

AUGUST - 2024



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# CURRENT AFFAIRS



### 1. Recently, where was the country's first sunken museum inaugurated?

- A. Red Fort
- B. Fatehpur Sikri
- C. Humayun Tomb
- D. Buland Darwaza



- ✓ On July 29, 2024, Delhi unveiled India's first sunken museum at the UNESCO World Heritage site, Humayun's Tomb. This innovative museum will offer a unique view of Mughal history and architecture by integrating advanced technology with historical displays. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has spearheaded the project in collaboration with various stakeholders, aiming to enhance the preservation and presentation of India's rich historical legacy.

### 2. Mongla Port is located in which country?

- A. Myanmar
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Maldives



- ✓ India has achieved a strategic milestone by securing operational rights to a terminal at Mongla port, Bangladesh's largest seaport. This development boosts India's maritime influence in the Indian Ocean and strengthens its border strategy against China's regional expansion. The deal, involving Indian Port Global Limited (IPGL), follows India's previous successes in managing overseas ports like Chabahar in Iran and Sittwe in Myanmar.

### 3. Carbon Credit Trading Scheme is an initiative of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Rural Development
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Defence



विद्युत मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
POWER

- ✓ The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare recently announced that the agriculture sector is now part of the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023. This scheme, initiated by the Ministry of Power, involves issuing carbon credit certificates by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) to entities that exceed their emission reduction targets.
- ✓ Entities failing to meet targets must buy these certificates. The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change sets emission intensity targets, while a National Steering Committee chaired by the Power Secretary oversees the scheme. This inclusion aims to enhance carbon management in agriculture.

4. Recently, which tiger reserve has installed a wind turbine to generate power for real-time monitoring camera and Wi-Fi connectivity within its forests?

- A. Periyar Tiger Reserve
- B. Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- C. Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve
- D. Namdapha Tiger Reserve



- ✓ **Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Thekkady, Kerala, has taken a significant step by installing a wind turbine to power real-time monitoring cameras and Wi-Fi in its forest. Located in the Western Ghats, PTR is named after the Periyar River and supports a diverse ecosystem, including tropical evergreen and moist deciduous forests.**
- ✓ **Its wildlife comprises elephants, tigers, wild pigs, and various primates such as the rare lion-tailed macaque. The reserve, home to tribal communities like the Mannans and Palians, also features key flora like teak and bamboos. The wind turbine aims to enhance conservation and connectivity in this critical habitat.**

5. Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) Mission was developed by which space agency?

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



- ✓ **The European Space Agency's Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) is aimed at exploring Jupiter and its moons Europa, Callisto, and Ganymede, seeks to investigate the potential for life and understand Jupiter's origins. JUICE will study Jupiter's magnetic, radiation, and plasma environments, and in about four years, it will enter orbit around Ganymede, marking the first probe to orbit a planetary moon other than Earth's.**

6. Which ministry has recently conferred National Metallurgist Awards to recognize outstanding contributions in the metallurgical field?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Mines
- C. Ministry of Steel
- D. Ministry of Earth Sciences



इस्पात मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
STEEL

- ✓ **The Ministry of Steel, Government of India, has awarded the National Metallurgist Awards, honoring contributions in metallurgy across various fields such as Operations, R&D, Waste Management, and Energy Conservation.**

- ✓ The awards are open to individuals from industry, research, and academia. They are presented in four categories: Lifetime Achievement Award, National Metallurgist Award, Young Metallurgist Award, and the Award for R&D in the Iron & Steel Sector. These awards recognize significant achievements and advancements in metallurgical science and practice.

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7. NIPUN Bharat Mission is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Power
- B. Ministry of Education
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Mines



- ✓ The National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) mission, launched by the Ministry of Education under NEP 2020, aims to enhance foundational literacy and numeracy among children aged 3 to 9 years. Implemented through a five-tier system at national, state, district, block, and school levels, this mission seeks to achieve universal FLN skills by 2026-27.
- ✓ It focuses on improving access to schooling, teacher training, development of learning resources, and tracking student progress. NIPUN Bharat is part of the Samagra Shiksha scheme, applying to all government, aided, and private schools.

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8. Recently, which Indian became the youngest para swimmer in the world to cross the English Channel?

- A. Niranjan Mukundan
- B. Rimo Saha
- C. Satyendra Singh
- D. Jiya Rai



- ✓ Sixteen-year-old Jiya Rai from Mumbai became the youngest and fastest para swimmer to cross the English Channel, swimming 34 kilometers in 17 hours and 25 minutes on July 28-29, 2024. Jiya, who has autism spectrum disorder and is the daughter of an Indian Navy personnel, also holds the record for crossing the Palk Strait. The English Channel separates England from France, first swum by Captain Matthew Webb in 1875.

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9. Recently, which Union Minister received the "Lifetime Achievement Award" for his contributions in diabetology?

- A. Annpurna Devi
- B. Jagat Prakash
- C. Jitendra Singh
- D. Nirantar Kumar Singh



- ✓ At an international medical meet, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh received the “Lifetime Achievement Award” for his contributions to diabetology, diabetes care, and research. He was also honored as the Lifetime Patron of RSSDI, India’s largest diabetologists’ association.

10. Mekedatu Project is associated with which state?

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



- ✓ The Karnataka Chief Minister is ready to discussing the Mekedatu project with Tamil Nadu. This multi-purpose project aims to build a balancing reservoir near Kanakapura in Karnataka, close to Tamil Nadu. The project involves constructing a dam at the confluence of the Cauvery and Arkavathi rivers, with a capacity of 66,000 TMC, supplying over 4 TMC of drinking water to Bengaluru. The estimated cost is around Rs 14,000 crores.

11. Which organization recently released the report titled “The State of the World’s Mangroves 2024”?

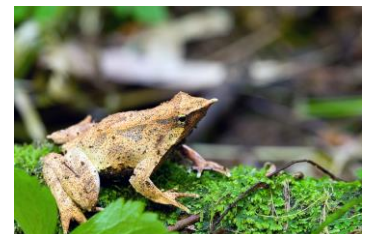
- A. Global Mangrove Alliance   
B. IUCN  
C. UNDP  
D. UNEP



- ✓ The "State of the World’s Mangroves 2024" report by the Global Mangrove Alliance highlights that Southeast Asia holds nearly one-third of global mangroves, with Indonesia having 21%. Half of the world’s mangroves are threatened, including those in Lakshadweep and Tamil Nadu. Key drivers of mangrove loss are climate change, industrial shrimp aquaculture in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, and conversion to oil palm plantations and rice cultivation.

12. Charles Darwin’s frog is endemic to which region of India?

- A. Ladakh  
B. Andaman Islands   
C. Western Ghats  
D. Eastern Ghats



- ✓ Researchers found that the Charles Darwin’s frog, native to the Andaman Islands, may be breeding in unnatural sites due to habitat loss and resource competition. This frog, part of the Dicroglossidae family, exhibits unique mating behavior, including males using complex calls and fighting rivals. The species is currently listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN.

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1. Which organization recently released the report on 'Currency and Finance 2023-24'?

- A. SEBI
- B. NABARD
- C. RBI
- D. FCI



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India's "Report on Currency and Finance 2023-24," themed "India's Digital Revolution," highlights the rapid growth of the digital economy. It now makes up 10% of India's GDP and is expected to reach 20% by 2026. Factors driving this growth include internet access, low data costs, and a large startup ecosystem. India leads in biometric ID (Aadhaar) and real-time payments, and has used Digital Public Infrastructure to significantly reduce poverty.

2. Which Indian naval ship recently participated in the Russian Navy Day celebrations in St. Petersburg?

- A. INS Karanj
- B. INS Tabar
- C. INS Vagir
- D. INS Gharial



- ✓ Russian President recently greeted Indian Navy personnel aboard INS Tabar during Russia's Navy Day celebrations. INS Tabar, a stealth frigate built in Russia, is the third ship of the Talwar class. Commissioned on April 19, 2004, in Kaliningrad, it can handle various naval missions independently or as part of a larger task force.

3. Which day is observed as 'World Day Against Trafficking in Persons' every year?

- A. July.28
- B. July.29
- C. July.30
- D. July.31



- ✓ World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, observed on July 30th, aims to raise awareness and protect the rights of human trafficking victims. The 2024 theme is "Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking." Established by the UN in 2010, the Global Plan of Action urges worldwide efforts against trafficking and includes setting up a UN Voluntary Trust Fund for victims.

4. What is 'HAMAS'?

- A. Militant Palestinian Group
- B. Russian Militant Group
- C. Secret Agency of China
- D. Security Force of Ukraine



- ✓ Hamas political head Ismail Haniyeh was killed in an Israeli airstrike in Tehran on 31 July 2024. He was attacked after attending the swearing-in of Iran's new president, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian. Hamas, a militant Palestinian group, aims to destroy Israel and establish an Islamic Palestinian state.

5. Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) recently?

- A. Suman Sharma  
B. Preeti Sudan   
C. Pradeep Kumar Joshi  
D. Rajiv Nayan



- ✓ On 31 July 2024, President Droupadi Murmu appointed Preeti Sudan, a 1983 batch IAS officer and former Union Health Secretary, as the new Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), succeeding Dr. Manoj Soni. Sudan, the second woman to hold this position, has played key roles in government programs like Ayushman Bharat and Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. The UPSC, established in 1950, is an independent constitutional body.

6. Which country hosts 'International Conference of Agricultural Economists'?

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



- ✓ India hosts the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of Agricultural Economists at the Pusa Institute, New Delhi, from 2 to 7 August 2024, after 66 years since it last hosted in 1958. The conference, held every three years, is organized by the International Association of Agricultural Economists in collaboration with various Indian and international agricultural and economic organizations.

7. Ashwini Ponnappa, who recently announced her retirement, is associated with which sports?

- A. Football  
B. Hockey  
C. Badminton   
D. Tennis



- ✓ Indian badminton star Ashwini Ponnappa emotionally retired from the Olympic stage after her early exit at the Paris 2024 Games. Partnering with Tanisha Crasto, they lost their final match to Australia's Setyana Mapasa and Angela Yu, ending their campaign with three consecutive losses. Ashwini, a three-time Olympian, is celebrated for her achievements with Jwala Gutta, including gold at the 2010 Commonwealth Games and bronze at the World Championships in 2011.



8. Zika Virus is transmitted by which mosquito?

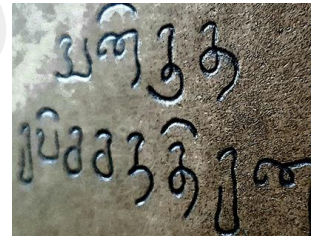
- A. Culex mosquito
- B. Aedes mosquito
- C. Anopheles mosquito
- D. Mansonia mosquito



- ✓ India's Health Minister announced a new action plan to manage Zika virus Disease. Zika is a mosquito-borne RNA virus discovered in Uganda in 1947 and first reported in humans in 1952. It mainly affects tropical and subtropical regions and spreads through bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. The plan aims to manage and control the virus's impact effectively.

9. What is 'Vattezhuthu'?

- A. Syllabic alphabet
- B. Northeastern festival
- C. Martial Art
- D. Classical dance



- ✓ Archaeologists recently found Vattezhuthu and eight Tamil inscriptions at the Thalikiwarar temple in Tirupur district, Tamil Nadu, dating back 1100 years. Vattezhuthu, a syllabic script used in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Sri Lanka, was used to write Tamil and Malayalam. It emerged around the 4th century AD from the Tamil-Brahmi script and evolved into the modern Malayalam script by the 15th century.

10. Where is the 500 MWe sodium-cooled Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) located?

- A. Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu
- B. Kochi, Kerala
- C. Jaipur, Rajasthan
- D. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has granted permission for the first criticality approach of India's 500 MWe sodium-cooled Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu. This is India's first indigenous PFBR, commissioned by Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI), a government company under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

11. Which country hosts the international air exercise 'Tarang Shakti 2024'?

- A. UK
- B. India
- C. Germany
- D. France



- ✓ India hosts 'Tarang Shakti,' largest international air exercise, in two phases: August in Tamil Nadu and September in Rajasthan. The event aims to strengthen strategic relations, inviting 51 countries with 30 participating. Phase one in Tamil Nadu features France, Germany, Spain, and the UK. Phase two in Rajasthan includes Australia, Bangladesh, Greece, Singapore, UAE, and the USA. This exercise enhances collaboration and operational skills.

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12. Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) Dam is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Heavy rainfall in the Cauvery basin has increased water release from the Krishna Raj Sagar (KRS) dam. Built across the River Cauvery at Kannambadi by the Wodeyar dynasty, it was named Krishnaraja Sagara in 1917 after King Krishnaraja Odeya IV. The dam supplies water to Shiva samudra's hydro-electric power station, Mysore City's drinking water, and irrigation purposes.

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1. "Jhumur" is a traditional dance performed in which state?

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



- ✓ The Assam government is planning a grand Jhumur dance performance with 8,000 tea tribe artists. Jhumur is a traditional dance of Assam's tea tribes, performed during autumn. It features young girls dancing in fields or under trees, with male members playing instruments like the Madal drum, flute, and Taals. The dance depicts daily life, joys, sorrows, and aspirations.

2. Recently, which ministry has introduced guidelines for bagless days for students in classes 6 to 8?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Women and Child Development
- C. Ministry of Education
- D. Ministry of Power



शिक्षा मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Education announced guidelines for bagless days for students in Classes 6 to 8, as recommended by the National Education Policy 2020. This involves a 10-day period where students intern with local vocational experts like carpenters and artists. The objectives are to enhance observation-based learning, understand community interdependence, and promote dignity of labor through activities like market visits, charity work, and report writing.

3. Tejas Light Combat Aircraft is developed by which organization?

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. BHEL
- D. JAXA



- ✓ The Indian Air Force faces delays in receiving Tejas light combat aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, affecting its readiness and capabilities. Tejas, a 4.5-generation single-seat supersonic multirole fighter, was developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Agency and HAL. Intended to replace older MiG-21 and Su-7 jets, it joined the IAF in 2016.

4. Landslide Atlas of India is prepared by which organization / ministry?

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. NDRF
- D. Ministry of Earth Sciences



- ✓ Wayanad, Kerala, struck by a deadly landslide killing nearly 200 people, ranked 13th in ISRO's 2023 Landslide Atlas of India. Prepared by National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of ISRO, the atlas details landslide occurrences and damage in 147 districts across 17 states and two Union Territories. It includes 80,000 landslides mapped from 1998 to 2022.

5. Recently, Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched 'Suvidha Software Version 1.0' in which city?

- A. Jaisalmer
- B. Visakhapatnam
- C. Kochi
- D. Mumbai



- ✓ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched 'Suvidha Software Version 1.0' at its first 'Annual Operational Sea Training Conference' in Visakhapatnam. This software aims to improve training protocols across ICG platforms. Deputy Director General Anupam Rai emphasized excellence and adaptability. Senior officers discussed best practices and strategies for maritime security.

6. Leqembi Drug is used to treat which disease?

- A. Dengue
- B. Alzheimer
- C. Tuberculosis
- D. Blood Cancer



- ✓ A study found that Alzheimer's drug Leqembi slowed disease progression over three years. Leqembi is an IV antibody therapy that removes beta-amyloid from the brain. Alzheimer's is the most common dementia, starting with mild memory loss and potentially leading to severe communication and response issues. Symptoms typically appear after age 60, with the risk increasing with age.

7. Recently, which country has become India's second-largest Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) supplier?

- A. Iraq
- B. Iran
- C. Australia
- D. US



- ✓ The US became India's second-largest LNG supplier, overtaking the UAE, but Qatar still the largest supplier. LNG is growing as a green energy substitute. In 2023, the US also became the world's top LNG exporter, surpassing Qatar and Australia due to past investments in liquefaction. Increased US supply is due to lower LNG prices and closer proximity to India via the Cape of Good Hope.

8. Which ministry recently introduced 'Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak 2024' in Lok Sabha?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Civil Aviation
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Power



नागर विमानन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
CIVIL AVIATION

- ✓ **The Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak 2024 was introduced in the Lok Sabha by the Union Civil Aviation Minister. This bill aims to empower the government to set rules for investigating air accidents and incidents, and regulating aircraft design, manufacture, maintenance, use, and safety. The Aircraft Act of 1934 has been amended many times, creating confusion. This bill seeks to streamline and clarify these regulations.**

9. What is the theme of 'World Lung Cancer Day 2024'?

- A. Close the Care Gap: Everyone Deserves Access to Cancer Care
- B. A breath of prevention is better than expectation of long-term survival
- C. Care for your Lungs
- D. Measures to prevent lung cancer



- ✓ **World Lung Cancer Day, observed on August 1st, raises awareness about lung cancer, highlighting its impact and educating the public on risks, symptoms, and treatments. The day advocates for early detection, better treatment options, and more research funding. This year's theme is "Close the Care Gap: Everyone Deserves Access to Cancer Care".**

10. Swapnil Kusale recently won a bronze medal in which sports event at Paris Olympics 2024?

- A. Shooting
- B. Boxing
- C. Wrestling
- D. Badminton



- ✓ **At the 2024 Paris Olympics, Swapnil Kusale won a bronze medal in the men's 50m rifle 3 Positions event. This is India's third Olympic medal in rifle shooting, following Abhinav Bindra's gold in 2008 and Gagan Narang's bronze in 2012. Liu Yukun of China won gold, and Ukraine's Serhiy Kulish took silver. The competition was held at the National Shooting Center in Châteauroux, Paris.**

11. Recently, archaeologists have unearthed a terracotta pipeline at which Sangam Era site in Tamil Nadu?

- A. Vembakottai
- B. Mankulam
- C. Keeladi
- D. Kodumanal



- ✓ Archaeologists have discovered a terracotta pipeline during the 10th phase of excavation at Keeladi, a Sangam Era site in Tamil Nadu. This find highlights advanced water management practices from over 2,600 years ago.
- ✓ Keeladi, located near Madurai, has revealed over 20,000 artifacts, suggesting the Sangam Era began around 600 BCE, earlier than previously thought. Additional discoveries include rice husks from 3,200 years ago and evidence of early iron technology.

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12. What is rank of India in 'Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024'?

- A. 36<sup>th</sup>
- B. 37<sup>th</sup>
- C. 38<sup>th</sup>
- D. 39<sup>th</sup>



- ✓ India ranks 39th in the 2024 Travel and Tourism Development Index by the World Economic Forum, up from an adjusted 38th in 2021. The country's scores improved in travel prioritization, safety, and health. In 2022, India had 14.3 million international tourists, 1.47% of the global market, and 15.66% in Asia-Pacific. The Ministry of Tourism promotes India domestically and internationally through integrated marketing and participation in travel fairs.

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1. Recently, who has become the first woman to be appointed the Director General of Medical Services?

- A. Lt Gen Punita Arora
- B. Lt Gen Sadhna Saxena Nair
- C. Lt Gen Madhuri Kanitkar
- D. Lt Gen Kavita Sahai



- ✓ **Lieutenant General Sadhna Saxena Nair became the first woman to lead the Indian Army's Medical Services on August 1, 2024. A third-generation armed forces member, she graduated from the Armed Forces Medical College and joined the Army Medical Corps in 1985. She previously served as Director General of Hospital Services and has received numerous honors, including the Vishisht Seva Medal.**

2. Recently, where was the '52<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Governors' held?

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



- ✓ **On August 2, 2024, President Droupadi Murmu presided over the 52nd Conference of Governors at Rashtrapati Bhavan, her first time leading the event. The conference, attended by key leaders like Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Home Minister Amit Shah, also included state governors, lieutenant governors, and administrators of union territories.**
- ✓ **The two-day event featured participation from NITI Aayog officials and senior government members. The Conference of Governors, first held in 1949, addresses governance and administrative issues in India.**

3. Sharavathy Pumped Storage hydroelectric plant is built on which river?

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



- ✓ **The Central Electricity Authority has approved two new hydro-pumped storage plants in India. The 2000 MW Sharavathi Hydro-Pumped Storage plant in Karnataka will use the Talakalale and Gerusoppa dams, aiming to address the state's power issues.**
- ✓ **Developed by KPCL and Megha Engineering, it's the largest of its kind in India. The 600 MW Upper Indravati Pumped Storage Plant in Odisha will utilize the Upper Indravati Reservoir's released**

water, with construction by Odisha Hydropower Corporation Limited. Both projects require Central Electricity Authority approval as per the Electricity Act of 2003.

4. Recently, India signed an agreement with which country to develop National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat?

- A. Indonesia
- B. Egypt
- C. Vietnam
- D. France



- ✓ During Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh's visit to India from July 30 to August 1, 2024, the Indian government announced \$300 million in loans to strengthen Vietnam's maritime security. Nine agreements were signed, including Vietnam joining the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and a plan to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.

5. Which ministry is the nodal body for the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC) in Gujarat?

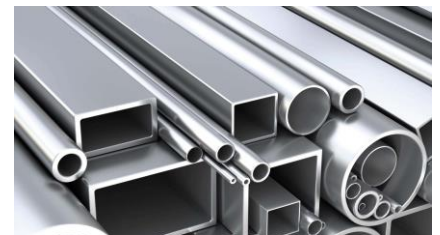
- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of AYUSH
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ The Ministry of Ayush signed an \$85 million agreement with the WHO to support the Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GCTM) in Jamnagar, Gujarat, over the next 10 years. This funding will expand the centre and support its research. The agreement was signed by Arindam Bagchi and Dr Bruce Aylward at WHO headquarters in Geneva. The GCTM, established with a total investment of \$250 million, aims to enhance global health through traditional medicine combined with modern science. The Union Ministry of Ayush is the nodal body for the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC) in Jamnagar, Gujarat.

6. According to recent data, which country is the second-largest aluminium producer in the world?

- A. India
- B. Mexico
- C. Canada
- D. China



- ✓ India has become the world's second-largest aluminium producer, with a 1.2% increase in production to 10.43 lakh tons in the first quarter of FY 2024-25. This highlights India's growth in the aluminium sector, just behind China. Additionally, production of other key minerals has risen significantly, with iron ore reaching 79 million metric tons (MMT) and limestone 116 MMT.



7. *Schistura sonarengaensis* belongs to which species?

- A. Loach
- B. Spider
- C. Frog
- D. Lizard



- ✓ Scientists discovered a new loach species, *Schistura sonarengaensis*, in Meghalaya's South Garo Hills near the Bangladesh border. This freshwater, bottom-dwelling fish was found in three cave-dwelling populations. It has prominent eyes and 13-26 black blotches on a greyish-black stripe over a pale body. Unlike typical cave species, it retains eyes and has reduced pigmentation. It differs from other *Schistura* species in the region, except for *Schistura syngkai*.

8. What is the main objective of Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)?

- A. To ensure food security and control market prices during lean seasons
- B. To increase food grain production
- C. To reduce food grain prices globally
- D. To reduce food grain consumption



- ✓ The Centre has allowed state governments to directly buy rice from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) without e-auctions under the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS).
- ✓ The OMSS enables FCI to sell surplus wheat and rice from the central pool at predetermined prices to traders, bulk consumers, and states. This is in addition to maintaining buffer stocks for the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and other welfare schemes. The scheme aims to ensure food security and control market prices during lean seasons, especially in deficit regions. States can procure food grains for their needs beyond NFSA allocations.

9. Which organization recently released "World Development Report 2024: The Middle-Income Trap"?

- A. IMF
- B. World Bank
- C. UNDP
- D. UNEP



**WORLD BANK GROUP**

- ✓ The World Bank's 2024 report highlights the "Middle-Income Trap," where countries stuck in middle-income status struggle to advance to high-income levels. This trap often occurs around \$8,000 GDP per capita. Since 1990, only 34 of 108 middle-income countries have moved to high-income status. Key challenges include aging populations, rising protectionism, and the need for faster energy transitions.

- ✓ India, classified as a lower-middle-income country since 2007, has a GNI per capita of \$2,540 and would need 75 years to reach one-quarter of US income per capita at current trends.

10. Recently, scientists have discovered six new species of bent-toed gecko, a type of small lizard, in which region of India?

- A. Northeastern
- B. Western Ghats
- C. Eastern Ghats
- D. Ladakh



- ✓ Scientists have discovered six new lineages of bent-toed geckos in Northeast India. These geckos, found in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram, are nocturnal and live near forest streams, rocks, and vegetation. Each state in the region hosts its own unique species of these geckos, with 30 different species identified in Northeast India overall.

11. Recently, Indian radio astronomers have identified 34 new giant radio sources (GRASs) using which telescope?

- A. GROWTH-India Telescope
- B. Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope
- C. Cassegrain Telescope
- D. Himalayan Chandra Telescope (HCT)



- ✓ Indian astronomers have discovered 34 new Giant Radio Sources (GRSs) using the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) near Pune. Operated by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), GMRT has 30 large parabolic dishes that study radio waves. GRSs are massive cosmic objects with supermassive black holes at their centers.

12. What is the main objective of the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024?

- A. To create a comprehensive disaster database and establish Urban Disaster Management Authorities
- B. To increase disaster relief funds
- C. To reduce the number of disaster management agencies
- D. To eliminate the need for disaster response teams



PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

- ✓ The Indian government plans to introduce the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024, in the Lok Sabha. This bill aims to create a comprehensive disaster database and set up Urban Disaster Management Authorities in state capitals and major cities.
- ✓ It will empower the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) to independently prepare disaster plans and appoint experts. The bill also seeks to grant statutory recognition to bodies like the National Crisis Management

Committee and propose the establishment of State Disaster Response Forces by state governments. This amendment aligns with the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission's recommendations.

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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. 6<sup>th</sup>
- B. 8<sup>th</sup>
- C. 10<sup>th</sup>
- D. 12<sup>th</sup>



- ✓ 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 "14<sup>th</sup> 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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1. Recently, which region of India has been chosen as the location for India's first Mars and Moon analogue research station?

- A. Chennai
- B. Pokhran
- C. Kochi
- D. Ladakh



- ✓ **Ladakh Scientists have identified Ladakh as a potential site for a Martian or Lunar analogue research station. Such stations simulate planetary conditions for testing space technologies and studying human behavior in extreme environments. Ladakh's dry, cold, and rocky landscape resembles early Mars and the Moon, with features like permafrost, volcanic rocks, and saline lakes. Its conditions, including high radiation and low atmospheric pressure, make it an ideal location for this research.**

2. Who won the gold medal in men's single tennis title at the 2024 Paris Olympics?

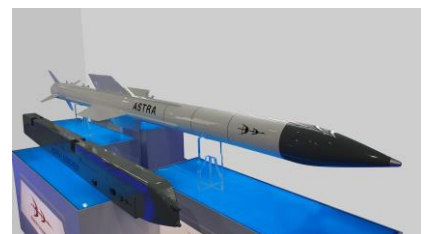
- A. Jannik Sinner
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Carlos Alcaraz
- D. Matthew Ebden



- ✓ **Novak Djokovic became the fifth tennis player to achieve a Golden Slam by winning the men's singles gold medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics, defeating Carlos Alcaraz in straight sets. This victory, added to his Grand Slam titles at the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open, places him alongside legends like Rafael Nadal, Serena Williams, Andre Agassi, and Steffi Graf. Djokovic had previously won a bronze medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympics but did not medal in the subsequent Olympics.**

3. What kind of missile is 'Astra mark-1 (Mk-1) missile'?

- A. Surface-to-Air missile
- B. Air-to-Air Beyond Visual Range (BVR) missile
- C. Air-to-Surface missile
- D. Surface-to-Surface missile



- ✓ **The Indian Air Force has approved the production of 200 Astra Mk-1 missiles for Su-30 MKI and Tejas aircraft after Deputy Chief Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit's visit to Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL). Developed by DRDO and made by BDL, Astra Mk-1 is an air-to-air missile with a range of 80-110 km and a speed of Mach 4.5.**

4. Which state recently became the first in India to buy all crops from farmers at MSP?

- A. Haryana
- B. Punjab
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Bihar



- ✓ Haryana's Chief Minister announced the state's procurement of all crops at Minimum Support Price (MSP), making it the first in India to do so. Additionally, he waived Rs 133 crore in irrigation charges and promised Rs 137 crore in pending compensation for crop damage due to natural calamities. MSP, recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), ensures fair prices for farmers and promotes crop diversification.

5. Thadou tribes are primarily resides in which state?

- A. Bihar
- B. Odisha
- C. Manipur
- D. Haryana



- ✓ The Thadou Students' Association has launched a global platform to address key issues facing the Thadou community, particularly in Manipur. The Thadou are indigenous people in northeastern India, mainly in Manipur, and also found in Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Myanmar. They practice jhum agriculture, live in forest settlements, and predominantly follow Christianity. The Thadou language is part of the Tibeto-Burman family.

6. 'VIRAASAT' exhibition is organized by which ministry in New Delhi?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Textiles
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Power



- ✓ The "VIRAASAT" exhibition, celebrating the 10th National Handloom Day, is being held from August 3 to August 16, 2024, at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi. Organized by the National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd (NHDC) under the Ministry of Textiles, this event promotes India's rich handloom traditions and supports weavers. National Handloom Day, established on August 7, 2015, commemorates the Swadeshi Movement of 1905 and the handloom sector's socio-economic contributions.

7. Arun Hydroelectric Project is associated with which country?

- A. Bhutan
- B. Nepal
- C. Myanmar
- D. Afghanistan



- ✓ The Indian government, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved a Rs 5,792 crore investment in Nepal's 669 MW Lower Arun Hydroelectric Project. Located in Sankhuwasabha district, this project, awarded to SJVN Ltd., will generate 2,900 million units of energy annually. This initiative highlights India's commitment to enhancing renewable energy collaboration with neighboring countries.

8. Which country hosted the 'Exercise Pitch Black 2024'?

- A. Russia
- B. Australia
- C. China
- D. Japan



- ✓ Exercise Pitch Black 2024, a biennial multinational exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force, concluded in Darwin, Australia. This year's edition was the largest in its 43-year history, with 20 countries, over 140 aircraft, and 4,400 military personnel participating. The exercise, focused on night-time flying, saw the Indian Air Force participate, continuing its involvement from the 2018 and 2022 editions.

9. Recently, which ministry has launched e-Sakshya, Nyaya Setu, Nyaya Shruti and e-Summon App for three new criminal laws in Chandigarh?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Law and Justice
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Urban Development



गृह मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
HOME AFFAIRS

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ On August 4, 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched four apps—e-Sakshya, Nyaya Setu, Nyaya Shruti, and e-Summon—in Chandigarh to support the new criminal laws in India. These apps will manage evidence, send electronic summons, link various authorities, and allow video testimony. The new laws, effective from July 1, 2024, include Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, aiming to enhance the criminal justice system.

10. Recently, where was the 5th meeting of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee held?

- A. Jakarta
- B. New Delhi
- C. Moscow
- D. Beijing



- ✓ The fifth ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) Joint Committee meeting in Jakarta from July 29 to August 1, 2024, aimed to enhance economic cooperation between ASEAN and India by reviewing the 2009 AITIGA. ASEAN is a key trade partner for India, with significant trade volumes and a notable trade deficit. The meeting focused on improving the trade agreement and fostering deeper economic collaboration.

11. Which country hosts BIMSTEC Business Summit 2024?

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



- ✓ India's Ministry of External Affairs and the Confederation of Indian Industries hosts the 1st BIMSTEC Business Summit in New Delhi from August 6-8, 2024. The summit, inaugurated by Dr. S. Jaishankar and attended by key leaders, aims to boost regional trade and investment among BIMSTEC countries. Over 300 stakeholders will discuss trade, connectivity, energy security, inclusive growth, and sustainable development.

12. Which day is celebrated as 'National Handloom Day' every year?

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



- ✓ National Handloom Day, celebrated on August 7th, honors India's handloom heritage and supports artisans. Launched in 2015 to mark the Swadeshi Movement's centenary, it promotes indigenous crafts and empowers weavers. The 2024 theme focuses on integrating technology and innovation to expand market access and enhance skill development for artisans.

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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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### 1. What is the main objective of the 'Nandini Sahakar Scheme'?

- A. To provide financial assistance to women-led cooperative
- B. To improve the socio-economic status of women through women cooperatives
- C. To promote entrepreneurship among youth
- D. To support rural development projects



- ✓ **The Nandini Sahakar Scheme by NCDC is a women-focused framework providing financial assistance, project formulation, and capacity development to women cooperatives. Launched under Atmanirbhar Bharat, it aims to improve socio-economic status of women through entrepreneurship. There is no limit on financial assistance. As of 31.03.2024, NCDC has disbursed Rs.6426.36 crore to women-led cooperative societies across India.**

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### 2. Recently, who has been appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry?

- A. K. Kailashnathan
- B. Suheel Kumar Trivedi
- C. Tamilisai Soundararajan
- D. Ardhendu Sen



- ✓ **K Kailashnathan has taken oath as the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry at a ceremony held at Raj Nivas. Acting Chief Justice D Krishnakumar administered the oath, while Chief Minister N Rangasamy and other officials attended. Kailashnathan has assumed office as the new Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry, marking a new chapter in the union territory's administration under his leadership and guidance.**

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### 3. Recently, Coal India Ltd and GAIL (India) Ltd have signed a pact to establish a coal-to-synthetic natural gas plant in which region of West Bengal?

- A. Raniganj
- B. Bankura
- C. Nadia
- D. Malda



- ✓ **Coal India Ltd and GAIL (India) Ltd have partnered to set up a coal-to-synthetic natural gas plant in Raniganj, West Bengal, using surface coal gasification technology. The plant will produce 633.6 million Nm<sup>3</sup>/hour of gas from 1.9 million tonnes of coal. This joint venture under the National Coal Gasification Mission aims to reduce import dependency on natural gas and secure raw materials for chemical and fertilizer production.**

4. Recently, who has been appointed as the chief adviser to Bangladesh's interim government?

- A. Kamal Ahmed Majumder
- B. Muhammad Yunus
- C. Mohammed Shahabuddin
- D. Dipu Moni



- ✓ **Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner, has been appointed chief adviser to Bangladesh's interim government following Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation amid protests. Yunus, born in 1940, is an economist known for pioneering microcredit through Grameen Bank, founded in 1983. The bank has loaned over \$34 billion to nearly 10 million people, with a 97% repayment rate, inspiring global microfinance initiatives. Yunus's appointment aims to address unrest over government job quotas.**

5. Which ministry is responsible for implementing the 'Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Scheme'?

- A. Ministry of Labour and Employment
- B. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- C. Ministry of Rural Development
- D. Ministry of Finance



- ✓ **The Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM), announced in the 2019 Interim Budget, aims to provide social security to unorganized workers. Implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment through LIC and CSCs since February 15, 2019, it targets approximately 42 crore workers. LIC manages the pension fund and payouts. By the end of July 2024, over 50 lakh unorganised sector workers had enrolled in this Central Sector Scheme.**

6. Gadgil Committee Report is associated with which geographical area?

- A. Linking of Rivers
- B. Protection of Western Ghats
- C. Protection of Eastern Ghats
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **The Western Ghats, crucial for biodiversity, still lack official ecologically sensitive area notifications from the Union environment ministry, 14 years after the 2011 Gadgil Committee Report. The 2011 Gadgil Committee Report, or Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP) Report, was commissioned by India's Ministry of Environment and Forests. It recommends measures for the sustainable development and ecological preservation of the Western Ghats, a region noted for its rich biodiversity and environmental importance.**

7. 'Earth Observation Satellite-8 (EOS-8)' mission is associated with which space agency?

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



- ✓ ISRO's Earth Observation Satellite-8 (EOS-8) is set to launch on August 15 by the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)-D3 from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The mission aims to design and develop a microsatellite, create compatible payload instruments, and integrate new technologies for future operational satellites. EOS-8 represents a significant step in advancing satellite capabilities and enhancing Earth observation efforts.

8. Recently, which country won "CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League 2024"?

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



- ✓ India won the CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League final, defeating Nepal 3-2 in Kathmandu. This victory marked India's second title in the league. Despite a previous loss to Nepal in the league stage, India secured the championship in the finals. India took Gold, Nepal secured Silver, and Iran settled for Bronze in the tournament.

9. Recently, the Indian Army has conducted a strategic military exercise 'Parvat Prahaar' in which region?

- A. Chennai
- B. Visakhapatnam
- C. Ladakh
- D. Jaisalmer



- ✓ The Indian Army conducted the 'Parvat Prahaar' exercise in Ladakh, focusing on high-altitude warfare. The exercise highlights operations in rugged terrains near the India-China border. It involves real-world combat simulations to train soldiers for unique challenges. This fortnight-long drill involves various Army units, including infantry, artillery, and armoured forces, and showcases military assets like tanks, K-9 Vajra artillery, and UAVs.

## 10. What is Waqf?

- A. A property dedicated in the name of God for religious and charitable purposes
- B. A government-owned property
- C. A property dedicated for personal use
- D. A temporary donation of property



- ✓ **A contentious bill to amend the Waqf Act of 1995, aiming to include non-Muslim individuals and Muslim women in Waqf bodies, is set to be presented in the Lok Sabha. The Waqf Act of 1954 defines a Waqf as a property dedicated for religious and charitable purposes. It can be established by deed or long-term usage and fund institutions like mosques and schools. Waqfs are non-transferable, perpetual, and managed by a mutawali under the Waqf Act, 1995.**

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## 11. Clouded Leopard is the state animal of which northeastern state?

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



- ✓ **The Mizoram governor highlighted wildlife conservation challenges on International Clouded Leopard Day. The clouded leopard, found from the Himalayas to Southeast Asia, includes two species: Neofelis nebulosa and Neofelis diardi. Its habitat spans countries like China, Bhutan, India, and others, thriving in tropical rainforests and dry forests. This medium-sized cat, 60-110 cm long, weighs 11-20 kg, and is known for its cloud-like coat patterns and long tail. It is the state animal of Meghalaya.**

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## 12. What is the primary objective of the 'National Coastal Mission Scheme'?

- A. To boost tourism in coastal areas
- B. To address the impact of climate change on coastal and marine ecosystems
- C. To promote coastal urban development
- D. To enhance fisheries productivity



- ✓ **The Minister of State for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recently informed the Lok Sabha on the National Coastal Mission Scheme. The National Coastal Mission Scheme was launched in 2014 as part of the National Action Plan on Climate Change. Its goal is to address climate change impacts on coastal and marine ecosystems, infrastructure, and communities through adaptation and mitigation. The scheme is implemented by State Governments of Coastal States and Union Territory Administrations.**

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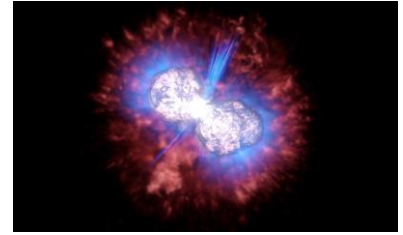
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### 1. What is 'Eta Carinae'?

- A. Invasive weed
- B. Submarine
- C. Hypergiant star
- D. Critical Mineral



- ✓ Astronomers are watching Eta Carinae, a hypergiant star 7,500 light-years away, as it might soon explode as a supernova. About 170 years ago, it had a major outburst, creating the Homunculus Nebula. Eta Carinae is unique for emitting natural laser light and recently showed intriguing details in the nebula. When it eventually goes supernova, it could provide a spectacular light show and valuable insights into massive stars.

---

### 2. Bhoj Wetland is located in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. Punjab
- D. Uttarakhand



- ✓ The Union Government recently assured that Bhoj Wetland in Bhopal is not at risk of losing its Ramsar site status. It is located in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. It consists of two contiguous human made reservoirs, Upper Lake (Bhojtal) and Lower Lake (Chhota Talaab). The Upper Lake provides drinking water for Bhopal and is surrounded by a Van Vihar national park, human settlements, and farmland. The wetland is rich in biodiversity, with over 15 fish species and vulnerable species like turtles and amphibians. It was designated a Ramsar site in 2002.

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### 3. Recently, India exported its first GI-tagged fig juice to which country?

- A. Poland
- B. Malaysia
- C. Thailand
- D. Indonesia



- ✓ India has exported its first GI-tagged fig juice to Poland, marking a major achievement for Indian agriculture. This follows the export of GI-tagged Purandar figs to Hong Kong. The Purandar Highlands Farmers Producer Company Ltd, with government support, facilitated these exports. This milestone highlights the quality of Indian figs and opens up new opportunities for expanding Indian agricultural products in global markets.



#### 4. What is Hypervirulent Klebsiella pneumoniae (hvKp)?

- A. A type of vaccine
- B. Drug-resistant bacteria
- C. Antiviral drug
- D. Fungus



- ✓ The WHO has issued a warning about the superbug hypervirulent Klebsiella pneumoniae (hvKp). hvKp is a drug-resistant bacterium that can cause severe, fast-spreading infections even in healthy people. It is found in the environment, like soil and water, as well as in the upper throat and gut of animals and humans. It can lead to infections such as pneumonia, urinary tract infections, bloodstream infections, and meningitis.

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#### 5. What is 'Ceropegia Shivrayiana'?

- A. Submarine
- B. A flowering plant
- C. A type of bacteria
- D. Antiviral drug



- ✓ A new flowering plant, Ceropegia shivrayiana, has been discovered in Kolhapur's Vishalgad area. The plant, detailed in Phytotaxa, highlights Vishalgad Fort's biodiversity. It was found by a research team from New College, Kolhapur, and Shivaji University, who have studied the fort's flora for six years. Named after Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the plant honors his recognition of the ecological value of forts and their surroundings.

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#### 6. Mpox (also known as Monkeypox) is caused by which pathogen?

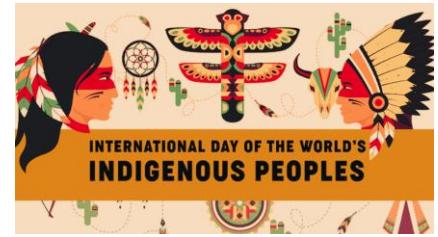
- A. Virus
- B. Bacteria
- C. Fungus
- D. Protozoa



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) recently held an emergency meeting to address a surge in monkeypox (Mpox) cases, particularly in Congo. Mpox, a viral zoonotic disease related to smallpox, was first identified in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It spreads through direct contact with infected animals or people, and symptoms include skin rashes, fever, and muscle aches. There is no specific treatment; supportive care is crucial.

7. Which day is observed as “International Day of Indigenous Peoples”?

- A. 8 August
- B. 9 August
- C. 10 August
- D. 11 August



- ✓ **The International Day of Indigenous Peoples is observed annually on August 9 since 1995. It aims to raise awareness about the contributions and rights of indigenous, or tribal, peoples, who are among the most vulnerable globally. The UN General Assembly declared this day in 1994 to mark the first meeting of the Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations in 1982. The theme for 2024 is “Protecting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact,” highlighting the need to safeguard these communities.**

8. Recently, Neeraj Chopra won which medal in the men’s javelin throw event at the Paris Olympics 2024?

- A. Gold
- B. Silver
- C. Bronze
- D. None of the Above



- ✓ **Neeraj Chopra won a silver medal in men’s javelin throw at the Paris 2024 Olympics with a throw of 89.45 meters. Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem won gold with a record-breaking throw of 92.97 meters, marking Pakistan’s first gold in javelin throw. Grenada’s Anderson Peters secured the bronze with a throw of 88.54 meters.**

9. Recently, India launched its first 24/7 grain ATM in which state?

- A. Bihar
- B. Odisha
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ **India’s first round-the-clock grain ATM was recently launched at Mancheswar in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Odisha introduced its first Grain ATM on August 8, 2024, under the National Food Security Programme. This technology, part of the central Annapurti programme, was developed with the World Food Programme to enhance food security. Grain ATMs are automated machines that provide food grains directly to people, reducing hunger and ensuring fair distribution.**

10. Kasturi Cotton Bharat is an initiative of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Textiles
- B. Ministry of MSME
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Finance



- ✓ **The Ministry of Textiles has empowered cotton ginners to produce Kasturi Cotton Bharat using QR code certification technology. Kasturi Cotton Bharat is a premium brand initiative for Indian cotton, focusing on traceability, certification, and branding. It was formalized through an MoU between the Cotton Corporation of India and the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council on December 15, 2022. QR-based certification and Blockchain technology ensure full traceability across the supply chain. The program is promoted both nationally and internationally, with no state-level fund allocation.**

11. Which country won the 'Bronze medal' in Hockey event at the Paris Olympics 2024?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Spain
- D. Pakistan



- ✓ **India's men's hockey team won bronze at the Paris 2024 Olympics, defeating Spain 2-1. This victory marks India's first consecutive Olympic hockey medals since 1972. The match took place at stadium in Paris. The Netherlands won gold, beating Germany 2-1 in a shootout in the final.**

12. Recently, which Indian wrestler has announced her retirement after being disqualified from the Olympics?

- A. Aman Sherawat
- B. Vinesh Phogat
- C. Nisha Dahiya
- D. Anshu Malik



- ✓ **Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat, 29, announced her retirement after being disqualified from the Olympics for being 100 grams overweight before her gold medal bout in the 50 kg category.**
- ✓ **She appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) to be awarded a joint silver medal, citing severe dehydration from extreme weight-cutting measures. Phogat, a three-time Olympian in different weight classes, became the first international wrestler to defeat reigning champion Yui Susaki and the first Indian female wrestler to reach an Olympic final in 2024.**

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1. What is the primary objective of the "Million Designers, Billion Dreams" initiative, recently launched by DAY-NRLM?

- A. To improve agricultural productivity
- B. To empower individuals with systems design knowledge
- C. To provide healthcare access
- D. To enhance digital literacy



- ✓ **The Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) has launched the "Million Designers, Billion Dreams" program. The initiative aims to provide systems design knowledge to individuals across India to tackle complex societal issues. It is led by LEAP in collaboration with DAY-NRLM. LEAP is a product of multidisciplinary work by Harvard’s Design Laboratory, Transform Rural India Foundation, and funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.**

2. Recently, SJVN Limited has successfully commissioned the 90 MW 'Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project' in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. Punjab
- D. Uttarakhand



- ✓ **SJVN Limited (Mini Ratna Schedule 'A' CPSU under Ministry of Power) has successfully commissioned the 90 MW Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh. This project involves placing solar panels on floating structures in water bodies like lakes and reservoirs. India has a potential capacity of 280-300 GW for floating solar power, according to the World Bank.**

3. Project PARI (Public Art of India) is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of Culture
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ **Project PARI was launched during the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting. The Ministry of Culture initiated the project, managed by Lalit Kala Akademi and the National Gallery of Modern Art. It features various art forms including Phad, Thangka, Warli, Gond, Alpona, Cheriyal, Tanjore, Kalamkari, Pithora, and Kerala Murals. The project aims to celebrate and enhance the public art scene by combining India’s cultural heritage with modern themes.**

#### 4. What is 'Operation Dudhi'?

- A. Counter-insurgency operation conducted by Assam Rifles
- B. Preventing forest fires by aerial firefighting
- C. India's humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to Myanmar
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **The Jammu region has faced increased security challenges due to militant activity and troop redeployment to the LAC post-Galwan incident. Recent reports indicate the induction of additional troops, including Special Forces and Assam Rifles, to strengthen counter-terrorism efforts. Operation Dudhi, conducted by Assam Rifles in 1991, is a notable example of successful counter-terrorism in the region.**

#### 5. Aman Sehrawat, who recently won bronze medal at Paris Olympics 2024, is associated with which sports?

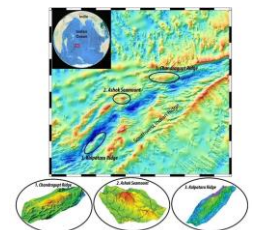
- A. Boxing
- B. Wrestling
- C. Table Tennis
- D. Badminton



- ✓ **At the 2024 Paris Olympics, Aman Sehrawat from India won a bronze medal in the men's 57kg wrestling category, marking a proud moment in India's wrestling history. Born in Haryana on July 16, 2003, Sehrawat is known for his freestyle technique. He defeated Puerto Rico's Darian Toi Cruz 13-5 in the bronze medal match. Aman first gained attention by winning a silver at the 2021 World Wrestling U23 Championships and gold at the 2022 Asian U23 Championships.**

#### 6. Recently, which three names were given to the underwater structures in the Indian Ocean?

- A. Ashoka, Chandragupta, and Kalpataru
- B. Mahatma, Nehru, and Bharati
- C. Himalaya, Ganga, and Krishna
- D. Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma



- ✓ **Three underwater structures in the Indian Ocean were recently named Ashoka, Chandragupt, and Kalpataru, highlighting India's influence in marine science. The names were proposed by India and approved by the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) and UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).**
- ✓ **Ashoka Seamount, discovered in 2012, is oval-shaped and spans 180 sq km. Kalpataru Ridge, also discovered in 2012, covers 430 sq km and may support marine biodiversity. Chandragupt Ridge, identified in 2020, is an elongated structure covering 675 sq km.**

7. Recently, which countries participated in bilateral Air force exercise 'Udara Shakti 2024'?

- A. China and Japan
- B. India and Myanmar
- C. India and Malaysia
- D. India and Australia



- ✓ **The Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the bilateral Exercise Udara Shakti 2024 with the Royal Malaysian Air Force. The exercise took place in Kuantan, Malaysia, from 6-9 August 2024. Both air forces deployed seven Sukhoi-30 fighter planes, which are purchased from Russia.**
- ✓ **India's Sukhoi-30 planes, mostly produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), are the Su-30MKI variant, specifically modernized for India. Exercise Udara Shakti 2024 included Training Exercises and Subject Matter Expert Exchange concepts. Training Exercises focused on air combat involving Su-30 planes from both countries.**

8. Which Indian recently received the highest civilian 'Grand-Collar of the Order' award of Timor Leste?

- A. Droupadi Murmu
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Neeraj Chopra
- D. S Jaishankar



- ✓ **President Droupadi Murmu received Timor Leste's highest civilian award, the Grand Collar of Order of Timor Leste, on 10 August 2024 in Dili. She is the first Indian President to visit Timor Leste, as part of her three-nation tour to Fiji, New Zealand, and Timor Leste from 5-10 August 2024. President Murmu discussed IT infrastructure, medical, and capacity-building assistance with Timor Leste's President José Ramos Horta. Three MoUs were signed between India and Timor Leste, including media cooperation, visa exemptions for officials, and cultural exchange programs.**

9. Which ministry is the nodal body for implementing the 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) 2.0 scheme'?

- A. Ministry of Urban Development
- B. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ **On August 9, 2024, the Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) 2.0 with an investment of Rs 10 lakh crores. This new scheme will replace the original PMAY-U, which runs until December 2024. PMAY-U 2.0 will last for five years and aims to build one crore houses for the urban poor and middle-class families.**

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs will implement the scheme. It covers towns from the 2011 census and targets economically weaker sections, low-income groups, and middle-income groups families without pucca houses, with income limits of Rs 3 lakh, Rs 6 lakh, and Rs 9 lakh per year, respectively.

10. What is the objective of "Polar Coupled Analysis and Prediction for Services" (PCAPS) project, recently launched by WMO?

- A. To improve space exploration
- B. To increase weather and climate information in the Arctic and Antarctic
- C. To develop new energy sources
- D. To enhance global internet connectivity



- ✓ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) launched the "Polar Coupled Analysis and Prediction for Services" (PCAPS) to enhance weather forecasting in the Arctic and Antarctic. PCAPS aims to improve information on weather, water, ice, and climate in these regions. The project will develop better observation systems, Earth system models, and advocate for improved forecasting services. PCAPS is part of WMO's World Weather Research Programme (WWRP).

11. The Juanga Tribe primarily resides in which state?

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



- ✓ The District Level Committee of Keonjhar in Odisha approved habitat rights for the Juanga tribe under the Forest Rights Act (FRA). The Juanga, also known as Juang, are an indigenous community in Odisha's Keonjhar district and one of 13 particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs) in the state. They were originally known for their leaf skirt attire but now wear market-bought clothing. They speak Juang (Mundari), part of the Austroasiatic language family. Their traditional occupations included shifting cultivation.

12. What is the primary objective of the 'Clean Plant Programme (CPP)?

- A. To increase the number of dairy farms
- B. To expand urban green spaces
- C. To improve livestock health
- D. To provide access to virus-free, high-quality planting materials to farmers



- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the Clean Plant Programme (CPP) to improve fruit crop quality and productivity nationwide. The Clean Plant Programme aims to provide virus-free, high-quality



planting materials to boost crop yields and quality, benefiting farmers' income. It focuses on improving productivity and quality rather than cutting production costs.

- ✓ Implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB) with ICAR, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, it is part of the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).

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1. 'Mitra Shakti' is a joint military exercise between India and which country?

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Malaysia
- C. Singapore
- D. Australia



- ✓ **The Indian Army and Sri Lankan Army started their 10th joint exercise, "Mitra Shakti," at Maduru Oya in Sri Lanka's Southern Province. This year's focus is on joint operations in semi-urban areas, in line with UN Chapter VII on peace and security threats. This year's exercise involves 120 soldiers from India's Rajputana Rifles. The exercise aims to strengthen defense ties, enhance coordination, and improve interoperability between the Indian and Sri Lankan armed forces.**

2. BPalM regimen is associated with which disease?

- A. Malaria
- B. Diabetes
- C. Tuberculosis
- D. Dengue



- ✓ **India will train healthcare professionals to use the BPalM regimen for treating multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). The BPalM regimen includes bedaquiline, pretomanid, linezolid, and moxifloxacin. Recommended by WHO in 2022, it's already available in nearly 40 countries. The BPalM regimen is more effective, has fewer side effects, and shortens treatment time from 18-24 months to six months. It also helps prevent TB transmission, making it crucial for India's goal to eliminate TB by 2025, as the country has 27% of global TB cases.**

3. Which day is observed as 'World Lion Day' every year?

- A. 09 August
- B. 10 August
- C. 11 August
- D. 12 August



- ✓ **World Lion Day is celebrated annually on August 10 to promote lion conservation and protection. Lions are scientifically known as Panthera leo.**
- ✓ **The Big Cat Initiative (BCI), started in 2009 by conservationists Dereck and Beverly Joubert with National Geographic, aims to protect lions from poaching and hunting. World Lion Day was first observed in 2013 to raise awareness about the threats faced by lions. In India, the Asiatic Lion Conservation Project, launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change, focuses on protecting Asiatic lions under the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.**

4. Which organization has recently launched a 'HaatiApp' (ElephantApp) to help mitigate the ongoing Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) in Assam?

- A. Aaranyak
- B. Bombay Natural History
- C. WWF-India
- D. Vanashakti



- ✓ **Aaranyak launched a mobile app and a handbook to address Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) in Assam. The app, 'HaatiApp,' provides early warnings about wild elephants near villages and includes a form for victims to claim compensation. Aaranyak will handle form submissions to Forest Divisions. The handbook, in Assamese, covers solar-powered fences, offering guidance on their use, installation, and maintenance to prevent HEC.**

5. Which institute recently issued an advisory to farmers to control 'Fruit Rot Disease in arecanut plantations'?

- A. Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad
- B. Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod
- C. Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner
- D. Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal



- ✓ **The ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in Kasaragod recently issued an advisory to help farmers control the spread of fruit rot disease, also known as koleroga, in arecanut plantations. Fruit rot disease harms crops, leading to major losses for farmers and making produce unsellable. It can sometimes even kill the plant. The disease is caused by fungi, bacteria, or viruses, making it hard to prevent and treat. Heavy rainfall, low temperatures, high humidity, and alternating sunshine and rain favor the spread of the disease.**

6. What is the theme of 'International Youth Day 2024'?

- A. From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development
- B. Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World
- C. Intergenerational solidarity: Creating a world for all ages
- D. Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health



- ✓ **International Youth Day is observed on August 12th each year since 2010 to celebrate youth potential and address their challenges globally. In India, National Youth Day is celebrated on January 12th since 1985, marking Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary. The idea for International Youth Day was proposed at the 1991 World Youth Forum in Vienna.**

- ✓ The first International Youth Day was observed on August 12, 2010, following a 2009 UN resolution. The 2024 theme for this day is "From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development".

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7. 'Neelakurinji plant' is mostly found in which region of India?

- A. Ladakh  
B. Western Ghats   
C. Northeastern  
D. Rajasthan



- ✓ Neelakurinji, a purplish flowering shrub that blooms once every 12 years, is now on the IUCN Red List of threatened species. It is found in the Western Ghats of Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. The flowers are most concentrated in the high ranges around Munnar, Kerala, especially in Eravikulam National Park, which is 12 kilometers from Munnar. Nilgiri Hills are named after its blue flowers, and the Paliyan tribes use its blooming cycle to calculate age. Neelakurinji is threatened by habitat loss due to tea plantations, softwood plantations, and urbanization.

---

8. How many medals were won by India at Paris Olympics 2024?

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



- ✓ The 33rd Summer Olympics ended on August 11, 2024, in Paris, France, with the Olympic flame being extinguished by IOC President Thomas Bach and French swimmer Leon Marchand.
- ✓ The Olympic flag was handed over to Los Angeles, USA, which will host the 34th Summer Olympics in 2028. India sent a 117-member team to the Paris Olympics and won six medals: one silver and five bronze. Medal winners included Manu Bhaker (bronze, two events), Swapnil Kusale (bronze), the Men's Hockey Team (bronze), Neeraj Chopra (silver in javelin), and Aman Sehrawat (bronze in wrestling).

---

9. Which day is observed as 'World Elephant Day' every year?

- A. 09 August  
B. 10 August  
C. 11 August  
D. 12 August



- ✓ World Elephant Day is observed on August 12th since 2012 to raise awareness about the challenges faced by elephants, the largest land mammals. Elephants, known as pachyderms, have thick skin and are related to animals like hippos and rhinos. They are primarily found in Africa and Asia but are threatened by poaching for ivory and human-elephant conflicts due to habitat encroachment. India is home to about 55% of the Asian elephant population. The 2024 theme is "Personifying prehistoric beauty, theological relevance, and environmental importance."
- 

10. Munal satellite is developed by which country?

- A. Nepal
- B. Bhutan
- C. Myanmar
- D. China



- ✓ An MoU was signed between India's Ministry of External Affairs and NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to launch Nepal's Munal satellite. The agreement was witnessed during the visit of India's External Affairs Minister to Nepal. Munal Satellite is an indigenous Nepali project, developed by Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) with help from Antarikchya Pratishan Nepal (APN), focusing on creating a vegetation density database of Earth's surface. The satellite will be launched soon using NSIL's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.
- 

11. What is 'Tantalum'?

- A. Black hole
- B. Rare metal
- C. Asteroid
- D. Submarine



- ✓ The Central Government recently classified 24 minerals, including Tantalum, as Critical and Strategic under the MMDR Act, 1957. Tantalum is a rare metal with the symbol Ta and atomic number 73. It is usually found in the ore columbite-tantalite (coltan) and major producers include the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Brazil, and Nigeria. Tantalum is a shiny, silvery metal, soft when pure, and highly resistant to corrosion and chemical attack below 150°C. It has an extremely high melting point.
- 

12. "*Smithophis mizoramensis*" belongs to which species?

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



- ✓ Scientists from Mizoram University and Max Planck Institute identified a new snake species in Mizoram named *Smithophis mizoramensis*. The species is also called "Tuithiangrul" or "Mizo Brook Snake." This discovery raises the total number of known *Smithophis* species to five.
- ✓ Two other *Smithophis* species were previously recorded in Mizoram. The snake was studied for 15 years due to its resemblance to related species, showing a 10-14% DNA difference. It has unique coloration and scale patterns and inhabits both lowland and highland areas near rivers in Mizoram.

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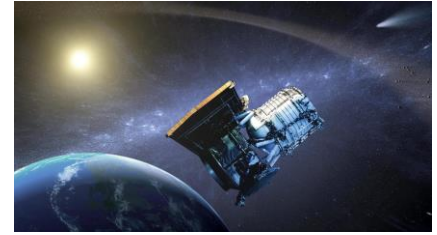
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1. NEOWISE Telescope was launched by which space agency?

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



- ✓ **NASA's NEOWISE mission, originally launched as the Wide-Field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) in 2009, has concluded after over a decade. Initially designed to survey the sky in infrared, detecting asteroids, stars, and faint galaxies, it completed its primary mission in 2011.**
- ✓ **In 2013, the telescope was reactivated for the NEOWISE project to study near-Earth objects (NEOs) and distant asteroids and comets. NEOWISE detected over 158,000 minor planets, including 34,000 new discoveries. Its data helped set limits on asteroid numbers, orbits, sizes, and compositions, and led to the discovery of the first known Earth Trojan asteroid.**

2. Gotipua dance is a traditional dance form of which state?

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Odisha
- D. Kerala



- ✓ **Gotipua is a traditional dance form from Odisha, performed by young boys who dress as women to honor Lord Jagannath and Lord Krishna. This dance, a precursor to Odissi classical dance, involves acrobatic movements inspired by the life of Radha and Krishna. The boys wear a bright blouse called "Kanchula" and an embroidered silk cloth called "Nibibandha."**

3. Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- D. Ministry of Defence



पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
**PETROLEUM AND  
NATURAL GAS**

- ✓ **The Cabinet approved an amendment in the Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN Yojana to provide financial support for Advanced Biofuel Projects. The scheme promotes the production of 2nd-generation (2G) bioethanol from renewable sources like lignocellulosic biomass. Launched in 2019, it was recently extended until 2028-29. It is implemented by the Centre for High Technology under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The objective of scheme is to establishing commercially viable 2G ethanol projects, providing farmers income from agricultural waste, and addressing environmental pollution. Financial support is provided through Viability Gap Funding (VGF).**

4. Recently, researchers have identified anti-diabetic herb 'Gymnema sylvestre' in which hills of Bihar?

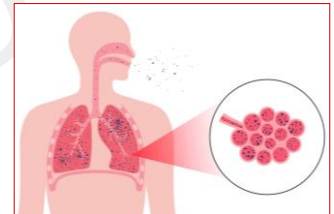
- A. Brahmayoni Hills
- B. Dungeshwari Hills
- C. Kaimur Hills
- D. Mandar Hills



- ✓ **Researchers identified Gymnema sylvestre (Gurmar) on Brahmayoni Hill in Gaya, Bihar, known for its diabetes treatment potential. Gurmar, used in the anti-diabetic drug BGR-34 by CSIR, reduces blood sugar by blocking intestinal sugar absorption. It contains gymnemic acid, flavonoids, and saponins, which regulate lipid metabolism and lower cholesterol.**

5. What is 'Silicosis'?

- A. A cardiovascular disease
- B. A respiratory disease
- C. A neurological disorder
- D. A digestive disorder



- ✓ **Researchers have recently warned that silicosis, a respiratory disease that hardens the lungs, could become as serious as asbestos exposure. It is caused by inhaling silica dust found in soil, sand, concrete, granite, and artificial stone. Commonly affects workers in construction, mining, oil and gas extraction, kitchen engineering, dentistry, pottery, and sculpting. People in these industries face a higher risk of developing silicosis after 10-20 years of exposure. Symptoms include a persistent cough, shortness of breath, weakness, and tiredness.**

6. 'Trichophyton indotineae' is caused by which pathogen?

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



- ✓ **Drug-resistant fungal infections, especially Trichophyton indotineae, are a growing health concern in India. Trichophyton indotineae, known as ringworm or jock itch, was first identified in India and has spread globally. It belongs to genotype VIII within the T. mentagrophytes/T. interdigitale species. Inappropriate use of steroid creams has made this strain difficult to treat.**
- ✓ **Symptoms include persistent, treatment-resistant rashes, often misdiagnosed as eczema. Misdiagnosis and delayed treatment worsen the condition and increase community transmission. Itraconazole may help reduce the spread of this condition.**



7. Recently, which state has become the first in the country to give money to girl students to buy sanitary napkins?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Gujarat
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Odisha



- ✓ **Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in India to give cash to adolescent girls for sanitary napkins. The cash is part of the state's Sanitation and Hygiene scheme. Eligible school girls (class 7-12) receive ₹300 annually. Over ₹57 crore has been distributed to more than 19 lakh girls. The state also launched the Udita program in 2016 to address social taboos and raise awareness about menstruation. Under Udita, women and girls up to 45 years old can receive a free pack of six sanitary pads every month.**

8. Which day is observed as 'World Organ Donation Day' every year?

- A. 12 August
- B. 13 August
- C. 14 August
- D. 15 August



- ✓ **World Organ Donation Day 2024 is celebrated on August 13 to raise awareness about organ donation. The theme for 2024 is "Be the Reason for Someone's Smile Today." Thousands of people worldwide await life-saving organ transplants each year. The day aims to promote the importance of organ donation and dispel related myths. It also honors organ donors who have saved lives and given others a chance at a healthy life.**

9. Which institution remained on the top spot in the National Institute Ranking Framework, 2024?

- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. IIT Roorkee



- ✓ **The India Rankings 2024 were released by the Union Education Minister, based on the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). IIT Madras ranked 1st in the Overall Category for the sixth year and in Engineering for the ninth year. IISc Bengaluru topped the Universities Category for the ninth year and Research Institutions for the fourth year. IIM Ahmedabad ranked 1st in Management for the fifth year. AIIMS Delhi topped the Medical Category for the seventh year. NIRF was launched in 2015 and uses five broad parameters for ranking.**

10. How many climate-resilient seed varieties were launched by the Prime Minister of India at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute?

- A. 100
- B. 109
- C. 120
- D. 158



- ✓ The Prime Minister introduced 109 new seed varieties that are high-yielding, climate-resilient, and biofortified. These varieties cover 61 crops, including 34 field crops and 27 horticultural crops. Field crops include cereals, millets, forage crops, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane, cotton, and more. Horticultural crops include fruits, vegetables, plantation crops, spices, flowers, and medicinal plants. The new seed varieties are designed to consume less water while producing higher yields. One paddy variety requires 30% less water than usual, benefiting farmers.

11. What is 'INS Arighat'?

- A. Rocket Launcher
- B. Warfer Ship
- C. Nuclear powered submarine
- D. Aircraft carrier



- ✓ India is ready to commission its second nuclear-powered submarine, INS Arighat, for strategic deterrence. INS Arighat is India's second indigenously built nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), following INS Arihant, commissioned in 2018. It was built at the Indian Navy's Ship Building Centre in Visakhapatnam. The submarine is 111.6 meters long, with a displacement of 6,000 tonnes, and can reach speeds up to 24 knots submerged.

12. What is the main objective of the 'Model Solar Village initiative'?

- A. Increase agricultural production
- B. Promote solar energy adoption
- C. Improve healthcare facilities
- D. Develop educational institutions



- ✓ The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy released guidelines for the "Model Solar Village" under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. The initiative aims to create one Model Solar Village per district across India, promoting solar energy adoption and self-reliance. A total of ₹800 crore is allocated, with ₹1 crore for each selected village. Eligible villages must be revenue villages with over 5,000 people (or 2,000 in special category states). Villages compete based on their installed renewable energy capacity, with winners receiving ₹1 crore.

- ✓ The PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana provides 300 units of free electricity per month to 1 crore households, with a ₹75,000 crore investment.

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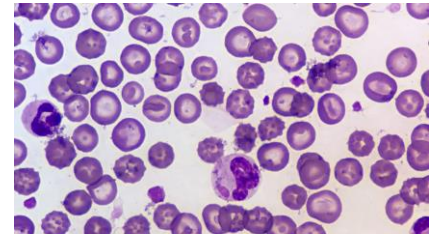
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1. Canine Distemper Disease is caused by which agent?

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



- ✓ **Stray dogs near the Corbett Tiger Reserve in Uttarakhand will be vaccinated against the canine distemper virus (CDV). Canine distemper is a serious, contagious disease caused by canine distemper virus (CDV). The virus affects the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and nervous systems of dogs. Puppies under four months and unvaccinated dogs are particularly at risk. CDV can also infect ferrets and various other mammals, especially carnivores like foxes, wolves, raccoons, and skunks. Cats can be infected by CDV, but they are unlikely to become sick.**

2. Kalinga Prize is related to which field?

- A. Science
- B. Agriculture
- C. Finance
- D. Politics



- ✓ **The Science and Technology Ministry has withdrawn support from the Kalinga Prize. The Kalinga Prize is UNESCO's oldest award for popularizing science. It was established in 1951 with a donation from Odisha's former Chief Minister Biju Patnaik. The prize honors individuals with notable careers in writing, editing, lecturing, or media production, who help explain science and technology to the public.**

3. Recently, who has been appointed as Indian Ambassador to the United States?

- A. Vijay Keshav
- B. Vinay Mohan Kwatra
- C. Vikrant Singh
- D. Amandeep Singh



- ✓ **Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumed charge as India's Ambassador to the United States, succeeding Taranjit Singh Sandhu. Kwatra expressed commitment to strengthening the US-India partnership. Sripriya Ranganathan, Deputy Ambassador, welcomed Kwatra to the US. Kwatra has 32 years of experience in this field.**

4. Which organization recently published "Global Employment Trends (GET) for Youth 2024" report?

- A. International Monetary Fund
- B. World Bank
- C. International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- D. UNDP



- ✓ The International Labour Organization released the "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2024" report, marking its 20th anniversary. The report highlights achievements, challenges, and future outlooks for youth employment.
- ✓ In 2023, the global youth unemployment rate dropped to 13%, the lowest in 15 years, with 64.9 million unemployed youth, the lowest since 2000. 20.4% of youth were classified as NEET (Not in Employment, Education, or Training), showing broad labor market exclusion.

5. Recently, 'Amrit Gyan Kosh' and 'Faculty Development' portals were launched under which mission?

- A. Mission Karmayogi
- B. Samagra Shiksha
- C. Atal Innovation Mission
- D. None of the above



- ✓ The Amrit Gyan Kosh and Faculty Development portals were recently launched under Mission Karmayogi. The Amrit Gyan Kosh portal provides a shared knowledge bank with India-centric case studies. The Faculty Development portal focuses on training practitioners and faculty to improve knowledge delivery to civil servants. Mission Karmayogi, launched in 2020, aims to build a competent civil service based on Indian values.

6. Mullaperiyar Dam is located in which state?

- A. Kerala
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Odisha



- ✓ There are concerns about the safety of the Mullaperiyar Dam, which may be at risk of collapsing. Built by the British across the River Periyar, its main purpose is to divert water to Tamil Nadu's arid regions.
- ✓ A 999-year lease gives Tamil Nadu operational rights, despite the dam being in Kerala. The dam helps with flood control and transforms land in Tamil Nadu into fertile areas. There is a long-standing dispute between Kerala and Tamil Nadu over the dam's safety and water rights.

### 7. What is a 'Collision Avoidance System (CAS)'?

- A. A method for increasing train speed
  - B. A collection of technologies to help a vehicle avoid collisions with other vehicles or obstacles
  - C. A system for enhancing passenger comfort by improving the train's aesthetics
  - D. A method of increasing train's fuel efficiency
- ✓ **Recent train accidents in India emphasize the need for better collision avoidance systems. A collision avoidance system helps vehicles avoid collisions by using technology to detect and prevent obstacles. For trains, this means avoiding crashes with other trains or obstacles by monitoring their positions in real-time.**

### 8. Recently, which Indian became the youngest para swimmer in the world to cross the English Channel?

- A. Porbandar, Gujarat
  - B. Pokhran, Rajasthan
  - C. Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
  - D. Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu
- ✓ **DRDO and the Indian Army successfully tested the Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) at Pokhran Field Firing Range. MPATGM is a shoulder-launched, portable missile system designed to target enemy tanks and armored vehicles. The system includes a launcher, target acquisition system, and fire control unit. It has advanced infrared homing sensors and integrated avionics, making it effective for day and night operations.**



### 9. Which ministry recently released the 'Flood Watch India 2.0 App,' developed by the Central Water Commission (CWC)?

- A. Ministry of Rural Development
  - B. Ministry of Agriculture
  - C. Ministry of Jal Shakti
  - D. Ministry of Urban Development
- ✓ **The Union Minister for Jal Shakti launched Version 2.0 of the 'FloodWatch India' mobile app by the Central Water Commission (CWC). The app provides real-time flood information and 7-day forecasts to the public in English and Hindi, with both readable and audio formats. Users can monitor flood situations across the country using real-time river flow data and get flood forecasts at nearby stations. The app includes advanced technologies like satellite data analysis and mathematical modeling.**



10. Long Range Glide Bomb 'GAURAV' is developed by which organization?

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. HAL
- D. JAXA



- ✓ DRDO successfully conducted the first flight test of the Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB), GAURAV, from an Indian Air Force Su-30 MK-I. GAURAV is a 1,000 kg air-launched glide bomb designed to strike targets at long distances. It is equipped with conventional warheads to destroy enemy airstrips, bunkers, and buildings. Developed by the Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in Hyderabad, it hit the target with pinpoint accuracy during the test, with complete data captured.

11. Which ministry recently released '25th Edition of Women and Men in India 2023' report?

- A. Ministry of Culture
- B. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Women and Child Development



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND  
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the 25th issue of the 'Women and Men in India 2023' report, offering a comprehensive view of gender-related data. By 2036, India's population is expected to reach 152.2 crore, with the female percentage increasing to 48.8%. The sex ratio is projected to rise from 943 (2011) to 952 (2036). The working-age population (15-59 years) is expected to grow from 60.7% to 64.9% by 2036. Life expectancy is projected to improve to 71.2 years for males and 74.7 years for females by 2031-36.

12. Corbett Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Corbett Tiger Reserve celebrated World Elephant Day with an awareness campaign. It is located in the foothills of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand, the reserve spans the districts of Pauri, Nainital, and Almora. Established in 1936 as Hailey National Park, it was renamed in 1957 to honor Jim Corbett, a naturalist and conservationist.
- ✓ The reserve now covers 1,288.31 sq. km, featuring undulating terrain with valleys and rivers like Ramganga, Pallaen, and Sonanadi. It is mainly spread over the Bhabar and lower Shivalik regions, characterized by a porous tract with boulders and sand deposits.

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1. 'HarGhar Tiranga campaign' is an initiative of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Culture
- D. Ministry of Urban Development



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed pride over the #HarGharTiranga campaign. The campaign, initiated by the Ministry of Culture and MyGov, aims to spread awareness about India's National Flag, the Tiranga. It seeks to transform people's relationship with the flag from a formal connection to a more personal and heartfelt bond.

2. Recently, India and Israel have launched a joint project to establish a Center of Water Technology (CoWT) at which institute?

- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Roorkee
- D. IIT Kanpur



- ✓ India and Israel have launched a joint project to establish a Centre of Water Technology at IIT Madras to enhance sustainable water management in India. The partnership is seen as a significant milestone, reflecting the growing collaboration between the two countries in addressing water scarcity issues. A Joint Statement of Intent was signed by the Embassy of Israel, IIT Madras, and the AMRUT mission, outlining the framework for the centre. The Centre will focus on innovation and research in urban water supply and technology.

3. Recently, where was the 6<sup>th</sup> India-Australia Maritime Security Dialogue held?

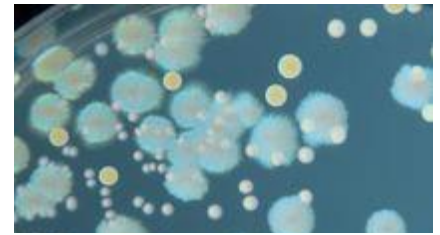
- A. New Delhi
- B. Canberra
- C. Chennai
- D. Hyderabad



- ✓ India and Australia held two key bilateral meetings to enhance their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Australia hosted the 6th India-Australia Maritime Security Dialogue in Canberra, to discuss maritime security cooperation. The Indian delegation was led by Ms Muanpui Saiawi, while Ms Sarah Storey and Mr Bernard Philip led the Australian delegation.
- ✓ They discussed Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), sustainable marine resource use, Search and Rescue operations, pollution response, blue economy, and Port State control. India hosted the 14th India-Australia Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism in New Delhi. The 7th Maritime Security Dialogue will be held in New Delhi.

4. Which country's scientists recently discovered plastic-eating fungi as a potential solution to ocean pollution?

- A. Germany
- B. India
- C. Brazil
- D. France



- ✓ Scientists in Germany have discovered plastic-eating fungi from the *Aspergillus* and *Pestalotiopsis* genera that may help address plastic waste. These fungi can break down plastics, potentially offering a solution to plastic pollution. This discovery could significantly help in reducing plastic pollution in the world's oceans.

5. Recently, who has been appointed as the new head coach of Junior Men's Hockey Team?

- A. Ashok Kumar
- B. P R Sreejesh
- C. Harmanpreet Singh
- D. Balbir Singh



- ✓ PR Sreejesh, who recently led India to a bronze medal at the 2024 Olympics, has been appointed as the new head coach of the Indian junior men's hockey team.

6. Amrit Bharat Station Scheme comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Railways
- B. Ministry of Urban Affairs
- C. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



रेल मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
RAILWAYS

- ✓ Western Railway has added Kandivali and Dahisar stations to the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. Launched in February 2023 by the Ministry of Railways, this scheme aims to redevelop railway stations across India. It focuses on long-term development with master plans and phased improvements. The scheme addresses each station's unique needs, aiming to modernize them with better amenities, traffic flow, and signage.

7. Prerana Programme is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Education
- B. Ministry of Culture
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence



शिक्षा मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION

- ✓ The Union Education Minister recently interacted with students, teachers, and parents of PM SHRI Schools and Prerana Programme alumni. Prerana Programme, launched in January 2024, integrates Indian education principles and value-based learning from NEP 2020. It's a week-long residential program for selected class IX to XII students, combining heritage and innovation.

8. What is the objective of 'National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)', recently launched by Union Government?

- A. To reduce farmers' dependence on pesticide retailers
- B. To monitor soil quality
- C. To monitor weather patterns
- D. To improve irrigation techniques



- ✓ The Indian Government launched the AI-based National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) on August 15 to assist farmers with pest control. NPSS helps farmers connect with agricultural experts using their phones, reducing reliance on pesticide retailers.
- ✓ Farmers can send images of infested crops to experts for accurate diagnosis and treatment. The system uses AI tools to analyze pest data, providing timely information to around 14 crore farmers. This initiative aims to increase productivity, conserve soil health, and will be implemented at the state level through outreach programs without additional funding.

9. Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary and Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary are located in which state?

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



- ✓ Three more Indian wetlands have been added to the Ramsar list, including Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary, Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary, and Tawa Reservoir. Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary is in Tiruppur District, Tamil Nadu, named after King Nanjarayan who restored the lake.
- ✓ Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary, declared in 2021, is a brackish shallow lake on the Coromandel Coast in Villupuram district, Tamil Nadu, and is rich in biodiversity. Tawa Reservoir, the largest protected area in Madhya Pradesh, is located inside the Satpura Tiger Reserve at the confluence of the Tawa and Denwa rivers.

10. Recently, which state government has launched 'HIM-UNNATI scheme' to boost natural farming?

- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Gujarat
- D. Rajasthan



- ✓ Himachal Pradesh has launched the HIM-UNNATI scheme to promote natural farming, with a ₹150 crore allocation. The scheme supports 1.92 lakh farmers practicing chemical-free farming on over 32,149 hectares. It aims to make agriculture economically viable by promoting a cluster-based development model and natural farming practices. The initiative will consolidate smallholding farmers for bulk production and integrate with existing agricultural schemes and departments like animal husbandry and horticulture to maximize impact.
- 

11. Recently, who has been appointed as Director of the Enforcement Directorate?

- A. Satyajit Prakash  
B. Vinay Patnaik  
C. Rahul Navin   
D. Vikram Singh



- ✓ IRS officer Rahul Navin has been appointed as the new Enforcement Director by the Cabinet Appointments Committee. He will serve as the Special Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for two years from the date he assumes charge. Navin joined the ED as Special Director in November 2019.
- 

12. Dr Ramnarayan Agarwal, who recently passed away, was associated with which field?

- A. Sports  
B. Politics  
C. Journalism  
D. Science



- ✓ Ramnarayan Agarwal, known as "Agniman" and the "Father of Missiles," passed away in Hyderabad. He played a key role in India's long-range ballistic missile program and was the first Project Director of the Agni Missile Program. Agarwal, a Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awardee, made significant contributions to India's defense capabilities. He retired as Director of the Advanced Systems Laboratory (ASL) in 2005. He worked closely with Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and Dr. Arunachalam on missile programs.
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1. Which organization recently launched Earth Observation Satellite 'EOS-08'?

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



- ✓ **ISRO launched the Earth Observation Satellite EOS-08 under the SSLV-D3/EOS-08 mission using the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)-D3 from Sriharikota. The satellite will operate in a circular Low Earth Orbit at 475 km altitude with a 37.4° inclination and has a mission life of 1 year. The mission also included SR-0 DEMOSAT, developed by Space Kidz India. Objectives of EOS-08 include designing a microsatellite, developing compatible payload instruments, and incorporating new technologies for future operational satellites.**

2. How many Gallantry Awards were approved by the President on Independence Day 2024?

- A. 97
- B. 100
- C. 103
- D. 110

**103**

- ✓ **President Droupadi Murmu approved 103 Gallantry awards for Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces on Independence Day. The awards include four Kirti Chakras (three posthumous), 18 Shaurya Chakras (four posthumous), and one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry). Additional awards include 63 Sena Medals (Gallantry, two posthumous), 11 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry), and six Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry). 39 Mention-in-Despatches were approved, including for Army Dog Kent.**
- ✓ **The President also approved one President's Tatrakshak Medal (Distinguished Service), one Tatrakshak Medal (Gallantry), and two Tatrakshak Medals (Meritorious Service) for the Indian Coast Guard, along with the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Services and Police Medal for Meritorious Service.**

3. Recently, which state has become the first Indian state to launch a Gross Environment Product Index?

- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Gujarat



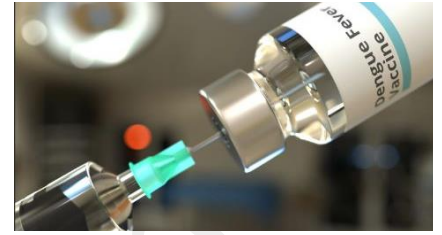
- ✓ **Uttarakhand is the first Indian state to launch a Gross Environment Product Index (GEPI). GEPI evaluates ecological development influenced by human actions. It focuses on four pillars: air, soil, trees, and water. The formula is: GEP index = (Air-GEP index + Water-GEP index + Soil-GEP index + Forest-GEP index).**

- ✓ GEPI helps assess the impact of human activities on ecosystems, measures contributions back to the environment, and quantifies the economic and welfare benefits of natural ecosystems.

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#### 4. What is 'DengiAll'?

- A. Artificial sweetener
- B. Dengue vaccine
- C. AI tool
- D. Newly discovered galaxy



- ✓ The tetravalent dengue vaccine, DengiAll, has entered phase-3 clinical trials. The trials are a collaboration between the Indian Council of Medical Research and Panacea Biotec. Dengue is a viral infection transmitted by infected female Aedes mosquitoes, also responsible for chikungunya and Zika. It is common in tropical and subtropical areas, mainly in urban and semi-urban regions. Dengue can lead to severe conditions like dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome. Currently, there is no antiviral treatment or licensed vaccine for dengue in India.

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#### 5. What is the primary objective of the PM-PRANAM scheme?

- A. To increase the use of chemical fertilisers
- B. To reduce the use of chemical fertilisers by incentivizing states
- C. To provide free chemical fertilisers to farmers
- D. To promote chemical fertilisers over organic ones

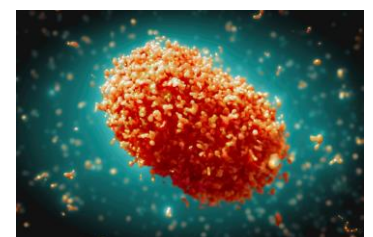


- ✓ The Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers discussed the PM-PRANAM initiative in the Lok Sabha recently. The Cabinet approved the PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother-Earth (PM-PRANAM) on June 28, 2023.
- ✓ The scheme aims to reduce chemical fertilizer use by incentivizing states. States that cut chemical fertilizer use will receive a subsidy based on the savings. The goal is to promote balanced fertilizer use, including bio and organic fertilizers. States/UTs will get 50% of the saved subsidy as a grant, which can be used for benefiting farmers and other state needs.

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#### 6. Recently, World Health Organization (WHO) declared which virus a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)?

- A. Ebola virus
- B. Zika virus
- C. Monkeypox virus
- D. SARS-CoV-2 virus



- ✓ The WHO declared mpox a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC) for the second time in two years. A PHEIC is a serious and unexpected health event that spreads internationally and needs a coordinated global response.
- ✓ Mpox is caused by the monkeypox virus (MPXV), a double-stranded DNA virus from the Orthopoxvirus genus. There are two genetic clades of MPXV: clade I and clade II. mpox was first reported in humans in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7. Recently, which country hosted the "3<sup>rd</sup> Voice of Global South Summit"?

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



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit on August 17, 2024, held virtually with participation from many Global South leaders. The summit is rooted in the Indian philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, providing a platform for Global South countries to discuss vital issues. The theme is "An Empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future," focusing on conflicts, food and energy security, and climate change.

8. Recently, where was the 17th edition of the International Earth Sciences Olympiad (IESO) held?

- A. Beijing, China
- B. New Delhi, India
- C. London, UK
- D. Moscow, Russia



- ✓ The Indian student team won multiple medals at the 17th International Earth Sciences Olympiad (IESO) held in Beijing, China, from August 8-16, 2024. It was established in 2003. IESO is an annual competition for secondary school students worldwide. It aims to raise awareness of earth sciences through teamwork, collaboration, and competition.
- ✓ The event encourages young people to engage in earth system sciences and discuss environmental challenges. IESO is part of the REACHOUT scheme by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, with India participating since 2007 and hosting the 10th edition in Mysore.

9. Recently, which state has become the third state after Kerala and Bihar to introduce menstrual leave policy for working women?

- A. Odisha
- B. Karnataka
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Kerala

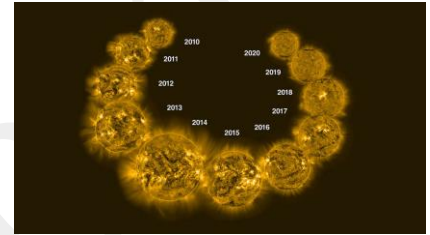




- ✓ Odisha became the third state in India to introduce menstrual leave for working women in both public and private sectors. Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida announced that women can take one day of leave on the first or second day of their menstrual cycle.
- ✓ This new policy applies to both government and private sector employees. Bihar and Kerala also provide menstrual leave, with Bihar offering two days per month for women employees and Kerala offering three days for female students.

10. Recently, which institute has developed a new method to predict the amplitude of the upcoming solar cycle?

- A. National Atmospheric Research Laboratory
- B. Indian Institute of Astrophysics
- C. Indian Institute of Remote Sensing
- D. Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology



- ✓ Astronomers at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) developed a method to predict the strength of upcoming solar cycles. This discovery uses over 100 years of solar data from IIA's Kodaikanal Solar Observatory.
- ✓ Solar images at a specific wavelength (393.3 nm) revealed a correlation between the width of supergranular cells during the solar cycle's minimum phase and the number of sunspots in the next maximum phase. This method offers a simple and effective way to predict solar activity. Accurate solar cycle predictions are crucial for improving space weather forecasting.

11. Malabar tree toad is endemic to which region of India?

- A. Western Ghats
- B. Eastern Ghats
- C. Ladakh
- D. North Eastern



- ✓ According to recent study, climate change may reduce the Malabar Tree Toad's range by up to 68.7% in India's protected areas. This toad is the only species in the genus Pedostibes and was first discovered in 1876 but not seen again until 1980. It was rediscovered in Silent Valley National Park, Kerala. It is endemic to India's Western Ghats. It lives in evergreen to moist deciduous forests, climbing trees and dwelling in tree cavities.

12. Recently, which country reported the first confirmed case of deadly mpox variant outside Africa?

- A. Germany
- B. Barbados
- C. Sweden
- D. France



- ✓ Sweden reported its first case of the dangerous Clade 1b variant of mpox, which has been causing a severe outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo since September 2023. The case was confirmed in Stockholm and contracted during a visit to Africa.

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### 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.**

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### 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.**

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### 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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1. Recently, where was the India's first digital court for handling cheque bounce cases, called 24\*7 ONCOURTS inaugurated?

- A. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- B. Kollam, Kerala
- C. Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- D. Surat, Gujarat



- ✓ Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai inaugurated India's first digital court, 24\*7 ONCOURTS, in Kollam, Kerala, to handle cheque bounce cases. This digital court operates entirely online, from case filing to judgments, aiming to increase efficiency and reduce case backlog. The court will start accepting cheque bounce cases in September 2024.

2. Rakesh Pal, who recently passed away, was associated with which armed force?

- A. Indian Navy
- B. Indian Coast Guard
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. National Security Guard



- ✓ Director-General of Indian Coast Guard Rakesh Pal passed away in Chennai at age 59 due to a cardiac arrest. He was in Chennai for an event with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. He had over 30 years of service, joining the Coast Guard in January 1989 and becoming the 25th Director-General in July 2023. He led major operations and was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, President Tatrakshak Medal, and Tatrakshak Medal.

3. Guam Island is located in which ocean?

- A. Pacific Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Atlantic Ocean
- D. Arctic Ocean



- ✓ INS Shivalik recently arrived in Guam for an operational turnaround after participating in RIMPAC 2024, the world's largest multinational maritime exercise. Guam is the largest and southernmost of the Mariana Islands in the Northern Pacific Ocean and is a US territory. It was a Spanish colony until 1898, becoming a US territory after the Spanish-American War. Guam has a tropical climate with trade winds and equatorial currents. The capital of Guam is Hagatna.



4. Recently, the winners of the 70<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards were announced by which ministry?

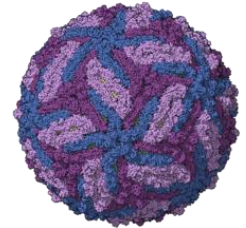
- A. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- B. Ministry of Culture
- C. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ The winners of the 70th National Film Awards were recently announced by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The National Film Awards was established in 1954 to encourage films of aesthetic, technical excellence, and social relevance, promoting cultural appreciation across India. Initially called 'State Awards,' they included President's Gold Medals and certificates of merit. Awards are given in three sections: Feature Films, Non-Feature Films, and Best Writing in Cinema. Since 1973, the Directorate of Film Festivals has administered these awards.

5. What is 'Importin-7 (IPO7)'?

- A. Protein
- B. Synthetic drug
- C. Invasive weed
- D. None of the above



- ✓ A study identified a protein called importin-7 (IPO7) that transports flavivirus core protein into the nucleus. Flaviviruses belong to the Flaviviridae family, with spherical virions measuring 40-60 nanometers. These viruses have a single-stranded positive-sense RNA genome. Flaviviruses can cause serious diseases, including neuro-infections, which may lead to severe health issues or death.

6. Recently, which airport became the first Indian airport to achieve Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport status?

- A. Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi
- B. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad
- C. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai
- D. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad



- ✓ Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi achieved Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport status, the first in India. This Level 5 certification recognizes the airport's success in maintaining a net zero carbon balance. The airport reduced 90% of Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions and offset the rest. Originally aiming for net zero by 2030, it met the goal earlier through renewable energy, electric vehicles, zero waste programs, and green infrastructure. The airport now aims to achieve net zero in Scope 3 emissions by 2050.

7. Which two Indian athletes were selected as the flag bearers for India in the opening ceremony of 2024 Paris Paralympics Games?

- A. Krishna Nagar and Ajeet Singh
- B. Manish Narwal and Avani Lekhara
- C. Sumit Antil and Bhagyashree Jadhav
- D. Yogesh Kathuniya and Nishad Kumar



- ✓ **Sumit Antil and Bhagyashree Jadhav were selected as flag bearers for India at the 2024 Paris Paralympics opening ceremony on 28 August 2024. The 17th Summer Paralympics will take place in Paris from 28 August to 8 September 2024. Sumit Antil, a 25-year-old World Champion, won gold in javelin at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics and holds the world record in the F64 category. Bhagyashree Jadhav, 39, won silver in shotput (F34 category) at the Asian Para Games and World Para Athletics Championships in May 2024.**

8. Which day is observed as 'World Mosquito Day' every year?

- A. 20 August
- B. 21 August
- C. 22 August
- D. 23 August



- ✓ **World Mosquito Day is observed on August 20 to highlight the importance of protecting against mosquito-borne diseases. Mosquitoes spread diseases like malaria, dengue, Zika, and West Nile virus, affecting millions and causing deaths worldwide. The 2024 theme is "Accelerating the fight against malaria for a more equitable world." This theme stresses the need to improve access to malaria treatment, diagnosis, and prevention.**

9. National Geoscience Award is instituted by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Mines



खान मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
MINES

- ✓ **The President of India will present the National Geoscience Awards 2023 at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. These awards are among the oldest and most prestigious in geosciences, established in 1966 by the Ministry of Mines. Initially called the National Mineral Awards, the name changed in 2009. The awards honor individuals and teams for exceptional contributions in geosciences, including mineral discovery, mining technology, and fundamental/applied geosciences. Any Indian citizen with significant contributions in geosciences is eligible for the award.**

### 10. What is 'Miyawaki method'?

- A. Development of garden using genetically modified seeds
- B. Urban afforestation method
- C. Promotion of commercial farming in arid areas
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **The Chhattisgarh Forest Department held a Van Mahotsav in the Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur district, planting saplings using the Miyawaki method. The Miyawaki method, is a urban afforestation method, developed by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki. It involves planting 2-4 types of native trees per square meter.**
- ✓ **Dense planting leads to rapid growth as seedlings compete for sunlight. Only native species, suited to the local climate and naturally occurring without human interference, are planted. Trees become self-sustainable and reach full growth in about three years. Miyawaki forests grow 10 times faster, are 30 times denser, and have 100 times more biodiversity.**

### 11. Shaurya Sampravah 1.0 is associated with which armed force?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ **The Indian Army held a landmark event, Shaurya Sampravah 1.0, at the Manekshaw Centre in Delhi, led by General Upendra Dwivedi. The event aimed to harness the experience and insights of veteran officers to shape the Army's future and contribute to national growth. General Dwivedi expressed gratitude to veterans and emphasized the event as a platform for idea exchange between current leadership and veterans. The event featured a detailed briefing on the "Decade of Transformation" roadmap, focusing on modernization and enhancing operational capabilities.**

### 12. Sundararajan Padmanabhan, who recently passed away, was former chief of which armed force?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ **General Sundararajan Padmanabhan, former Chief of Army Staff, passed away in Chennai at age 83. He served as the Chief of Army Staff from 2000 to 2002. Born in Kerala, he was an alumnus of RIMC, NDA, and IMA, and was commissioned into the Regiment of Artillery in 1959. He was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM). He retired in 2002 after 43 years of service, known affectionately as "Paddy."**

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1. Recently, India has sent about 1400 kgs of anti-cancer drugs to which country in humanitarian assistance?

- A. Syria
- B. Ukraine
- C. Iraq
- D. Iran



- ✓ India has sent about 1400 kg of anti-cancer drugs to Syria as part of humanitarian aid. This assistance aims to strengthen India-Syria relations and comes when Syria's First Lady Asma Assad is battling leukaemia. The Indian Embassy in Syria is actively involved in this effort.

2. Which organization developed the online platforms PROMPT, DRIPS, and JAL VIDYUT DPR, recently launched by Ministry of Power?

- A. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- B. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)
- C. Central Electricity Authority (CEA)
- D. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Power launched three new online platforms: PROMPT (Portal for Online Monitoring of Projects—Thermal), DRIPS (Disaster Resource Inventory for Power Sector), and JAL VIDYUT DPR, to improve the power sector's efficiency. It has developed by the Central Electricity Authority under the Ministry of Power with NTPC's help for PROMPT, these platforms aim to improve efficiency and transparency in the power sector.
- ✓ PROMPT tracks and analyzes thermal power projects in real-time to address construction delays. JAL VIDYUT DPR monitors the status of hydroelectric and pumped storage projects to ensure better management. DRIPS helps identify and manage power disruptions from natural disasters by linking nodal officers and agencies.

3. What is 'Slow Loris'?

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



- ✓ Villagers in Shimlabagan, Assam, spotted a rare and endangered primate, the Slow Loris. Slow lorises are venomous primates found in South and Southeast Asia, living mostly in trees. There are nine species of slow loris, including the Bengal slow loris, which is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List. The Bengal slow loris is legally protected under India's Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. In India, the Bengal slow loris is found only in the northeast region.

4. Shaheen-II Missile is developed by which country?

- A. India
- B. Japan
- C. Russia
- D. Pakistan



- ✓ **Pakistan successfully tested its Shaheen-II surface-to-surface ballistic missile. Shaheen-II is a medium-range, solid-fueled missile with an estimated range of 1,500–2,000 km. It is 17.2 m long, weighs 23,600 kg at launch, and can carry conventional or nuclear payloads. The missile's accuracy is estimated at 350 m circular error probable (CEP).**

5. Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- B. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ **India aims to blend 20% ethanol with petrol by 2025-26, addressing concerns about fuel efficiency and the food vs. fuel debate. Ethanol, mainly produced from sugarcane molasses, can also come from sources like rice husk and maize, and is considered a renewable fuel.**
- ✓ **The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas launched the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme in 2003 to promote alternative fuels. The programme, extended to all of India (except some UTs) in 2019, increased ethanol blending from 1.6% in 2013-14 to 11.8% in 2022-23. India plans to produce 1,000 crore litres of ethanol for blending by 2025-26.**

6. Who has been appointed as India's chef de mission for the Paris Paralympics 2024?

- A. Devendra Jhajharia
- B. Satya Prakash Sangwan
- C. Deepa Malik
- D. Yogesh Kathuniya



- ✓ **The Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) has appointed Satya Prakash Sangwan as Chef de Mission for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Sangwan, also PCI's Vice-President, will lead India's largest-ever contingent of 84 para-athletes in 12 sports.**

7. What is the denomination of the commemorative coin issued in honor of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi?

- A. 10
- B. 100
- C. 150
- D. 500



- ✓ Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh released a Rs 100 commemorative coin for Kalaingar M Karunanidhi's birth centenary in Chennai on August 18, 2024. Karunanidhi, a key figure in the Dravidian movement and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister for nearly two decades, passed away on August 7, 2018. Known as Kalaingar ("the artist"), he led the DMK party, which remains influential under his son, Stalin. Commemorative coins are usually minted in limited quantities and held by the Reserve Bank of India as collectibles.

8. Recently, which ministry launched pilot project to transform Fair Price Shops into 'Jan Poshan Kendras' to boost nutrition access?

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



उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

- ✓ The Union Minister launched a pilot project to transform 60 Fair Price Shops (FPS) into Jan Poshan Kendras. FPSs distribute essential commodities to ration card holders under the Targeted Public Distribution System. Jan Poshan Kendras will offer nutrition-rich food items and provide extra income for FPS dealers. The pilot project will be implemented in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh.

9. India recently signed a 'Green Ammonia Export Agreement' with which country?

- A. Russia
- B. France
- C. Japan
- D. Australia



- ✓ India and Japan signed their first project offtake agreement for exporting green ammonia from India to Japan. The agreement was signed in the presence of Minister of New & Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi. This marks a key step in India's goal to become a global leader in green hydrogen and ammonia production. The Heads of Terms (HoT) agreement involves Sembcorp Industries, Sojitz Corporation, Kyushu Electric Power, and NYK Line. It highlights India's growing role in the global green energy sector and represents the first such collaboration between India and Japan.

10. BPaLM Regimen is associated with which disease?

- A. Dengue
- B. Japanese Encephalitis
- C. Tuberculosis
- D. Malaria



- ✓ The Union Health Ministry recently introduced the BPaLM regimen for treating Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) under the National TB Elimination Program. The BPaLM regimen combines four drugs: Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, Linezolid, and optionally Moxifloxacin. Pretomanid is a new anti-TB drug approved for use in India. The regimen is safer, more effective, and patient-friendly compared to traditional treatments.

11. Recently, which organization issued world's first carbon removal bond to fund Amazon reforestation?

- A. World Bank
- B. UNDP
- C. UNEP
- D. UNESCO



- ✓ The World Bank has issued the world's first carbon removal bond to support Amazon reforestation. The bond is worth \$225 million and has a nine-year term. Investors' returns are tied to the amount of carbon removed by new trees, not just emission reductions from preventing deforestation. This bond aims to protect the Amazon by financially incentivizing reforestation efforts.

12. Kakrapar Atomic Power Station is located in which state?

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



- ✓ India's second 700 MW nuclear reactor at Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS-4) in Gujarat began full-capacity operation on August 21, 2024. KAPS-4, an indigenous design, reached full power after operating at 90% capacity. The successful operation of KAPS-4 follows its twin unit, KAPS-3. India plans to build 14 more reactors of the same design by 2031-32. Currently, NPCIL operates 24 reactors and has eight more under construction. By 2031-32, India's nuclear power capacity is expected to reach 22,480 MW.



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1. Similipal Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Gujarat
- C. Odisha
- D. Maharashtra



- ✓ **Similipal Tiger Reserve in Odisha will grow bamboo grass in the National Park. It is located in Mayurbhanj District, Odisha. It covers 2,750 sq km and features waterfalls like Joranda and Barehipani. It was designated as a tiger reserve in 1973 and a wildlife sanctuary in 1979. In 1980, 303 sq km was proposed as a National Park, and in 2009, UNESCO added it to its Biosphere Reserves list.**

2. What is the 'Lunar Magma Ocean (LMO)'?

- A. A layer of ice on the moon
- B. A hypothesized early stage when the moon's surface was molten
- C. A stormy atmosphere around the moon
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **India's Chandrayaan-3 mission has revived interest in the Lunar Magma Ocean (LMO) theory, which explains the moon's early formation. Chandrayaan-3's Pragyan rover discovered ferroan anorthosite rocks in the lunar south pole. This discovery supports the LMO theory, as these rocks are believed to be remnants of the ancient magma ocean. The finding aligns with earlier observations from Apollo and Luna missions, confirming the existence of the LMO and providing insights into the moon's early formation.**

3. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is administered by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Urban Development
- B. Ministry of Labour & Employment
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises



- ✓ **KVIC and the Department of Posts are collaborating to enhance the implementation of PMEGP across India. PMEGP is a central scheme under the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises. It aims to create employment in rural and urban areas by supporting new self-employment ventures. The scheme helps traditional artisans and unemployed youth to find work locally, reducing rural-to-urban migration. It also aims to increase the wage-earning capacity of workers and boost employment growth in rural and urban areas.**

4. Recently, which state has launched a unique project to educate students about the cultivation of rice?

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



- ✓ **A Kannada Medium school in Sullia, Karnataka, is using a paddy field on its campus as part of its educational approach. This project gives students hands-on experience in food cultivation. The school, with over 500 students and operating since 1973, has dedicated a 3,500 square-meter field for this initiative. The goal is to provide students with practical learning in agriculture.**

5. Recently, which airport has been awarded the best airport title at the India Travel Awards?

- A. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport
- B. Jaipur International Airport
- C. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
- D. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport



- ✓ **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) in Hyderabad has been named the Best Airport at the India Travel Awards for the third consecutive year. This award highlights RGIA's commitment to providing an exceptional passenger experience and boosts its reputation in the aviation industry. RGIA also won the Skytrax award for 'Best Airport Staff in India & South Asia 2024,' reinforcing its status as a top airport.**

6. Recently, who has been appointed as the new Union Home Secretary?

- A. Govind Mohan
- B. Susheel Kumar Trivedi
- C. Jitendra Kumar
- D. Aditya Kumar Anand



- ✓ **Senior IAS officer Govind Mohan became the Union Home Secretary on August 22, 2024, succeeding Ajay Kumar Bhalla. Before this, Govind Mohan was the Secretary of the Union Ministry of Culture. The Home Secretary role is the second most powerful secretarial post in India, after the Cabinet Secretary, currently Rajiv Gauba. Govind Mohan, a 1989 batch IAS officer of the Sikkim cadre, has an electrical engineering degree from BHU and a PG Diploma from IIM Ahmedabad.**

7. Who was awarded the Men's International Cricketer of the Year at the CEAT Cricket Awards 2024?

- A. Jasprit Bumrah
- B. Hardik Pandya
- C. Rohit Sharma
- D. Surya Yadav



- ✓ Rohit Sharma, Indian men's cricket team captain, won the 26th CEAT International Cricketer of the Year Award for his outstanding performance in the 2023-24 season. Under Rohit's captaincy, India reached the final of the 13<sup>th</sup> ICC Men's ODI World Cup, where he scored around 1800 runs, including 597 in the World Cup.
- ✓ Virat Kohli received the Best ODI Batter of the Year award, scoring 1377 runs in the 2023-24 season and surpassing Sachin Tendulkar's record with 50 ODI centuries. Rahul Dravid was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions as a player and coach.

8. Dasara festival is celebrated in which state?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ Mysuru Dasara is a grand 10-day festival in Mysuru, Karnataka, celebrated during Navratri and culminating on Vijayadashami. It features vibrant processions, illuminated palaces, and cultural activities, attracting thousands of visitors. The festival began in 1610 with Raja Wadiyar I, symbolizing the victory of Goddess Chamundeshwari over a demon. The Wadiyars of Mysore have enriched the festival's traditions over centuries, with the Mysore Palace as a central attraction.

9. According to the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, which state has the highest number of public electric vehicle charging stations in the country?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Maharashtra



- ✓ According to the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Karnataka leads India with 5,765 public EV charging stations, with 85% (4,462) located in Bengaluru Urban district. This puts Karnataka ahead of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi in EV charging infrastructure.

- ✓ Energy Minister KJ George highlighted Karnataka's commitment to electric mobility, supported by initiatives like the FAME scheme, BESCOM investments, and public-private partnerships. Karnataka introduced India's first EV policy in 2017 and plans to develop model EV cities statewide. The 2024 State Budget announced 2,500 new EV charging stations via PPP and ₹35 crore investment for 100 more in collaboration with electricity companies.

10. Recently, which ministry issued an order to establish the National Task Force (NTF) to formulate protocols governing the safety of doctors?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- C. Ministry of Law and Justice
- D. Ministry of Defence



स्वास्थ्य एवं  
परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued an order on August 21, 2024, forming a 14-member National Task Force for the safety of medical professionals. The task force was established by the Supreme Court on August 20, 2024, after a postgraduate doctor was allegedly raped and murdered at RG Kar Medical College in Kolkata, leading to nationwide protests.
- ✓ Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba is appointed as the Chairperson. The task force includes 9 eminent doctors, the Home Secretary, Health Secretary, and leaders from the National Medical Commission and National Board of Examinations. The Health Ministry will cover all expenses for the task force.

11. Which day is observed as 'National Space Day' in India?

- A. 23 August
- B. 22 August
- C. 21 August
- D. 20 August



- ✓ India celebrates its first National Space Day on 23 August 2024, highlighting the nation's achievements in space exploration. The Indian space program began with a sounding rocket launch from Thumba, Kerala, in 1963, and has since advanced to landing rovers on the moon and exploring planets like Mars and the Sun.
- ✓ National Space Day was announced to honor the successful landing of the Vikram lander from the Chandrayaan-3 mission on the moon's south pole on 23 August 2023. The landing site was later named "Shiv Shakti Point" by the Indian government.

12. Mettukurinji (*Strobilanthes sessilis*) is endemic to which region of India?

- A. Ladakh
- B. Eastern Ghats
- C. Western Ghats
- D. Thar Desert



- ✓ **Mettukurinji, or Topli karvy, is a plant endemic to the Western Ghats and belongs to the Acanthaceae family. It flowers every seven years, similar to Neelakurinji, which blooms every 12 years. India has the highest diversity of Strobilanthes, with over 160 species, 72 of which are endemic to the Sahyadris. Mettukurinji's flowers, in shades of purple, lavender, and blue, are a tourist attraction. The plant faces threats from monocarpy, landslides, floods, and visitor disturbance, leading to its decline. Neelakurinji is listed as a 'threatened' species by the IUCN.**

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### 1. What is the theme of the first 'National Space Day'?

- A. A New Era of Space Exploration
- B. India's Journey to the Stars
- C. Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga
- D. None of the Above



- ✓ **India celebrated its first National Space Day on August 23, 2024. This day marks the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3's Vikram Lander on the Moon's southern polar region. India is the first country to land in this uncharted region and the fourth overall to achieve a lunar landing. The theme for the celebration is "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga."**

### 2. Recently, which ministry organized the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES)?

- A. Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- B. Ministry of Information Broadcasting
- C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D. Ministry of Defence



सूचना एवं  
प्रसारण मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
**INFORMATION AND  
BROADCASTING**

- ✓ **The Ministry of Information Broadcasting launched 25 challenges under the 'Create in India Challenge—Season 1' for the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in New Delhi. WAVES is a platform for collaboration, innovation, and discussions in the Media and Entertainment industry. Its goals include boosting India's creator economy, making India an attractive investment destination, and adapting to new industry trends. It promotes cross-cultural exchanges and aims to develop a skilled workforce.**

### 3. Recently, which institution has developed a new method to study the Sun's magnetic field?

- A. Indian Institute of Science
- B. Indian Institute of Astrophysics
- C. Indian Institute of Remote Sensing
- D. Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences



- ✓ **Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) astronomers developed a method to study the Sun's magnetic fields using the Kodaikanal Tower Tunnel Telescope. The study focused on a sunspot region with complex features like multiple umbrae and a penumbra. Observations were made using Hydrogen-alpha and Calcium II spectral lines. The Tunnel Telescope's 3-mirror Coelostat setup allowed precise Sun tracking and improved data accuracy. Solar magnetic fields are generated by the movement of electrically charged particles.**

#### 4. What is 'Kalamezhuthu'?

- A. Traditional Art form
- B. Classical Dance
- C. Folk Song
- D. Ancient Rock



- ✓ A Kalamezhuthu workshop was recently organized by the Malayalam Department in Kochi, Kerala. Kalamezhuthu, also known as Dhulee Chithram or Kalam Pattu, is a traditional floor painting art form in Kerala. It is performed during rituals to worship gods like Kaali, Ayyappan, and Vettakkorumakan. The drawings are erased at the end of rituals with musical accompaniment. Natural colors from plants are used for the drawings.

#### 5. Recently, in which city of Uttar Pradesh was the Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) Project inaugurated?

- A. Ayodhya
- B. Varanasi
- C. Lucknow
- D. Kanpur



- ✓ The Green Strategic Partnership between India and Denmark led to the creation of the Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) in Varanasi. This partnership involves India's Department of Water Resources, IIT-BHU, and Denmark to improve small river management. SLCR focuses on rejuvenating the Varuna River using sustainable methods and collaboration. The initiative combines a hybrid lab at IIT-BHU and a living lab on the Varuna River to test solutions.

#### 6. Which state government has recently released the 'Justice Hema Committee report'?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Kerala government released the Justice Hema Committee report after nearly five years due to privacy concerns. The committee was established in July 2017 following the abduction and sexual assault of a Malayalam actress. The report aimed to investigate sexual harassment and gender inequality in the Malayalam film industry. The case highlighted broader issues of discrimination against women in the industry.



### 7. What kind of vessel is 'ICGS Sujay'?

- A. Fast Patrol Vessel
- B. Offshore Patrol Vessel
- C. Pollution Control Vessel
- D. Hovercraft



- ✓ **ICGS Sujay, an Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) of the Indian Coast Guard, recently visited Jakarta, Indonesia. It is stationed in Paradip, Odisha, under the Coast Guard Region (North-East) command and frequently deployed for various missions.**
- ✓ **The 105-meter vessel is equipped with a 30mm CRN 91-gun, advanced navigation, communication systems, and sensors. The ship is designed for extended deployment in maritime zones, conducting missions like surveillance, search and rescue, and law enforcement.**

### 8. Recently, where was the 'National Conclave: Sangathan Swasthya Samridhi' inaugurated?

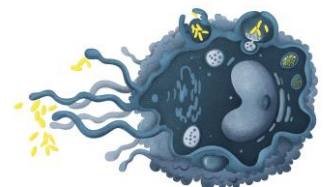
- A. Bengaluru
- B. New Delhi
- C. Chennai
- D. Bhopal



- ✓ **Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated the 'National Conclave: Sangathan Swasthya Samridhi' in New Delhi. The event focuses on women's roles in food, nutrition, health, and WASH. Health and nutrition are highlighted as essential for the nation's development, with women playing a key role.**
- ✓ **Self-help groups are recognized as important for the country's progress. Discussions emphasized the need for better basic health facilities and the idea that a healthy population leads to national growth. Women, including self-help groups from across the country, are attending the conclave.**

### 9. What are 'Macrophages'?

- A. White Blood Cells
- B. Virus
- C. Drugs for TB
- D. Fungus



- ✓ **Scientists have published a new paper on the interaction between diseased liver cells and macrophages. Macrophages are white blood cells crucial to the immune system. They engulf and digest microorganisms, clear debris, and stimulate other immune cells. The word "macrophage" comes from Greek terms meaning "big" and "eat."**

- ✓ Macrophages develop from monocytes, which are formed in the bone marrow. Monocytes circulate in the blood before becoming macrophages or dendritic cells in tissues. Macrophages are found in many organs, including the liver, brain, bones, lungs, and at infection sites.

10. Pampadum Shola National Park is located in which state?

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



- ✓ A new plant species, *Gongronema sasidharanii*, was discovered in Pampadum Shola National Park, Kerala. This plant has smooth stems and small, urn-shaped flowers that are creamy white to purplish-green. It's the first time the *Gongronema* genus has been found in South India.
- ✓ Previously, *Gongronema* species in India were only found in the northeast, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, and West Bengal. Pampadum Shola National Park is in the Southern Western Ghats, Kerala, covering about 12 sq km. The park has hilly terrain, altitudes from 1600 to 2400 m, and a misty climate with heavy monsoon rain.

11. Recently, which country launched its first reusable hybrid rocket "RHUMI 1"?

- A. India
- B. Nepal
- C. Myanmar
- D. Pakistan



- ✓ A Tamil Nadu-based start-up launched India's first reusable hybrid rocket, "RHUMI 1". The launch took place from a mobile platform in Thiruvudandhai, Chennai. The rocket aims to advance research on global warming and climate change. RHUMI 1 is powered by a hybrid motor. It carried three CUBE satellites to monitor cosmic radiation, UV radiation, and air quality. It also deployed 50 Pico satellites to study accelerometer readings, altitude, and ozone levels to understand environmental dynamics better.

12. Which ministry recently launched "National Medical Register (NMR) Portal" to boost healthcare?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



स्वास्थ्य एवं  
परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched the 'National Medical Register Portal' in New Delhi for the registration of all MBBS doctors eligible for registration in India. This portal will be a

comprehensive and dynamic database for all registered allopathic doctors. The initiative aligns with the vision of making India's health ecosystem digitally robust.

- ✓ The National Medical Register aims to strengthen the digital healthcare ecosystem and ensure quality healthcare. A similar register will be launched for paramedics and other healthcare professionals. The National Medical Commission will maintain the register electronically, including details like name, address, and qualifications of licensed doctors.

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1. Recently, who became the first female national racing champion from India?

- A. Bianca Kashyap
- B. Diana Pundole
- C. Aishwarya Pissay
- D. Pippa Mann



- ✓ **Diana Pundole, a teacher and mother from Pune won the national championship in the saloon category at the MRF Indian National Car Racing Championship 2024 in Chennai.**

2. Recently, which space organization has launched 'Tanager-1 Satellite' to track methane emissions?

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



- ✓ **NASA launched the Tanager-1 satellite to track methane emissions. The satellite was launched using a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California. It was developed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and other partners.**
- ✓ **The mission aims to detect major carbon dioxide and methane emissions. It focuses on monitoring greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. Tanager-1 uses advanced spectrometer technology to track emissions. The satellite can monitor 130,000 square kilometres of emissions daily. Emission data will be publicly available to aid global reduction efforts.**

3. Recently, a South Indian Adivasi Knowledge Centre called 'KAANU' was launched in which state?

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



- ✓ **The Tribal Health Resource Centre in BR Hills, Karnataka, launched Kaanu, a South Indian Adivasi Knowledge Centre, on August 25. "Kaanu" means "evergreen forest" in Kannada and Soliga.**
- ✓ **Kaanu aims to be the first knowledge center dedicated to the past, present, and culture of South Indian Adivasi communities. It will have three branches: a library, an annotated bibliography, and a co-written book. The Kaanu Library will be inaugurated, and the bibliography will be available online in September.**

4. Which ministry recently released the e-magazine 'Sapno Ki Udaan'?

- A. Ministry of Education
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



शिक्षा मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Education released the first edition of the e-magazine Sapno ki Udaan. The release coincided with National Space Day, celebrating the Chandrayaan-3 mission's Vikram lander soft landing on the Moon's south pole on August 23, 2023.
- ✓ The e-magazine, available online on the NCERT portal, was launched virtually by the Union Minister for Education, with participation from other education officials. The inaugural edition focuses on Space and Chandrayaan missions, featuring articles, poems, and more. Sapno ki Udaan is produced by NCERT and the Department of School Education & Literacy.

5. Shikhar Dhawan, who recently announced his retirement, is associated with which sports?

- A. Hockey
- B. Football
- C. Cricket
- D. Tennis



- ✓ Shikhar Dhawan announced his retirement from international and domestic cricket on August 24, 2024. His last match was for Punjab Kings in the IPL in April 2024. Dhawan played 269 international matches, scoring 24 hundreds—17 in ODIs and 7 in Tests. His final game for India was an ODI against Bangladesh in December 2022.
- ✓ Known as 'Gabbar,' Dhawan made his ODI debut in 2010 and set a record for the fastest Test century by a debutant in 2013. He scored over 5000 runs in ODIs with a 40-plus average and 90-plus strike rate. Dhawan played for Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians, Deccan Chargers, Sunrisers Hyderabad, and Punjab Kings in the IPL, scoring 6769 runs.

6. Which ministry has recently launched 'Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana'?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Communications
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ The Department of Post under the Union Ministry of Communication launched the Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to promote stamp collecting among students. The scheme aims to encourage philately as a hobby from a young age.

- ✓ **Postmaster General Krishna Kumar Yadav announced it at a stamp exhibition in Ahmedabad. Philately involves collecting and studying postage stamps and related items. The scheme is open to students in classes VI to IX from recognised schools. It aims to develop interest and research in stamps among children across India.**


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**7. What is the primary objective of the 'PM-WANI scheme'?**

- A. To promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST and women entrepreneurs
  - B. To provide affordable, high-speed internet connectivity in rural and remote areas
  - C. To support the growth and development of micro-enterprises by providing financial assistance
  - D. To provide free LPG connections to all rural households
- ✓ **TRAI has suggested lowering broadband rates for Public Data Offices (PDOs) under the PM-WANI scheme to make internet access cheaper. Launched in 2020, PM-WANI aims to expand broadband access via public Wi-Fi hotspots, especially in rural and remote areas. PDOs face high annual costs up to ₹8 lakh for internet connections, unlike personal broadband rates of ₹300-400 per month. TRAI proposes aligning PDO rates with retail broadband rates to make the scheme more viable for small businesses. TRAI will review these rates in two years based on the scheme's performance.**


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**8. Recently, the Prime Minister of India presented four BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) Cubes to which country?**

- A. Ukraine
  - B. Poland
  - C. Malaysia
  - D. Israel
- 
- ✓ **During his visit to Kyiv, India's Prime Minister gifted four BHISHM cubes to Ukraine's President. BHISHM cubes are compact, mobile medical units for emergency care. Each cube is a 15-inch box packed with organized medical supplies for different injury types. They can be transported by air, sea, land, or drone and weigh up to 20 kg for easy handling.**

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**9. Jaldapara National Park is located in which state?**

- A. Odisha
  - B. Assam
  - C. West Bengal
  - D. Bihar
- 
- ✓ **Jaldapara National Park is in the news after five rhino cubs died recently. A similar incident occurred in February 2020, with six rhinos dying before the coronavirus outbreak. Foresters confirmed the deaths were not due to anthrax.**

- ✓ The rhino carcasses were examined in Kolkata, revealing no anthrax. The suspected cause is tapeworm infestation or another toxin. Tapeworms are dangerous to wildlife and can cause severe illness. Jaldapara National Park is situated at the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas in northern West Bengal.

10. Which country secured silver medal at the Maruhaba Cup, a team event, at the Asian Surfing Championships 2024?

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



- ✓ India won a silver medal at the Maruhaba Cup in the Asian Surfing Championships 2024 in the Maldives. The Indian team included Kamali P, Ajeesh Ali, Srikanth D, and Sanjay Selvamani. Japan won gold with 58.40 points; India secured silver with 24.13 points. Taipei won bronze with 23.93 points, and China came fourth with 22.10 points. India won the Heat 2 semi-final, scoring 32.16 points. Indian surfer Harish Muthu reached the quarter-finals, making history for India.

11. What is the primary objective of the 'BioE3 Policy', recently approved by Union Cabinet?

- A. Promotion of traditional farming practices
- B. Promoting high-efficiency bio technology production
- C. Increasing coal production
- D. Promotion of organic agriculture



- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy to boost biotechnology for the economy, environment, and employment. It is managed by the Department of Biotechnology; it focuses on high-performance biomanufacturing. It aims to produce a wide range of bio-based products, from medicines to materials. It addresses challenges in farming and food through advanced biotechnological processes.
- ✓ It encourages innovation by supporting research, development, and entrepreneurship. Plans to establish biomanufacturing and bio-AI hubs and biofoundries for faster tech development and commercialization. It promotes sustainable growth through regenerative bioeconomy models. It aims to expand India's skilled workforce and create more job opportunities.

12. Which department is responsible for managing the 'Vigyan Dhara scheme'?

- A. Department of Biotechnology
- B. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion
- C. Department of Space
- D. Department of Science and Technology



- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the 'Vigyan Dhara' scheme, unifying three Department of Science and Technology schemes. Vigyan Dhara is a central sector scheme aimed at boosting science and technology in India. It combines three key areas: S&T Institutional and Human Capacity Building, Research and Development, and Innovation and Technology Development.
- ✓ Managed by the Department of Science and Technology, it streamlines S&T initiatives to enhance India's capabilities. The scheme has a budget of Rs.10,579.84 crore for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26. It aims to improve fund utilization and align sub-schemes. The goal is to strengthen India's S&T and innovation ecosystem.

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### 1. Narcotics Control Bureau operates under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ **The union home minister inaugurated the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) zonal office in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The NCB is India's main drug law enforcement and intelligence agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Established on November 14, 1985, it operates under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. Its headquarters are in Delhi. The NCB coordinates actions across various laws related to drug enforcement and international drug traffic. It assists international and foreign authorities in fighting drug trafficking and drug abuse.**

### 2. Recently, how many new districts have been announced for the Union Territory of Ladakh by the union home minister?

- A. Five
- B. Six
- C. Ten
- D. Sixteen

# 5

- ✓ **Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the creation of five new districts in Ladakh. The new districts are Zaskar, Drass, Sham, Nubra, and Changthang. This decision aims to improve governance and bring benefits closer to the people. Ladakh, previously with two districts (Leh and Kargil), is large and sparsely populated. The new districts will help implement public welfare schemes more effectively. The Ministry of Home Affairs has asked the Ladakh administration to form a committee to plan the new districts, including details like headquarters and boundaries, and submit a report within three months.**

### 3. Which state has recently become the first to implement the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Gujarat
- C. Kerala
- D. Bihar



- ✓ **Maharashtra became the first state to adopt the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for its employees ahead of assembly elections. The UPS was introduced by the Central Government on August 24, 2024. It replaces the 21-year-old National Pension System (NPS) and is similar to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). This change effectively reverses pension reforms implemented by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.**

4. Wular Lake is located in which state/UT?

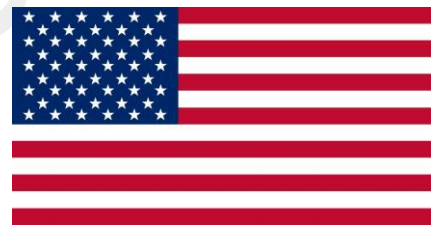
- A. Assam
- B. Odisha
- C. Kerala
- D. Jammu and Kashmir



- ✓ **Wular Lake is gradually being filled with silt from streams flowing in from surrounding mountains. It is the largest freshwater lake in India and the second-largest in Asia, located in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipore district. Fed by the Jhelum River, it sits at an altitude of 1,580 meters near Haramuk Mountain, covering 200 square kilometers. Formed by tectonic activity and a remnant of the ancient Satisar Lake, it features a central island called 'Zaina Lank,' built by King Zainul-Abi-Din. Designated a Ramsar Wetland in 1990, it supports diverse bird species.**

5. Recently, India signed the 'Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA)' agreement with which country?

- A. United States of America
- B. United Kingdom
- C. China
- D. Japan



- ✓ **India and the US have signed two key defence agreements: the Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA) and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Liaison Officers to boost defence cooperation. SOSA aims to enhance industry collaboration by ensuring priority support for defence goods and services between the two nations. Under SOSA, both countries can request faster delivery for defence contracts from each other's companies, helping manage supply-chain issues. India is now the 18th country to sign SOSA with the US.**

6. Where was the 'Under-17 World Wrestling Championship 2024' held?

- A. Tokyo, Japan
- B. Amman, Jordan
- C. Beijing, China
- D. New Delhi, India



- ✓ **Indian women's wrestlers won the team title at the U17 World Wrestling Championships 2024, breaking Japan's dominance. They secured 8 out of the 10 medals won by India, including 5 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronze. The championship was held in Amman, Jordan, from August 19 to 25, 2024. Indian women's team secured 185 points, while Japan came second with 146 points. This is the first time the Indian women's team won the title, having consistently been in the top five in the past five editions. The Indian men's contingent won only two medals.**

**7. What is the primary objective of the 'New India Literacy Programme (NILP)?**

- A. To promote sports among children aged 6-14
- B. To provide food to 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> students
- C. To provide free laptops to college students
- D. To support the States and UT's in promoting literacy among non-literates aged 15 and above



- ✓ **The Ministry of Education defined 'literacy' and 'full literacy' under the New India Literacy Programme (NILP). NILP aims to promote literacy among people aged 15 and above across India. It is a centrally sponsored scheme with a budget of Rs. 1037.90 crore for 2022-2027. The goal is to onboard one crore learners annually.**
- ✓ **NILP has five components: foundational literacy, critical life skills, basic education, vocational skills, and continuing education. Beneficiaries are identified through door-to-door surveys and mobile app registration. The scheme relies on volunteers for teaching and uses online resources on the DIKSHA platform.**

**8. Recently, where was the '2<sup>nd</sup> India Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR)' conference held?**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Singapore
- C. Chennai
- D. Indore



- ✓ **The 2nd India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) took place in Singapore on August 26, 2024, to strengthen strategic ties. The first ISMR was held in New Delhi in September 2022. ISMR is a high-level platform to discuss bilateral relationships and set future agendas.**
- ✓ **Four Indian ministers, including Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar, and six Singaporean ministers attended the meeting. The 2nd ISMR reviewed progress since the first meeting and focused on enhancing cooperation in various sectors. Discussions included digitalisation, skill development, sustainability, healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and connectivity.**

**9. Recently, where was the '24th International Mother Teresa Awards Ceremony' held?**

- A. Paris
- B. Dubai
- C. New Delhi
- D. London



- ✓ **The 24th International Mother Teresa Awards Ceremony was held at the Millennium Plaza Dubai. The event commemorated the 114th birth anniversary of Mother Teresa.**

- ✓ Organized by the All-India Minority and Weaker Sections Council, it was held outside India for only the second time, both times in Dubai. The awards were established after Mother Teresa's death in 1997. They honor outstanding contributions in education, science, culture, sports, social work, medicine, industry, and politics in India.

10. What is the primary objective of the 'National Monsoon Mission'?

- A. To promote tourism during the monsoon season
- B. To enhance monsoon prediction capabilities across India for all time scales
- C. To study the impact of monsoons on wildlife
- D. To develop irrigation systems for farmers



- ✓ A new weather forecasting mission with a budget of at least Rs 10,000 crore is set to be launched soon. This mission will be much larger than the existing National Monsoon Mission (NMM).
- ✓ The NMM has developed advanced models for weather and climate prediction that are now fully operational. These models provide forecasts for short-range (1-10 days), medium-range (10-30 days), and seasonal (up to one season) periods. Over the past three years, these models have shown high accuracy in predicting weather events.

11. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), recently completed 10 years of implementation, comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Defence



वित्त मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
FINANCE

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has marked ten years since its launch on August 28, 2014, announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The scheme aims to include the unbanked population in India's financial system.
- ✓ PMJDY has expanded financial services to nearly every adult in India, offering Basic Savings Bank Accounts, remittance, credit, insurance, and pensions. It is managed by the Ministry of Finance and focuses on providing affordable financial services to the masses. By July 2024, 52.74 crore Jan Dhan accounts had been opened. Over 55% of the account holders are women.

12. What is the theme of 'World Water Week 2024'?

- A. Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future
- B. Valuing Water
- C. Groundwater – making the invisible visible
- D. Accelerating Change



- ✓ The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) organizes World Water Week annually, and has been doing so since 1991. The 2024 event will take place from August 25–29, both online and in-person at the Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre. The theme for 2024 is “Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future”. World Water Week is a leading conference that focuses on global water issues, and brings together a diverse group of people from around the world, including decision-makers, business leaders, city planners, activists, and researchers.

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1. Recently, who has been appointed as the new Director General of the National Security Guard?

- A. B Srinivasan
- B. RK Vishwakarma
- C. Ashok Kumar
- D. Arun Singh



- ✓ The Appointment Committee of the Union Cabinet approved the appointment of senior IPS officer B. Srinivasan as the new Director General of the National Security Guard (NSG) on August 27, 2024. B Srinivasan replaced CRPF Director General Anish Dayal Singh, who temporarily led the NSG. Srinivasan's term as NSG Director General will last until his retirement on Aug.31, 2027. The NSG, established in 1986, is an elite counter-terrorism force under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

2. *Mimetus spinatus* and *Mimetus parvulus* are belongs to which species?

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



- ✓ The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) discovered two new spider species, named *Mimetus spinatus* and *Mimetus parvulus*, in the southern Western Ghats. These spiders were found in Karnataka's Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary and Kerala's Ernakulam district. Both belong to the Mimetidae family, known as pirate or cannibal spiders. These discoveries mark the first *Mimetus* species in India after 118 years.

3. Talle Valley Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which northeastern state?

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



- ✓ A Mumbai-based lepidopterist recorded 85 butterfly species during a four-day expedition at Tale Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh's Lower Subansiri district. Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Arunachal Pradesh's Lower Subansiri district. The sanctuary is a plateau covering 337 sq. km and is situated at an altitude of 2400 meters. Rivers like Pange, Sipu, Karing, and Subansiri flow through the sanctuary. It is home to the Apatani tribe. The sanctuary features subtropical and alpine forests.

4. Which country has recently banned 156 Fixed-Dose Combination (FDC) drugs?

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



- ✓ The Indian government has banned 156 Fixed-Dose Combination (FDC) drugs. FDC drugs combine two or more Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in one pill, capsule, or injection. They are commonly prescribed for conditions like tuberculosis, diabetes, and hypertension to make it easier for patients by reducing the number of pills they need to take daily. The banned FDCs were considered "irrational" because they do not offer any additional therapeutic benefits.

5. Recently, where was the '7th Anubhav Awards Ceremony' held?

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



- ✓ The 'Anubhav' online platform was launched in March 2015 by the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DOPPW) under the Prime Minister's directions. It allows retiring and retired employees to share their significant achievements during their service. So far, 54 Anubhav Awards and 9 Jury Certificates have been given out.
- ✓ The 7th Anubhav Awards Ceremony took place on August 28, 2024, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State, presented the awards. The awards aim to promote good governance and administrative reforms based on the experiences shared by retiring central government employees.

6. What type of technology is a 'Solar Paraboloid'?

- A. Concentrating Solar Power (CSP)
- B. Wind Power
- C. Hydroelectric Power
- D. None of the above



- ✓ Solar Paraboloid technology is a promising advancement for improving solar energy efficiency. It is a type of Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) that uses a Parabolic Trough Collector (PTC). Parabolic mirrors focus sunlight onto a receiver tube at the focal line. This technology offers advantages over traditional photovoltaic (PV) systems, including higher operating temperatures, greater thermal efficiency, and reduced heat losses. However, it faces challenges like high upfront costs and significant infrastructure needs.

7. Recently, how many new greenfield industrial smart cities have been approved under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme?

- A. 10
- B. 11
- C. 12
- D. 13

12

- ✓ **The Union Cabinet has approved twelve new greenfield industrial smart cities under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme. The total investment for these projects is estimated at 28,602 crore rupees. They are expected to create 1 million direct jobs and up to 3 million indirect jobs. The projects will be located across ten states along six major corridors.**
- ✓ **The planned locations include Khurpia (Uttarakhand), Gaya (Bihar), Rajpura-Patiala (Punjab), Zaheerabad (Telangana), Dighi (Maharashtra), Orvakal and Kopparthi (Andhra Pradesh), Palakkad (Kerala), Jodhpur-Pali (Rajasthan), and Agra and Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh).**

8. Recently, who has been elected as the new chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC)?

- A. Jay Shah
- B. Shashank Manohar
- C. Gudakesh Motie
- D. Lorcan Tucker



- ✓ **Jay Shah was elected as the new chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) on August 27, 2024. At 35, Shah will be the youngest ICC chairman, succeeding Greg Barclay, who chose not to seek a third term. Shah will officially start his role on December 1, 2024. Shah has previously chaired the ICC's Finance and Commercial Affairs subcommittee.**

9. Recently, India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, INS Arighat, was commissioned at which place?

- A. Mumbai, Maharashtra
- B. Kochi, Kerala
- C. Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- D. Chennai, Tamil Nadu



- ✓ **INS Arighat, India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, was commissioned into the Navy in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. It is an upgraded version of INS Arihant, boosting India's naval capabilities and nuclear deterrence. Armed with K-15 ballistic missiles, INS Arighat can strike targets up to 750 kilometers away.**



**10. Who won the 61st National Chess Championship?**

- A. Neelash Saha
- B. Surya Shekhar
- C. Karthik Venkataraman
- D. Vikrant Singh



- ✓ **Grandmaster Karthik Venkataraman from Andhra Pradesh won the 61st National Chess Championship in Gurgaon. The event was organized by The Haryana Chess Association at RPS International School. Karthik received a trophy and a cash prize of six lakh rupees. Surya Ganguly, who led the tournament, finished second with a prize of five lakh rupees. IM Neelash Saha also scored nine points but placed third due to lower tiebreaks, earning four lakh rupees.**

**11. Which day is celebrated as 'National Sports Day' annually?**

- A. 27 August
- B. 28 August
- C. 29 August
- D. 30 August



- ✓ **National Sports Day is celebrated every year on August 29 in India to honor the spirit of sports and physical fitness. The day marks the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, a legendary hockey player who greatly contributed to India's success in hockey. National Sports Day aims to inspire youth participation in sports and promote a healthy, active lifestyle. The theme for 2024 has not been announced yet; last year's theme was "Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society."**

**12. Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) comes under which ministry?**

- A. Ministry of Urban Development
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



- ✓ **The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) celebrated its 54th Foundation Day in New Delhi. BPR&D was established in 1970 under the Ministry of Home Affairs, replacing the Police Research and Advisory Council. Its headquarters is in New Delhi. BPR&D aims to identify police needs, conduct research, and suggest solutions for challenges. It promotes the use of science and technology in police work. BPR&D helps develop standards for police equipment and coordinates the National Police Mission. It has five Central Detective Training Institutes across India.**

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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?

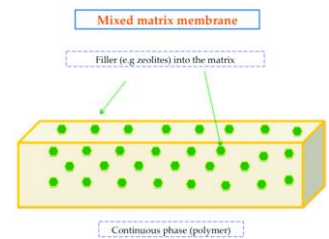
- A. Sagar Yantra
- B. Samudra Pratap
- C. Viksit Bharat
- D. Samudra Raksha



- ✓ 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'?

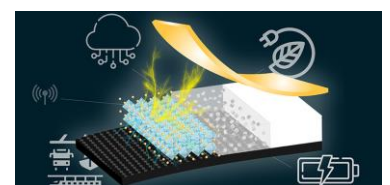
- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- C. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ 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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### 1. SHe-Box Portal is launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Women and Child Development
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ **The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the new SHe-Box portal. SHe-Box is a centralized platform for registering and monitoring workplace sexual harassment complaints. It acts as a repository for information on Internal Committees (ICs) and Local Committees (LCs) in both government and private sectors.**
- ✓ **The portal allows users to file complaints, track their status, and ensures timely processing by ICs. It provides a secure way to register complaints without public exposure of personal information. Complaints are monitored in real-time by a designated nodal officer. The upgraded version, based on the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013, helps form internal or local committees to address complaints.**

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### 2. What is 'Dhaincha'?

- A. Green manuring crop
- B. Invasive weed
- C. Flowering plant
- D. Fungus



- ✓ **Distribution of green manure, Dhaincha, has started in Tamil Nadu. Dhaincha is a tall annual herb, often grown in wet areas and heavy soils in India. It is used to feed livestock and improve soil quality. Green manuring involves growing leguminous plants and incorporating them into the soil. This practice enhances soil structure, increases water retention, reduces erosion, controls weeds, and helps reclaim alkaline soils. It also adds organic matter to the soil and boosts microbial activity.**

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### 3. Which institution recently released "Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oils towards Goal of Atma Nirbharta" report?

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Reserve Bank of India
- C. SEBI
- D. NABARD



**NITI Aayog**

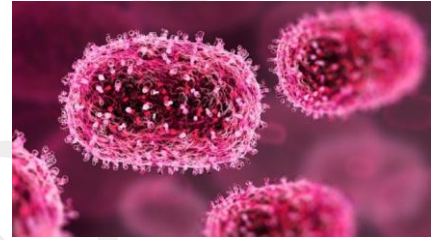
- ✓ **NITI Aayog recently released a "Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oils towards Goal of Atma Nirbharta" report. The report reviews the current state of the sector, its potential, and strategies to address challenges.**



- ✓ **Nine major oilseed crops cover 14.3% of the cropped area, contributing 12-13% to dietary energy and 8% to agricultural exports. Soybean leads in production, followed by rapeseed-mustard and groundnut. Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh are the top producers, with Gujarat and Maharashtra also significant contributors. Rising consumption has led to increased imports, with palm oil making up 59% of imports. Oilseed production and yield have been growing, with projections to reach 43 MT by 2030 and 55 MT by 2047.**

**4. Which virus did the World Health Organisation (WHO) recently identify as having the largest outbreak in 20 years in India?**

- A. Zika Virus
- B. West Nile Virus
- C. Mpox Virus
- D. Chandipura Virus



- ✓ **The World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared the current Chandipura virus outbreak in India as the largest in 20 years. Chandipura virus, or Chandipura vesiculovirus (CHPV), is an RNA virus from the Rhabdoviridae family, which also includes rabies. It was first discovered in 1965 in Chandipura, Maharashtra.**
- ✓ **The virus spreads through the bites of infected sandflies, like Phlebotomine sandflies and Phlebotomus papatasi, as well as some mosquitoes, such as Aedes aegypti. It affects mainly children aged 9 months to 14 years, causing symptoms like fever, vomiting, loose motions, and headaches. The infection can lead to encephalitis, which is inflammation of the brain. There is currently no specific antiviral treatment or vaccine for Chandipura virus.**

**5. Avani Lekhara recently won which medal in the women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 event at Paris Paralympics 2024?**

- A. Gold
- B. Silver
- C. Bronze
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **Avani Lekhara won a gold medal in the women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 event at Paris Paralympics 2024 on August 30. She successfully defended her title, having previously won gold in the same event at the Tokyo Paralympics three years ago. At 22 years old, Avani aims to become the first female para-athlete from India to win three Paralympic medals.**

**6. Recently, where was the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 held?**

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



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 held at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. The event is organized jointly by the Payments Council of India, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), and the Fintech Convergence Council (FCC). The GFF is considered one of the world's largest gatherings of fintech startups, investors, experts, bankers, and regulators from around the globe.

7. Recently, which armed force has launched 'Project Naman' to support veterans and their families?

- A. Indian Air Force
- B. Indian Army
- C. Indian Navy
- D. National Security Guard



- ✓ The Indian Army launched Project NAMAN to support Defence Pensioners, Veterans, and their families. The project is based on the SPARSH digital pension system, simplifying pension processes for Defence personnel. Reception and facilitation centers were set up through an MoU between the Indian Army, CSC e-Governance India Limited, and HDFC Bank.
- ✓ These centers offer SPARSH-enabled pension services and other citizen services at one location. In the first phase, 14 centers were established in key cities like New Delhi, Jalandhar, and Bangalore. Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) manage these centers with HDFC Bank's financial support.

8. Which state's tourism recently won the PATA Gold Award 2024 for innovative 'Holiday Heist' campaign?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Gujarat
- C. Kerala
- D. Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ Kerala Tourism won the PATA Gold Award 2024 for its 'Holiday Heist' online contest in the Digital Marketing Campaign category. The campaign, launched in July 2023, on the WhatsApp ChatBot 'Maya' to attract tourists. Kerala Tourism received the award in Bangkok on August 28, 2024.

9. Mona Agarwal recently won a bronze medal in which event at the 2024 Paris Paralympics?

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



- ✓ Mona Agarwal became a well-known figure in para shooting, winning a Bronze medal in the R2 Women 10m Air Rifle SH1 event at the 2024 Paralympics. In 2016, she turned to para-athletics, winning gold in State debut throw events and earning medals in para powerlifting.

10. Which day is observed as 'International Whale Shark Day' every year?

- A. 30 August
- B. 31 August
- C. 1 September
- D. 2 September



- ✓ **International Whale Shark Day is celebrated annually on August 30. The whale shark is the largest fish in the world and a filter-feeding shark species. They are found in temperate and tropical oceans globally, except the Mediterranean Sea. Whale sharks have a dark gray top with light spots and stripes. They are filter feeders, processing over 6,000 liters of water per hour through their gills. Their diet includes plankton, small fish, and mollusks like sardines, anchovies, and squid.**

11. Nazca Ridge is a submarine ridge located in which ocean?

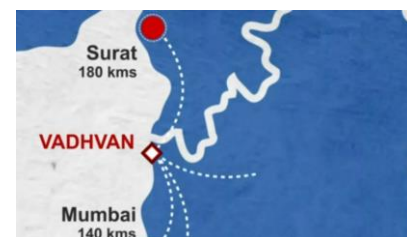
- A. Indian Ocean
- B. Pacific Ocean
- C. Arctic Ocean
- D. Atlantic Ocean



- ✓ **Oceanographers found a new seamount on the Nazca Ridge, 900 miles off Chile's coast. Nazca Ridge is a submarine ridge in the southeastern Pacific Ocean near South America. It is around 1,100 kilometers long and varies in width. The ridge starts at the Nazca Plate off Peru and extends southwest towards Easter Island, Chile. It was created by volcanic activity from a hotspot in the Earth's mantle. The ridge consists of unusually thick basaltic ocean crust.**

12. Vadhvan Port is located in which state?

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



- ✓ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation for the Vadhvan Port project in Palghar, Maharashtra, worth around ₹76,000 crore. Vadhvan Port is set to become one of the top 10 ports globally, with a handling capacity of 23.2 million TEUs.**
- ✓ **The port, near Dahanu town, Maharashtra, will be one of India's largest deep-water ports, offering direct connectivity to international shipping routes. Equipped with modern technology and infrastructure, it will feature deep berths and efficient cargo handling. The project will create significant employment, boost local businesses, and support regional economic growth.**

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