, which institution has approved \$240.5 million in loans to advance rooftop solar system installations across India?

- A. Asian Development Bank
- B. World Bank
- C. International Monetary Fund
- D. European Investment Bank



- ✓ **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved \$240.5 million in loans to advance rooftop solar system installations across India, enhancing renewable energy access.**
- ✓ **The financing supports the Solar Rooftop Investment Programme under the Multi-tranche Financing Facility (MFF), with funds from ADB's Clean Technology Fund and Ordinary Capital Resources. Loans will be distributed through the State Bank of India and NABARD. As of now, India's rooftop solar capacity is 11.08 GW.**

4. Which organization recently published the 'Global Education Monitoring Report 2024'?

- A. UNDP
- B. UNEP
- C. IMF
- D. UNESCO



- ✓ UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2024 highlights the impact of climate change on education. Mandated by the 'Education 2030 Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action', it monitors SDG 4 (Quality Education). Key findings: Over 20 years, schools closed during 75% of extreme weather events, affecting over 5 million people. In India, early-life rainfall shocks impaired vocabulary, math, and non-cognitive skills.

5. Which state recently reported the cases of 'Chandipura virus infection' in children?

- A. Odisha
- B. Gujarat
- C. Haryana
- D. Punjab



- ✓ Recently, the Gujarat government reported six children dying from suspected Chandipura virus (CHPV) infection since July 10. CHPV, part of the Rhabdoviridae family, is transmitted by sandflies and mosquitoes, including *Aedes aegypti*. The virus, residing in the insects' salivary glands, can infect humans and domestic animals through bites. It can quickly progress to encephalitis, causing inflammation of the brain's active tissues and potentially affecting organs like the kidneys and liver.

6. Recently, which country hosted 9th Women's Cricket Asia Cup?

- A. Myanmar
- B. Australia
- C. France
- D. Sri Lanka



- ✓ The 9th Women's Cricket Asia Cup begins on July 19, 2024, in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, with Nepal facing the UAE. Held in the T-20 format, all matches, including the final on July 28, will be at Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium. Organized by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), affiliated with the ICC, the ACC is led by BCCI General Secretary Jay Shah. India, the defending champion, won the 2022 edition.

7. Which two Indian space scientists received the honour at the Global Space Conference from the prestigious organization Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)?

- A. Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj
- B. Ajay Kumar Sood and Pawan Kumar
- C. Lalitha Abraham and Rajiv Gauba
- D. Ashwin Vasavada and Sharmila Bhattacharya



- ✓ Indian space scientists Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj received prestigious awards from COSPAR during its 45<sup>th</sup> scientific assembly in Busan, South Korea. Agrawal, a retired professor from TIFR, earned the Harrie Massey Award for contributions to X-ray astronomy and leading AstroSat. Bhardwaj, PRL Director since 2017, won the Vikram Sarabhai Medal for his work in planetary space sciences and key roles in ISRO's missions.

8. Recently, which state has secured the first place under the 'Best Performing State' category in the Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Odisha
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Bihar



- ✓ Madhya Pradesh topped the 'Best Performing State' category in the Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme, aimed at supporting street vendors affected by COVID-19. Assam was second in the 'Innovation and Best Practices Award' category. In urban local bodies, Delhi's Municipal Corporation led in loan performance, followed by Bengaluru and Ahmedabad. Kerala secured first place in the DAY-NULM SPARK category, with Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan also recognized. The PM SVANidhi scheme provides affordable loans and promotes digital transactions.

9. What is '*Phlogacanthus Sudhansusekharii*'?

- A. A new frog species discovered in Maharashtra
- B. Newly discovered plant species from northeast India
- C. An ancient irrigation technique
- D. Newly discovered fish species in Western Ghats



- ✓ Researchers from the Botanical Survey of India discovered a new plant species, *Phlogacanthus sudhansusekharii*, in Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh. This species, part of the Acanthaceae family and *Phlogacanthus* genus, honors Dr. Sudhansu Sekhar Dash for his contributions to plant research.

10. According to NITI Aayog report, India has set a target to achieve 500 billion US dollar in electronics manufacturing in value terms by which year?

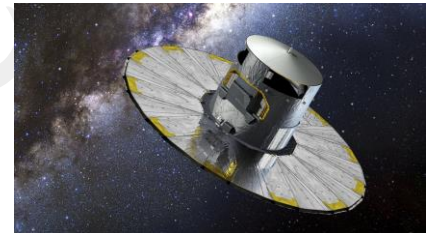
- A. 2025
- B. 2027
- C. 2030
- D. 2032



- ✓ India aims to achieve \$500 billion in electronics manufacturing by 2030, targeting \$350 billion from finished goods and \$150 billion from components. The NITI Aayog report, launched by Vice Chairman Suman Bery, analyzes the sector's growth and challenges, highlighting a rise from \$48 billion in 2017 to \$101 billion in 2023, largely due to mobile phone manufacturing. The report outlines interventions needed for India to become a global electronics manufacturing hub.

11. Gaia Spacecraft was launched by which space agency?

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



- ✓ The Gaia spacecraft, launched by the European Space Agency (ESA) in December 2013, is mapping over a billion stars in the Milky Way from the second Sun-Earth Lagrange point (L2). It monitors stars 14 times a year, charting their positions, distances, movements, and brightness. Gaia aims to discover new celestial objects, study distant quasars, and test Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, creating a precise 3D map of our galaxy.

12. Recently, where was the 'International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL)' inaugurated?

- A. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- B. Rajkot, Gujarat
- C. Jaipur, Rajasthan
- D. Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ The International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL) was inaugurated in Rajkot, Gujarat, on 18th July 2024. As India's first such center, iCAL aims to set global standards for auditing local governance. It serves as a collaborative platform for policymakers and auditors, enhancing local government auditors' independence and acting as a knowledge center. iCAL addresses governance issues and promotes best practices among India's 2.5 lakh panchayats and 8,000 Urban Local Bodies.

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