

1. Which department recently released a set of commemorative postage stamps to celebrate the Paris Olympics 2024?

- A. Department of Financial Services
- B. Department of Science and Technology
- C. Department of Posts
- D. Department of Telecommunications



- ✓ **The Department of Posts released commemorative stamps for the Paris Olympics. These limited-edition stamps celebrate significant events, personalities, and issues. They are available at Philatelic Bureaux and through the Philatelic Deposit Account Scheme. Stamps can honor institutions on major anniversaries, personalities of national/international importance posthumously, and heritage sites. Proposals for stamps can be submitted by any Indian citizen, following specific guidelines by the Ministry of Communications.**

2. What is 'Methylocucumis oryzae'?

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



- ✓ **Researchers have isolated India's first indigenous methanotroph, Methylocucumis oryzae, from rice fields and wetlands in Western India. This cucumber-shaped bacterium, abundant in wetlands and rice fields, is important for methane consumption. It is larger than most bacteria and grows only below 37°C. Methylocucumis promotes rice plant growth by inducing early flowering and increasing grain yield, though its slow growth limits large-scale applications.**

3. 'PARIVESH Portal' is developed by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Power
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



- ✓ **The Centre's PARIVESH portal, developed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has crossed 50,000 clearances. PARIVESH, which stands for Pro Active and Responsive Facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous Environmental Single-window Hub, is a single-window portal for obtaining and monitoring Environment, Forest, Wildlife, and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearances across the nation.**

4. Recently, which statutory body has inaugurated the Digital Shakti Center to combat cyber crimes against women?

- A. National Commission for Women
- B. National Commission for Minorities
- C. National Human Rights Commission
- D. National Green Tribunal



- ✓ **The National Commission for Women (NCW) inaugurated the Digital Shakti Center in New Delhi to combat cyber crimes against women. This facility aims to raise awareness and provide technical support for addressing complaints. Building on the successful Digital Shakti campaign launched in 2018, the center will help women protect themselves from cyber crimes like identity theft and cyberstalking.**

5. What are Horticulture Clusters?

- A. Areas where different crops are rotated annually
- B. Geographical areas where specific crops are cultivated, processed, and marketed
- C. Regions dedicated to livestock farming
- D. Urban gardens in metropolitan areas



- ✓ **The Union Agriculture Minister announced an ₹18,000 crore plan to establish 100 export-oriented horticulture clusters over five years. Horticulture clusters are areas where specific crops are grown, processed, and marketed. This investment aims to improve quality and competitiveness of crops like apples and mangoes. By focusing on export standards, these clusters will help boost India's global share in horticulture and increase farm income.**

6. What is the main purpose of the Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)?

- A. To estimate temperature variations
- B. To estimate wet or dry conditions based on precipitation data
- C. To measure soil moisture
- D. To analyze wind patterns



- ✓ **The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has analyzed precipitation and drought trends using the Standardised Precipitation Index (SPI). The SPI estimates wet or dry conditions based on long-term precipitation data, ideally over 30 years. It provides negative values for droughts and positive values for wet conditions. The index includes various timescales ranging from 1 to 72 months to assess the severity of conditions.**

7. Which day is observed as 'Hiroshima Day' every year?

- A. 5 August
- B. 6 August
- C. 7 August
- D. 8 August



- ✓ **Hiroshima Day, observed on August 6th, commemorates the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, by the US on August 6, 1945. The bomb, "Little Boy," dropped from the B-29 bomber Enola Gay, instantly killed 70,000-80,000 people. A second bomb on Nagasaki on August 9 led to Japan's surrender on August 15, 1945, ending World War II and marking the first use of nuclear weapons in warfare.**

8. Thalishwarar Temple is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ **The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has started copying stone inscriptions at the Thalishwarar temple in Tamil Nadu using the estampage method. This involves cleaning the stones, transferring the engravings to maplitho paper, inking it, and recording details. The replicated inscriptions, including those in ancient Tamil scripts from the 9th and 12th centuries, offer insights into historical lifestyles and the temple's construction by a Chera ruler.**

9. Recently, who has been conferred with Fiji's highest civilian award 'Companion of the Order of Fiji'?

- A. Droupadi Murmu
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. S Jaishankar
- D. Amit Shah



- ✓ **During her first official visit to Fiji from August 5 to 7, 2024, President Droupadi Murmu was honored with Fiji's highest civilian award, the Companion of the Order of Fiji. She is the first Indian President to visit Fiji, where she met with Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka and President Ratu William Maivalili Katonivere. The Fiji government also allocated land for a 100-bed Super Speciality Hospital, supported by India.**

10. What is 'Sucralose'?

- A. A type of salt
- B. A no-calorie sweetener
- C. A natural fruit
- D. A type of fat



- ✓ **Sucralose, a no-calorie artificial sweetener made from table sugar (sucrose), has been found to have no adverse impact on glucose or HbA1c levels and may even improve body mass index (BMI). It's approximately 600 times sweeter than sugar and exceptionally stable. Most consumed sucralose (85%) passes through the body unchanged while the remaining 15% absorbed sucralose gets excreted quickly in urine without providing any calories.**

11. Malwa canal project is associated with which state?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Punjab
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ **The proposed Malwa canal project in Punjab aims to irrigate 2 lakh acres of land across seven districts. The 149.53-km canal will originate at Harike Headworks on the Sutlej river and carry 2,000 cusecs of water. The project is expected to take five years to complete but faces concerns over technical viability and funding. The canal's construction will require significant investment amidst Punjab's current funds crunch.**

12. Vinesh Phogat, who recently disqualified from Paris Olympics 2024, is associated with which sports?

- A. Boxing
- B. Badminton
- C. Wrestling
- D. Table Tennis



- ✓ **Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat has been disqualified from competing in women's freestyle wrestling finals at Paris Olympics due to being overweight by just 100 grams exceeding limit set by wrestling rules governing weight categories. She had reached finals after defeating wrestlers including Tokyo Olympic gold medalist Yui Susaki & European champion Oksana Livach.**

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