

1. According to the Union Budget 2024-25, how much financial allocation has the Ministry of Railways received for the fiscal year 2024-25?

- A. Rs 1.78 lakh crore
- B. Rs 2.55 lakh crore
- C. Rs 4.34 lakh crore
- D. Rs 3.78 lakh crore



रेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
RAILWAYS

- ✓ For the fiscal year 2024-25, the Union Budget allocated a record ₹2.55 lakh crore to the Ministry of Railways, marking a 5.85% increase from the previous year's ₹2.41 lakh crore. Despite this significant funding boost, the Economic Survey 2023-24 highlights limited progress on key safety initiatives, including the deployment of the automatic train protection system Kavach and the overhaul of signaling systems at railway stations.

2. According to Union Budget 2024-25, how much funding has been allocated for the 'Khelo India' initiative?

- A. Rs 600 crore
- B. Rs 800 crore
- C. Rs 900 crore
- D. Rs 400 crore



- ✓ In the Union Budget 2024-25, the Khelo India initiative received ₹900 crore, a ₹20 crore increase from the previous year's allocation of ₹880 crore. Khelo India, focused on grassroots sports development, continues to be a top priority for the government. Launched in 2018, it has expanded to include Khelo India University Games, Winter Games, and Para Games. Numerous State Centres of Excellence have been established to support young athletes.

3. What is the rank of India in 'Henley Passport Index 2024'?

- A. 25th
- B. 52nd
- C. 82nd
- D. 28th



- ✓ The Henley Passport Index 2024 ranks the Indian passport 82nd, providing visa-free access to 58 countries, including Indonesia, Maldives, and Thailand. Singapore tops the index with visa-free entry to 195 countries, while France, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Japan are second with 192 destinations. Austria, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, South Korea, and Sweden share third place (191 countries), and the UK, New Zealand, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, and Switzerland are fourth (190 countries).

4. What is 'Tax Incidence'?

- A. The process of setting tax rates
- B. The division of tax burden between stakeholders
- C. The methods of collecting taxes
- D. The history of tax legislation



- ✓ **The Union government has stated that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) has reduced the tax burden on common people. Tax incidence refers to how a tax burden is divided between stakeholders such as buyers and sellers. There are two forms: statutory incidence, which determines who is legally responsible for paying the tax, and economic incidence, which reflects the final burden on economic welfare.**

5. Which day is observed as 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' in India?

- A. 25 July
- B. 26 July
- C. 27 July
- D. 28 July



- ✓ **Kargil Vijay Diwas, observed on 26 July, commemorates the Indian Army's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 Kargil Conflict. On its 25th anniversary, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits the Drass sector in Ladakh to honor the martyrs at the Kargil War Memorial. The Kargil War, fought from May 8 to July 26, 1999, saw Pakistani forces disguised as mujahideen infiltrating Indian posts. India's Operation Vijay successfully evicted them.**

6. Which country hosts 21st edition of the multinational joint military exercise Khaan Quest 2024?

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



- ✓ **Indian Army has participated in the 21st KHAAN QUEST multinational military exercise in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 27 July to 9 August 2024. Co-sponsored by the US Indo-Pacific Command and hosted by the Mongolian Armed Forces, KHAAN QUEST promotes regional peace and security. Initially a US-Mongolia bilateral exercise in 2003, it became multilateral in 2008. The exercise focuses on peacekeeping operations, enhancing skills for future UN peacekeeping missions.**

7. Recently, where was the country's 500th Community Radio Station inaugurated?

- A. Shillong B. Aizawl
- C. Kohima D. Gangtok



- ✓ On 25 July 2024, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnaw, announced the winners of the 10th National Community Radio Award and inaugurated India's 500th Community Radio Station at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Aizawl, Mizoram.
- ✓ Named Apna Radio 90.0 FM, it will provide weather updates, government schemes, and agriculture information. Community Radios, unlike public and commercial radio, are low-power stations operated by local communities in local languages, focusing on issues like nutrition and health. They can be set up by educational institutions, community-based organizations, registered societies, and trusts.

8. Recently, which shipyard has launched the first indigenously-built Talwar class frigate, 'Triput'?

- A. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)
- B. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)
- C. Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- D. Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)



- ✓ Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) launched the first indigenously-built Talwar class frigate, 'Triput.' Part of a 2016 India-Russia deal, Triput is among four Admiral Grigorovich class frigates, with two built in India via technology transfer. The Indian Navy already operates six of this class.
- ✓ INS Triput, 124m long and 15.5m wide, is powered by four gas turbines, reaching speeds of 28 knots with a 3200-ton displacement. It features stealth-enhancing hull design, advanced weapons and sensors, an Integrated Platform and Bridge Management System, and a robust air defense system with vertical launch long-range surface-to-air missiles.

9. What is the primary objective of the 'NPS Vatsalya Scheme'?

- A. To provide health insurance to tribal families
- B. To offer education loans to students for higher education
- C. To help parents and guardians plan for their children's future financial needs
- D. To plan for parents' retirement



- ✓ The finance minister announced NPS Vatsalya, a new scheme under the National Pension Scheme (NPS) to help parents and guardians plan for their children's future financial needs. Parents can open an account for their minor children, with funds accumulating until the child turns 18. Upon adulthood, the amount transfers to a standard NPS account and can be converted into a non-NPS plan.

10. What is the main purpose of the 'Skill Loan Scheme', recently mentioned in Union Budget 2024-25?

- A. To offer scholarships for higher education
- B. To provide institutional credit for skill development courses
- C. To fund start-up business
- D. To support home loans for skilled workers



- ✓ **The finance minister announced a revision to the model Skill Loan Scheme, now facilitating loans up to Rs 7.5 lakh, backed by a government-promoted fund guarantee. Introduced in July 2015, the scheme offers institutional credit for skill development courses aligned with National Occupations Standards and Qualification Packs, conducted by NSQF-compliant training institutes. It applies to all Indian Banks' Association (IBA) member banks and RBI-advised financial institutions.**

11. How much funding has been allocated for the IndiaAI Mission for 2024-25 by the Ministry of Electronics and IT?

- A. Rs 551 crore
- B. Rs 558 crore
- C. Rs 547 crore
- D. Rs 548 crore



- ✓ **In the Union Budget 2024, the Ministry of Electronics and IT received ₹551 crore for the IndiaAI Mission for 2024-25. Launched by the Government of India, the IndiaAI Mission focuses on leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) to boost economic growth, enhance governance, and improve citizens' quality of life. The mission aims to establish India as a global leader in AI innovation and adoption by developing advanced AI infrastructure, promoting AI applications, and supporting AI education and startups.**

12. Recently, where was the 14th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting (EAS FMM) held?

- A. Beijing, China
- B. Vientiane, Lao PDR
- C. New Delhi, India
- D. Jakarta, Indonesia



- ✓ **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference with India in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on July 26, 2024. His three-day visit from July 25-27 included participation in ASEAN-India, East Asia Summit (EAS), and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) meetings. The Lao PDR, as ASEAN chairman, hosted these events. Saleumxay Kommasith, Lao PDR's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, also attended. The conference saw foreign ministers from the 10 ASEAN member states.**

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