

1. National Coal Index (NCI) is introduced by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
- B. Ministry of Coal
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ **The National Coal Index (NCI) declined by 3.48% in June 2024, showing ample coal availability to meet demand. NCI, introduced by the Ministry of Coal, tracks coal prices to determine revenue share in commercial auctions. It considers coking and non-coking coal prices from various sales channels, including imports, relative to the base year 2017-18.**
- ✓ **The NCI reflects market dynamics and price fluctuations. The recent decline indicates a balanced market, aligning supply and demand.**

2. What is 'Glyptobasis dentifera'?

- A. Frog
- B. Owlfly
- C. Spider
- D. Snake



- ✓ **Researchers rediscovered the rare owlfly species Glyptobasis dentifera in Kerala after 75 years. Owlflies belong to Order Neuroptera and are often mistaken for dragonflies due to similar appearance. Owlflies are aerial predators and can release a musk-like chemical when threatened. Their larvae typically live in soil or trees in clusters for defense.**

3. Which department recently introduced a centralized pension processing software 'Bhavishya'?

- A. Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare
- B. Department of Economic Affairs
- C. Department of Atomic Energy
- D. Department of Labor



- ✓ **The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOPPW) introduced a centralized pension processing software called 'Bhavishya' for all central government Ministries/Departments. 'Bhavishya' is an online Pension Sanction & Payment Tracking System to address delays, clerical errors, and financial loss in pension processing. The software starts the pension process 15 months before retirement and uses a single form for the pensioner. It also integrates with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for seamless electronic pension payments.**

4. Arogya Maitri cube is associated with which initiative?

- A. Mission Indradhanush
- B. Project BHISHM
- C. National Health Mission
- D. Janani Suraksha Yojana



- ✓ **The Indian Army and Air Force conducted the first paradrop of the Arogya Maitri Health Cube at 15,000 feet elevation. Arogya Maitri Health Cube is the world's first portable hospital, designed indigenously under Project BHISHM. It includes medical equipment like a mini-ICU, operation theatre, cooking station, food, water, power generator, blood test equipment, and an X-ray machine. This innovative hospital can provide essential healthcare in remote and high-altitude areas.**

5. Eri Silk is a Geographical Indication (GI) tagged product from which Northeastern state?

- A. Nagaland
- B. Assam
- C. Mizoram
- D. Manipur



- ✓ **The North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC) obtained the Oeko-Tex certification for its Eri Silk. Eri Silk is the world's only vegan silk, as the moth naturally exits the cocoon without being killed. This silk is produced mainly in the northeastern states of India, especially Assam, and is a Geographical Indication (GI) tagged product. The Oeko-Tex certification ensures that Eri Silk is free from harmful substances and produced in eco-friendly conditions. This certification enhances Eri Silk's global export potential and emphasizes its sustainability and regional importance.**

6. MUDA scam is associated with which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Kerala



- ✓ **MUDA is being investigated for possible unfair practices in compensating for acquired private land. Allegations surfaced that Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah's wife, Parvathi, received 14 plots in a prime area, raising legal and fairness concerns. MUDA, established in 1904, manages urban planning in Mysuru and has faced legal issues due to incomplete land acquisitions.**

7. Recently, the Maharashtra government launched the first 'Solar Village' in which district?

- A. Wardha
- B. Satara
- C. Amravati
- D. Konkan



- ✓ Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde inaugurated the state's first 'Solar Village' in Manyachiwadi, Satara district. The state government aims to promote renewable energy and reduce reliance on traditional power sources. The PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana has helped reduce electricity bills, while a 90-95% subsidy is provided for solar pump sets under the Mukhyamantri Saur Krushi Pump Yojana. Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis announced that 12,000 MW of solar power will be generated in the next 1.5 years, ensuring free daytime electricity for farmers.

8. Recently, which institute developed a 'Cyanide sensor' to enhance safety of water and food products?

- A. Banaras Hindu University
- B. Kerala University
- C. IIT Madras
- D. IIT Bombay



- ✓ A research team at Central University of Kerala, led by Dr Ravi Kumar Kanaparthi, developed an advanced cyanide sensor to improve safety in drinking water and food. Cyanide is a dangerous toxin found in certain plants and foods like cassava, almonds, and apple seeds, and the WHO recommends keeping its concentration below 0.19 mg/L in drinking water.
- ✓ Recent cyanide poisoning incidents, like the death of 13 cows in Idukki, highlight the need for effective detection. The sensor changes color from yellow to colorless or bluish-green in the presence of cyanide, allowing for easy and accurate detection.

9. Recently, the Defence Minister inaugurated the new Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in which city?

- A. Porbandar
- B. Chennai
- C. Visakhapatnam
- D. Kannur



- ✓ Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the new Indian Coast Guard Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. He also virtually launched the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre in Chennai and the Coast Guard Air Enclave in Puducherry.

- ✓ The MRCC aims to enhance the coordination and effectiveness of maritime rescue operations, focusing on mariners and fishermen in distress. The Centre is equipped with advanced distress monitoring systems and real-time communication tools.

10. Which organization recently launched Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI)?

- A. United Nations
- B. SAARC
- C. World Bank
- D. NATO

HIGH LEVEL PANEL  
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A  
MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
VULNERABILITY INDEX



- ✓ The UN General Assembly recently launched the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) to help small island states and developing countries access low-interest financing. The MVI is a new international benchmark for measuring vulnerability and resilience in sustainable development at the national level.
- ✓ It complements traditional metrics like GDP by addressing the specific needs of countries with unique vulnerabilities that don't qualify for low-interest financing based solely on GDP per capita. The UN is working with small island developing states to develop and implement the MVI.

11. Hakki Pikki Tribe is a major tribal community of which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Odisha
- D. Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The Hakki Pikki tribe has become successful in the hair oil industry. Traditionally, they were semi-nomadic bird catchers and hunters. They live mainly in Karnataka's Shivamogga, Davanagere, and Mysuru districts, having migrated from Northern India. The tribe is recognized as a Scheduled Tribe in India. They speak 'Vaagri,' an Indo-Aryan language, at home, but use Kannada for business.

12. Which organization has recently initiated a project to evaluate microplastic contamination in food products?

- A. FSSAI
- B. FAO
- C. FCI
- D. SIDBI



- ✓ The FSSAI has launched a project to tackle microplastic contamination in food. The project aims to develop and validate methods for detecting micro and nano-plastics in food, assess contamination levels, set analysis standards, and ensure consistent laboratory results.
- ✓ It involves collaboration with CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, and Birla Institute of Technology and Science.

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