

1. Which institution recently approved a \$200 million loan to improve solid waste management in India?

- A. International Monetary Fund
- B. Asian Development Bank
- C. World Bank
- D. World Economic Forum



- ✓ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$200 million loan to improve solid waste management and sanitation in 100 Indian cities under the Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0. This funding will be used for building waste processing facilities and community sanitation projects. The agreement, signed by Juhi Mukherjee and Mio Oka, aims to strengthen urban waste management systems and advance India's environmental and public health goals.

2. What is the rank of India in the Global Agriculture Export?

- A. 6th
- B. 8th
- C. 10th
- D. 12th



- ✓ India remained the eighth-largest exporter of agricultural products in 2023, despite exports dropping from \$55 billion in 2022 to \$51 billion. This occurred amid a general decline in agricultural exports among most top ten exporting nations. The WTO Trade Statistics 2023 report shows that only Brazil, the European Union (EU), and Thailand saw growth. Brazil's exports increased by 6% to \$157 billion, the EU's rose by 5% to \$836 billion, and Thailand's grew by 0.2%.

3. Recently, India hosted "14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue" in which city?

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



- ✓ India hosted the 14th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue in New Delhi on August 1, 2024. The meeting aimed to strengthen bilateral defence ties and coincided with Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh's visit. It was co-chaired by Indian Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Vietnam's Deputy Minister of National Defence, Hoang Xuan Chien. Both sides reviewed cooperation areas and signed a Letter of Intent to enhance training exchanges.

4. Which institution recently published a report titled "Strategy for the development of Seaweed Value Chain"?

- A. World Bank
- B. NABARD
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. RBI



- ✓ NITI Aayog's report, "Strategy for the development of Seaweed Value Chain," highlights the importance of seaweeds, marine plants thriving in water bodies, cultivated in aquaculture. The fishing and aquaculture sector contributes 1.5% to India's GDP. Seaweed farming has economic significance for bioactive compounds in food and pharmaceuticals, environmental benefits in carbon sequestration and climate resilience, and nutritional value with essential minerals and vitamins.

5. Which two Indians have been selected for Axiom-4 mission?

- A. Shubhanshu Shukla and Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair
- B. Mehar Singh and Deepak Chandra
- C. Pradeep Kumar Yadav and Krishna Kumar
- D. Surya Kant and Vikram Singh



- ✓ India selected Group Captains Shubhanshu Shukla and Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair for the Axiom-4 mission. They will train in the U.S., and their experience will benefit India's human space program. Axiom-4 is the fourth private astronaut mission by NASA and Axiom Space, expected to dock with the ISS for fourteen days. SpaceX is the launch provider for this mission.

6. Chaliyar River originates from which hills?

- A. Elambaleri Hills
- B. Nellyampathy Hills
- C. Kalrayan Hills
- D. Coonoor Hills



- ✓ Heavy rainfall in Kerala's Wayanad region triggered landslides and rescue operations along the 169 km Chaliyar River. Originating from the Elambalari Hills in Tamil Nadu, the river passes through Malappuram and Kozhikode districts and drains into the Arabian Sea at Beypore port. Historically vital for timber transport and known for goldfields, the river has faced significant pollution from a pulp factory at Mavoov.

7. Which two countries have been banned from participating in the Paris Olympics 2024?

- A. Russia and Belarus
- B. Romania and Bulgaria
- C. Germany and France
- D. Austria and Cyprus



- ✓ **Athletes from Russia and Belarus are banned from competing under their national flags at the Paris Olympics. Instead, they compete as Athlètes Individuels Neutres (AIN), or Individual Neutral Athletes. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) imposed this ban after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022.**

8. Shompen tribes belongs to which region of India?

- A. Daman & Diu
- B. Andaman and Nicobar
- C. Ladakh
- D. Lakshadweep



- ✓ **The Central government's Rs 72,000 crore Great Nicobar Island (GNI) project plans to build an airport, an international container terminal, and a township. However, it faces legal challenges from the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Calcutta High Court due to inadequate impact assessments on Shompen and Nicobarese tribes and improper permissions. The Shompens are hunter-gatherers, and the project could affect the Nicobarese people's ancestral lands.**

9. What is the main objective of the Women Entrepreneurship Programme launched by National Skill Development Corporation?

- A. To provide free medical services
- B. To empower 25 lakh women to start and grow businesses
- C. To offer free education for children
- D. To improve agricultural practices



- ✓ **The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) launched the Women Entrepreneurship Programme to empower 25 lakh women in India. The program, in two phases, offers free online entrepreneurship courses through Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH), supported by NIESBUD. In the second phase, NSDC will provide incubation support to 10,000 selected contestants across 100 business models.**

10. Which ministry recently launched "Version 4.0 of Price Monitoring System (PMS) Mobile app"?

- A. Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ **The Union Minister of Consumer Affairs launched Version 4.0 of the Price Monitoring System (PMS) Mobile app, developed to enhance price data quality for 38 essential commodities, up from 22. The app, initially launched in 2021, receives daily retail and wholesale prices from 550 centers. This data aids government and analysts in policy decisions regarding CPI inflation, covering items like rice, wheat, oils, milk, and newly added produce like brinjal and banana.**

11. Maritime Partnership Exercise was conducted between which two countries?

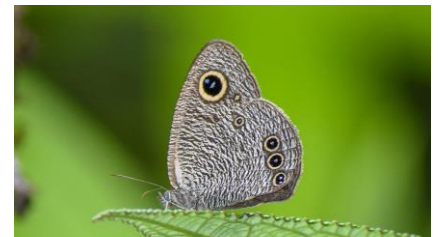
- A. China and India
- B. Russia and India
- C. India and Egypt
- D. India and Australia



- ✓ **India and Russia conducted a maritime partnership exercise (MPX) in St Petersburg on the 328th Russian Navy Day. The exercise featured India's INS Tabar and Russia's Soobrazitelny, showcasing naval maneuvers like communication drills, search and rescue tactics, and replenishment at sea. This MPX reinforced strong bilateral naval ties, highlighting both nations' commitment to regional peace, stability, and security.**

12. Four-ringed butterfly was discovered in which national park?

- A. Indira Gandhi National Park
- B. Namdapha National Park
- C. Tadoba National Park
- D. Guindy National Park



- ✓ **A four-ringed butterfly, the great four-ring (Ypthima cantliei), was rediscovered in Namdapha National Park after 61 years. Last seen in Assam in 1957, it was photographed during a 2018-19 survey. Identified by its morphology and habitat, this butterfly belongs to the Nymphalidae family, which has 6,000 species.**

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