

1. Which country recently developed the world's first dual-tower solar thermal plant?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. India
- D. South Korea



- ✓ China has unveiled the world's first dual-tower solar thermal power plant (TPP), enhancing energy efficiency by 24%. The plant features two 200-meter towers with thousands of mirrors that track the sun, achieving 94% reflection efficiency. It uses molten salt storage to retain excess heat, enabling continuous power generation even at night. This innovative design maximizes energy capture and storage, advancing solar power technology.

2. Recently, who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the US?

- A. J N Dixit
- B. Vinay Mohan Kwatra
- C. Nirupama Menon
- D. Surendra Kumar Adhana



- ✓ Vinay Mohan Kwatra has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the United States, as confirmed by the Ministry of External Affairs. A retired Indian Foreign Service diplomat, Kwatra has extensive expertise in relations with India's neighbors, the US, China, and Europe.

3. Adam's Bridge is separated by which two water bodies?

- A. Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea
- B. Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait
- C. Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
- D. Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea



- ✓ Scientists from ISRO successfully mapped the submerged structure of Adam's Bridge (Ram Setu), a 48 km limestone chain connecting Rameswaram Island (India) to Mannar Island (Sri Lanka). The bridge separates the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait, with shallow waters of 1-10 meters. Geological evidence indicates it was a former land connection, referenced in the Ramayana and Islamic legend, but submerged since 1480 due to natural calamities.

4. Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) is implemented by which two organizations?

- A. NABARD and RBI
- B. RBI and SEBI
- C. NABARD and SEBI
- D. SEBI and NITI Aayog



- ✓ The Union Government plans to raise the upper limit of short-term crop loans under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 5 lakh. Implemented from Kharif 2006-07, MISS offers subsidized short-term credit to farmers and is active from 2022-23 to 2024-25. Interest subvention is available to various banks, and the scheme is managed by NABARD and RBI. Eligible recipients include owner cultivators, tenant farmers, and SHGs.

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5. Pralay Missile was developed by which organization?

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



- ✓ Armenia's interest in India's Pralay missile presents a significant opportunity for India. The Pralay missile is a 350-500 km short-range, quasi-ballistic surface-to-surface missile with a 500-1,000 kg payload, developed by DRDO for defense needs.

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6. Recently, Union Minister of Coal and Mines inaugurated National Landslide Forecasting Centre in which city?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Bhopal
- C. Kolkata
- D. Varanasi



- ✓ The Union Minister of Coal and Mines inaugurated the National Landslide Forecasting Centre at the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Kolkata. The Bhusanket Web Portal and Bhooskhalan Mobile App were launched to facilitate landslide hazard data dissemination and forecasting. The GSI, established in 1851, focuses on geoscientific information and mineral resource assessment through surveys and research. The GSI headquarters is in Kolkata, with six regional offices across India.

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7. Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) is a mission of which space organization?

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



- ✓ A study by the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) confirmed two black holes at the center of galaxy OJ 287, four billion light-years away. Launched by NASA in 2018, TESS searches for exoplanets around the brightest stars. It has found 410 confirmed exoplanets, ranging from small rocky worlds to giants. TESS orbits Earth in a unique high orbit.

8. Which organization recently released 'Towards Justice: Ending Child Marriage' report?

- A. UNICEF
- B. Childhood Education International (CEI)
- C. India Child Protection (ICP)
- D. Delhi Council for Child Welfare (DCCW)



- ✓ **India Child Protection (ICP) released the "Towards Justice: Ending Child Marriage" report. ICP, part of the Child Rights and Multi-Faith Initiative, addresses child abuse, trafficking, digital exploitation, and child marriage. Key findings: Assam's legal measures reduced child marriages by 81% from 2021-22 to 2023-24. Despite three girls marrying every minute (Census 2011), only three cases are reported daily. In 2023-24, 14,137 child marriages were prevented. With a 92% case backlog, clearing it could take 19 years.**

9. What is E. coli?

- A. Protozoa
- B. Bacteria
- C. Fungus
- D. Virus



- ✓ **Paris' outdated sewage system has severely contaminated the Seine River with E. coli, a harmful bacterium. The Seine, France's second-longest river at 775 km, flows through Paris for 13 km and empties into the English Channel. E. coli, found in human and animal intestines, can cause severe symptoms like abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and kidney failure. It spreads via contaminated food and water tainted by fecal waste.**

10. Which day is observed as 'World Chess Day' every year?

- A. July.20
- B. July.02
- C. June.02
- D. June.20



- ✓ **World Chess Day, celebrated annually on July 20<sup>th</sup>, marks the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924. UNESCO proposed this day in 1966, recognizing chess for its intellectual benefits and cultural diversity. Originating in India as "Chaturanga" nearly 1500 years ago, chess is promoted as a game for all ages and backgrounds. FIDE was founded by chess organizations from eight countries.**

11. Recently, where was the centre of excellence on "Classical and Quantum Communications for 6G" inaugurated?

- A. Kolkata
- B. Chennai
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Bhopal



- ✓ Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Secretary (Telecom), inaugurated the Centre of Excellence on "Classical and Quantum Communications for 6G" at IITM Research Park, Chennai. This Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCoE)-India sub-centre aims to advance 6G technology with unprecedented speeds, ultra-low latency, and enhanced connectivity. It will unite academic and industry experts to innovate and shape global 6G standards and infrastructure. A workshop will foster collaboration on 6G R&D proposals.

12. What is the theme of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024?

- A. The Future is Now
- B. New Digital Universe
- C. Inclusive Innovations
- D. IMAGINE: A new CONNECTED world Intelligent



- ✓ Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia unveiled the theme for India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024, "The Future is Now," highlighting India's leadership in 6G technology and telecommunications. The event will showcase innovative solutions, host over 500 meetings with 1,000+ investors, and include MoUs to enhance cybersecurity.

13. What is 'Sagittarius A\*?'

- A. Asteroid
- B. Black hole
- C. AI Model
- D. Invasive weed



- ✓ Scientists have discovered an intermediate-mass black hole at the center of a star cluster in the Milky Way, near the supermassive black hole Sagittarius A\* (Sgr A\*). Sgr A\* is located at the galaxy's center, in the constellation Sagittarius, with an estimated mass of 4.3 million times that of the sun. It has a diameter of 14.6 million miles (23.5 million km) and is a strong radio wave source.

14. Which state government recently launched the Rajiv Gandhi Civil Abhaya Hastham Scheme?

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



- ✓ **Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has launched the Rajiv Gandhi Civil Abhaya Hastham Scheme 2024. This scheme provides Rs 1 lakh financial assistance to economically weaker students (EWS/BC/SC/ST) who have passed the UPSC preliminary exam to help them prepare for the mains. The scheme aims to increase the number of civil employees in the state.**

15. Recently, which institute has received the best technology award for its pioneering work in the field of horticultural sciences?

- A. Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture
- B. Indian Institute of Spices Research
- C. Indian Institute of Horticultural Research
- D. Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology



- ✓ **The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) received the best technology award for its work in horticultural sciences. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan presented the award during ICAR's 96th Foundation Day. IISR's award-winning technology, "Process for instant soluble turmeric enriched spice flavoured milk powder," has been commercialized with Malabar Milk Producers' Union, resulting in products Golden Milk and Golden Milk Mix.**

16. Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme is a WTO- compliant scheme of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Commerce
- D. Ministry of Finance



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

- ✓ **The tea industry seeks higher rates under the RoDTEP scheme to boost export competitiveness. RoDTEP, a flagship export promotion scheme by India's Commerce Ministry, refunds unrebated central, state, and local duties on inputs.**
- ✓ **Announced in September 2019, it replaced the MEIS scheme following a WTO ruling. Effective January 1, 2021, RoDTEP supports crucial export sectors to enhance competitiveness, create jobs, and promote economic growth, aiming for Aatmanirbhar Bharat.**

17. Recently, which former Indian players were inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, USA?

- A. Vijay Amritraj and Leander Paes
- B. Ajay Ramaswami and Rohit Rajpal
- C. Mahesh Bhupathi and Rohan Bopanna
- D. Karan Rastogi and Jay Royappa



- ✓ Indian tennis legends Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj became the first Indian and Asian men's tennis players inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame, making India the 28th country represented. British sports journalist Richard Evans was also inducted. Paes was honored in the Player Category, while Amritraj and Evans were recognized in the Contributor Category. The Hall of Fame now includes 267 tennis legends from 28 nations.

18. Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES) is a planetary defence mission of which space agency?

- A. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- B. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- C. European Space Agency (ESA)
- D. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)



- ✓ The European Space Agency's Ramses spacecraft will accompany the asteroid Apophis during its close pass of Earth in 2029. The Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES) aims to intercept Apophis, which will pass within 32,000 km of Earth on April 13, 2029. Visible to 2 billion people, this rare event allows researchers to study Apophis's altered characteristics due to Earth's gravity, enhancing planetary defense capabilities.

19. Which Indian tennis player, in partnership with Albano Olivetti of France, has won the men's doubles title at the ATP Swiss Open 2024?

- A. Sumit Nagal
- B. Yuki Bhambri
- C. Somdev Devvarman
- D. Digvijay Pratap



- ✓ Indian tennis player Yuki Bhambri, with Albano Olivetti of France, won the 2024 Swiss Open Gstaad Men's Doubles title, held from July 15-21 in Gstaad, Switzerland. This ATP 250 event marked the 56th edition of the tournament. This victory is Bhambri's third ATP title. The pair defeated Fabrice Martin and Ugo Humbert in the final. Bhambri previously won titles at the 2023 Mallorca Open and 2024 BMW Open.

20. What is the primary purpose of a Radome?

- A. Enhance the Signal strength
- B. Shield a radar or antenna system from environmental elements
- C. Increase the antenna's size
- D. Decrease the antenna's power consumption



- ✓ **The Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL) has achieved a significant milestone by developing homegrown fused silica radomes for missiles. Radomes are protective enclosures that shield radar or antenna systems from environmental elements without affecting signal transmission. Made from rigid or flexible materials, radomes maintain antenna performance by reducing environmental impact, concealing electronic equipment, and preventing collisions with nearby objects. They ensure the antenna's durability and efficiency.**

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21. What is 'Mesembrius bengalensis'?

- A. Spider
- B. Frog
- C. Fish
- D. Flower fly



- ✓ **Researchers from the Shadpada Entomology Research Lab (SERL) at Christ College, Irinjalakuda, reported two new flower fly species, Mesembrius bengalensis and M. quadrivittatus, from Kerala's Kole wetlands and Vilagan Kunnu hillocks. Flower flies, belonging to the Syrphidae family, mimic bees or wasps and are crucial pollinators. The Kole wetlands, Kerala's largest brackish tropical ecosystem, lie between the Chalakudy and Bharathapuzha Rivers.**

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22. Which day is observed as 'National Flag Day' every year?

- A. July.22
- B. July.26
- C. January.26
- D. January.22



- ✓ **National Flag Day, observed on July 22, commemorates the 1947 adoption of India's tricolour flag by the Constituent Assembly, shortly before independence on August 15. This day celebrates India's historical achievement, diversity, and unity. It promotes understanding of the flag's significance through educational workshops, talks, and exhibitions, emphasizing values of democracy, inclusivity, and national pride.**

23. Manolo Marquez, who has been appointed as head coach of the Indian men's football team, belongs to which country?

- A. Australia
- B. Spain
- C. France
- D. Romania



- ✓ **Spaniard Manolo Marquez has been appointed head coach of the Indian men's football team, while also continuing his role with FC Goa in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 season. Marquez will assume the national team head coach role full-time after the ISL season. AIFF President Kalyan Chaubey announced the appointment.**

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24. Recently, which two countries are planning to establish a Joint Crediting Mechanism for carbon trading and credit adjustment through a Memorandum of Cooperation?

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



- ✓ **India and Japan are planning to establish a Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) for carbon trading and credit adjustment through a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC). The JCM will be created under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement and will aim to reduce emissions, promote low-carbon technologies, and encourage economic growth. The JCM will also facilitate the sharing of emission reduction credits, the spread of decarbonizing technologies, and the implementation of mitigation actions.**

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## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

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