

1. How many teachers were selected for the National Awards to Teachers (NAT) 2024 from Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Polytechnics?

- A. 14
B. 15
C. 16
D. 18

16

- ✓ The Department of Higher Education selected 16 teachers from higher education institutions and polytechnics for the National Awards to Teachers (NAT) 2024. The National Teachers' Award celebrates the outstanding contributions of the best teachers in India. It recognizes teachers who have significantly improved the quality of education and positively impacted their students' lives.

2. Recently, which ministry has initiated the Voluntary Vehicle Modernization Program or Vehicle Scrapping Policy?

- A. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
B. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
C. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
D. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



सड़क परिवहन
एवं राजमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS

- ✓ The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched the Voluntary Vehicle Modernization Program, also known as the Vehicle Scrapping Policy. The policy focuses on the voluntary scrapping of commercial and passenger vehicles that are deemed unfit based on their condition, regardless of their age. It aims to phase out polluting vehicles through Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities and Automated Testing Stations.

3. Kuno National Park, recently seen in the news due to death of Namibian Cheetah, is located in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
B. Gujarat
C. Kerala
D. Bihar



- ✓ Namibian cheetah Pawan was found dead in Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh. Pawan was the only free-ranging cheetah to have survived in Kuno. After Pawan's death, Kuno National Park now has 24 cheetahs.
- ✓ Project Cheetah, started in 2022, aims to reintroduce the cheetah, which was extinct in India. The cheetahs were brought from South Africa and Namibia. The project also focuses on conserving prey species and protecting other endangered species in grasslands and open forests.

4. Recently, which space organization has designed the skull of the female half humanoid, Vyomitra?

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



- ✓ ISRO has designed the skull for Vyomitra, a female half-humanoid set to be part of the Gaganyaan mission in 2025. The uncrewed Gaganyaan mission will send Vyomitra into space and returning it back to the earth safely. Humanoids are robotic systems resembling humans, used in space to perform tasks like cleaning solar panels or fixing equipment. Vyomitra's skull is made of a flexible, lightweight aluminum alloy, weighing 800 grams and measuring 200mm x 220mm.

5. What is the primary objective of the Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF)?

- A. To provide subsidies for agricultural machinery
- B. To strengthen post-harvest infrastructure
- C. To promote organic farming
- D. To support agricultural research and development



- ✓ The Union Cabinet recently expanded the Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF). It was launched in 2020. AIF aims to strengthen post-harvest infrastructure, crucial for the agricultural supply chain. The fund focuses on developing facilities that improve productivity, sustainability, and efficiency in agriculture.

6. Recently, which country won the 'SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) U-20 Championship football tournament'?

- A. Nepal
- B. India
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Bhutan



- ✓ Bangladesh won the SAFF U-20 Championship, beating Nepal 4-1 in the final at the ANFA ground in Lalitpur. This is Bangladesh's first title in the tournament. The competition, which began on August 18, 2024, also featured Sri Lanka, India, the Maldives, and Bhutan.
- ✓ India had previously won the SAFF U-20 Championship in 2019, 2022, and 2023. The SAFF U-20 Championship, organized by the South Asian Football Federation, started in August 2015 in Nepal and is held biennially for male players under 20.

7. How much financial assistance has been sanctioned by the Union Cabinet for the development of hydroelectric projects in the North Eastern Region?

- A. Rs 2,500 crore
- B. Rs 3,000 crore
- C. Rs 4,136 crore
- D. Rs 5,000 crore



- ✓ **The Union Cabinet approved ₹4,136 crore to help northeastern states develop hydropower projects totaling 15,000 MW over the next eight years. The funding will cover up to 24% equity in joint ventures, with the scheme running from FY25 to FY32 under the power ministry's budget. The scheme supports equity participation by state governments in hydropower projects through joint ventures with central public sector undertakings.**

8. Which ministry recently launched the "Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training" (RESET) Programme?

- A. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



युवा कार्यक्रम
एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS

- ✓ **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports launched the "Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training" (RESET) Programme on National Sports Day in New Delhi. The RESET Programme aims to empower retired athletes who have brought glory to the country. It supports retired athletes by providing them with knowledge and skills for career development, making them more employable.**
- ✓ **The programme will connect generations, allowing retired athletes to mentor and inspire young aspiring athletes. Their experience will help in developing future champions and boosting sports in India. Applications will be invited through a dedicated portal, with programs based on educational levels of Class 12th and above, and Class 11th and below.**

9. The term "Doubtful voter" or "D-voter" has been primarily used in which northeastern state?

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



- ✓ **Assam has identified around 1.2 lakh people as 'D' (Dubious or Doubtful) voters, with 41,583 declared as foreigners. The D-Voter concept is specific to Assam, where migration and citizenship are major political issues. It was introduced in Assam in 1997. D-Voters are those who cannot prove their Indian nationality.**

- ✓ People with questionable or disputed citizenship were marked as D-Voters during the National Register of Citizens (NRC) preparation. The term 'Doubtful voter' is not defined in the Citizenship Act of 1955 or the Citizenship Rules of 2003.

10. What is the name of India's first pollution control vessel recently launched by Indian Coast Guard?

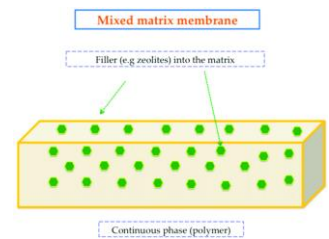
- A. Sagar Yantra
- B. Samudra Pratap
- C. Viksit Bharat
- D. Samudra Raksha



- ✓ The Indian Coast Guard launched its first indigenously developed Pollution Control Vessel (PCV), Samudra Pratap, in Goa. This vessel was built by Goa Shipyard Limited, marking a milestone in India's move towards self-reliance in defense production. Samudra Pratap is designed to combat oil spills and pollution along India's coastlines. The ship is 114.5 meters long, 16.5 meters wide, and has a displacement of 4,170 tons.

11. Which ministry has developed a new composite membrane called 'Mixed Matrix Membrane'?

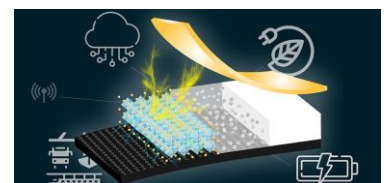
- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- C. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ Ministry of Science and Technology developed a composite membrane called the Mixed Matrix Membrane (MMM). MMMs are made from two or more materials and can detect ammonia or other amine leaks in industrial settings or labs.
- ✓ The MMM changes color when exposed to amine vapors, making it easier to detect leaks. Ammonia and other aliphatic amines are often used as raw materials or intermediate products in the food, chemical, and fertilizer industries. The MMM was developed by a research team at the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST), Mohali, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology.

12. Recently, which institutions collaborated on developing the security alert system based on piezoelectric polymer nanocomposites?

- A. Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences and National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL)
- B. NIT, Guwahati and IIT, Kanpur
- C. IISc and IIT, Delhi
- D. None of the above



- ✓ Researchers from Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), an autonomous institute of Department of Science and Technology, in collaboration with scientists from National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune have developed a security alert system based on piezoelectric polymer nanocomposite. This development was based on the finding that metal oxide nano materials with appropriate crystal structure and surface properties when used as fillers in a polymer composite lead to a significant enhancement in the piezoelectric response.

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