

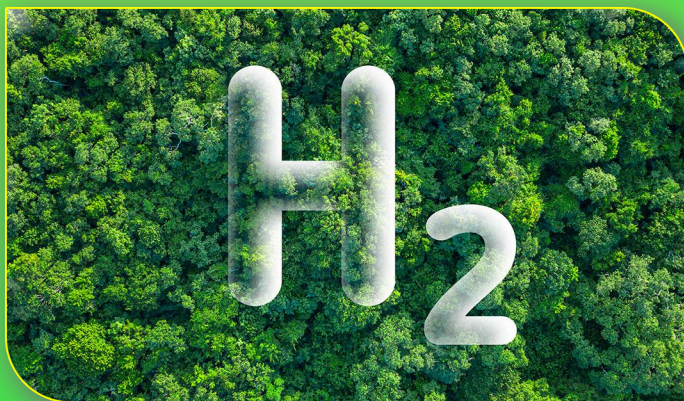
JULY - 2024



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CURRENT AFFAIRS



1. Recently, the government of Uttar Pradesh has decided to set up a bioplastic park in which district?

- A. Mathura
- B. Agra
- C. Lakhimpur Kheri
- D. Saharanpur



- ✓ The government of Uttar Pradesh is establishing a bioplastic park in Kumbhi village, Gola Gokarnnath tehsil, Lakhimpur Kheri district, to combat plastic pollution. Covering 1000 hectares and costing Rs 2000 crore, the project will be developed by Balrampur Chini Mill, with UPEIDA as the nodal agency. Bioplastics, made from renewable sources, decompose quickly, offering an eco-friendly alternative to petroleum-based plastics.

2. Which organization recently released the 'Migration and Development Brief' report?

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



- ✓ India, the largest remittance recipient globally, is expected to receive \$124 billion in inward remittances in 2024 and \$129 billion in 2025. In 2023, India received \$120 billion, marking a 7.5% growth rate, projected to be 3.7% in 2024. The World Bank's June 2024 Migration and Development Brief highlights these trends, noting India as the leading emigrant origin country with 18.7 million emigrants.

3. Who has been awarded the 'PEN Pinter Prize 2024'?

- A. Vikram Seth
- B. Neelam Saxena
- C. Vikram Singh
- D. Arundhati Roy



- ✓ Booker Prize winner Arundhati Roy has been awarded the 2024 PEN Pinter Literary Prize for her courageous writing. This honor comes shortly after the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi sanctioned her prosecution under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The award ceremony will be held in October in London. Previous winners include Salman Rushdie and Margaret Atwood. The PEN Pinter Award, established in 2009, recognizes exceptional English-language writers from the UK, Ireland, or the Commonwealth.

4. Pallikaranai Marshland is located in which state?

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



- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government plans to build a high-level bridge to protect the Pallikaranai Marshland, a freshwater and saline wetland 20 km south of Chennai. As one of Chennai's last natural wetlands, it serves as an aquatic buffer, draining 250 sq.km through Okkiyam Madavu and Kovalam Creek into the Bay of Bengal. A Ramsar site, it supports diverse species including 115 bird species, Russell's viper, and the glossy ibis.

5. Which organization has recently delivered the Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR) to the Indian Navy?

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



- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over the Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR) to the Indian Navy in New Delhi. Developed by DRDO's Defence Laboratory in Jodhpur, this technology obscures radar signals and creates a microwave shield to reduce radar detection. The chaff rocket uses special fibers with unique microwave obscuration properties, assembled to enhance radar evasion capabilities.

6. Recently, which military station has become the second military station in India to construct a plastic waste road?

- A. Dehradun Military Station
- B. Roorkee Military Station
- C. Jaipur Military Station
- D. Meerut Military Station



- ✓ Jaipur Military Station is now the second in India to have a road made of plastic waste, inaugurated on June 26, 2024, by Major General R S Godara. The 100-meter road, built under GE (South) and CE Jaipur Zone with Deep Constructions Pvt Ltd, follows the first plastic road at Narangi Military Station, Assam. These roads are more durable, with less wear and tear, reduced water induction, and increased sustainability.

7. Mark Rutte, recently appointed as the new Secretary General of NATO, is the Prime Minister of which country?

- A. Singapore
- B. Indonesia
- C. The Netherlands
- D. Australia



- ✓ **Mark Rutte, Netherlands Prime Minister, has been appointed as the next Secretary General of NATO. Approved by NATO's 32 member countries on June 26 in Brussels, he will succeed Jens Stoltenberg on October 1, 2024.**
- ✓ **Mark Rutte's nomination came after overcoming opposition from Hungary and Turkey, and the withdrawal of Romanian President Klaus Iohannis. He became the sole candidate and was elected to lead the Western military alliance after serving as Dutch Prime Minister since 2010.**

8. Kalibr cruise missile was developed by which country?

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



- ✓ **The Russian Black Sea Fleet recently launched Kalibr cruise missiles, targeting Ukrainian infrastructure. Kalibr missiles, developed by Russia's Almaz-Antey, can be launched from various platforms and serve anti-ship, anti-submarine, and land attack roles. They vary in size, ranging from 1,300 kg to 2,300 kg, with ranges spanning 200 km to 2500 km.**

9. Which organization developed the 'Tapas BH-201 UAV'?

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



- ✓ **The Indian Air Force (IAF) has proposed to acquire 10 TAPAS drones, officially known as Tactical Airborne Platform for Aerial Surveillance Beyond Horizon-201, or Tapas BH-201. Developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment, these medium-altitude, long-endurance drones, previously called Rustom-II, fulfill the tri-services' Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, Tracking & Reconnaissance (ISTAR) needs. Capable of operating day and night at 30,000 feet with a 24-hour endurance.**

10. Recently, which country has signed an \$18-million memorandum of understanding with the ISRO's commercial arm NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)?

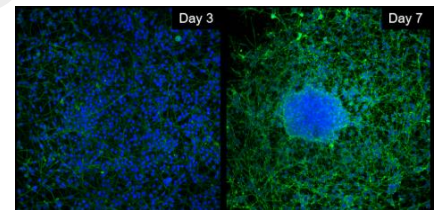
- A. Australia
- B. Japan
- C. Germany
- D. France



- ✓ Recently, the Australian government signed an \$18 million MoU with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), ISRO's commercial arm, as part of the Space MAITRI mission. This initiative strengthens bilateral ties in space exploration, focusing on debris management and sustainability. NSIL will launch Australia's Space Machines Company's Optimus spacecraft in 2026 on ISRO's SSLV, marking a significant collaboration in space technology and fostering responsible space operations between India and Australia.

11. Which institute has recently designed a novel 3D hydrogel culture system to study TB infection and treatment?

- A. Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
- B. Institute of Ayurvedic Studies and Research
- C. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- D. National Tuberculosis Institute



- ✓ Researchers from IISc's Department of Bioengineering have developed a 3D hydrogel culture system that mimics the mammalian lung environment. This innovation allows precise tracking and study of tuberculosis bacteria infection in lung cells. The system serves as a robust platform for testing the effectiveness of TB therapeutics.

12. Which institute has recently signed an MoU with the University of Leeds to launch the Joint Virtual Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Development (VCoE-SD)?

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



- ✓ IIT Madras and the University of Leeds have partnered to establish the Joint Virtual Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Development (VCoE-SD). This MoU aims to foster impactful research and innovation towards achieving sustainable development goals. The collaboration will enhance academic exchange through joint projects, courses, and conferences, creating a network of high-quality staff to drive sustainable solutions globally.

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1. Recently, who has been appointed as the new president of the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI)?

- A. Yuvraj Singh
- B. Kapil Dev
- C. Sachin Tendulkar
- D. Neeraj Chopra



- ✓ **Kapil Dev, renowned Indian cricketer and avid amateur golfer, has been elected as the new president of the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). Kapil Dev, captain of India's 1983 Cricket World Cup-winning team, served as vice president and member of PGTI's governing body. Known as the "Haryana Hurricane," he played a key role in promoting professional golf in India since PGTI's inception in 2006, organizing tournaments nationwide.**

2. Which district of Uttar Pradesh is known as the 'City of Knives'?

- A. Rampur
- B. Saharanpur
- C. Mirzapur
- D. Raebareli



- ✓ **Rampur district, Uttar Pradesh, known as the "City of Knives," has crafted the renowned Rampuri chaku since the 18th century. These blades, symbols of artisanship and royal patronage, are made from high-quality steel, paired with handles of bone, horn, or ivory, intricately carved into pieces of art. Despite a 1990s ban on longer blades to reduce violence, Rampur artisans adapt legally, preserving their craft's legacy.**

3. Recently, which country has started 'Rhisotope Project' to protect rhinos?

- A. South Africa
- B. Zimbabwe
- C. New Zealand
- D. India



- ✓ **South African scientists launched the "Rhisotope" project, injecting radioactive material into live rhino horns to combat poaching. The aim is to make the horns detectable at borders and toxic for consumption. Involving 20 rhinos, the process includes drilling, inserting radioisotopes, and adding microdots and chips.**

4. Which organization recently witnessed 'Gigantic Jets' over the Himalayan Mountains?

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



- ✓ **NASA recently observed gigantic jets over the Himalayan Mountains. These rare and powerful lightning phenomena extend from the top of a cloud to the edge of space, differing from regular cloud-to-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning. Documented only in the 21st century, the bottoms of gigantic jets resemble blue jets, while the tops look like red sprites. This discovery adds to our understanding of atmospheric phenomena.**

5. Raimona National Park, recently seen in news due to an antelope-like mammal 'mainland serow', is located in which state?

- A. Odisha
- B. Assam
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ **A mainland serow, a mammal between a goat and an antelope, was sighted at 96 meters above sea level in Raimona National Park, Assam, near human habitation. Documented by a team of scientists, this finding was published in the Journal of Threatened Taxa. The serow, usually found at 200-3,000 meters in the India-Bhutan border region, highlights biodiversity conservation efforts in the park.**

6. Recently, where was the third annual conference on MND 'Awareness, Care and Management' held?

- A. AIIMS, Patna
- B. KGMU, Lucknow
- C. NIMHANS, Bengaluru
- D. AIIMS, Delhi



- ✓ **The annual conference on MND 'Awareness, Care, and Management' at Nimhans, Bengaluru, highlighted the importance of symptomatic and supportive treatments. Motor Neuron Diseases (MNDs) are progressive neurological disorders affecting motor neurons in the brain and spinal cord, leading to muscle weakness, slurred speech, and paralysis, typically after age 50. Causes are mostly unknown, though some cases are genetic. MND affects more males than females.**

7. Steriphopus wangala belongs to which species?

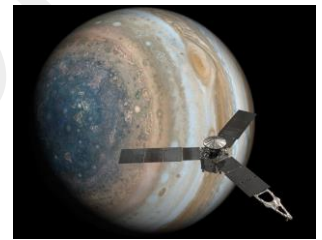
- A. Fish
- B. Spider
- C. Frog
- D. Butterfly



- ✓ A new spider species, *Steriphopus wangala*, was discovered in Meghalaya's West Garo Hills. Named after the Garo community's Wangala harvest festival, this spider belongs to the Palp-Footed Spider family and has reddish-brown coloring.

8. Juno probe is a NASA spacecraft designed to orbit which planet?

- A. Jupiter
- B. Mars
- C. Saturn
- D. Venus



- ✓ New findings from NASA's Juno probe reveal the extent of lava lakes on Jupiter's moon Io. Launched in 2011, Juno is designed to study Jupiter's origins and changes. It arrived at Jupiter in 2016 and orbits every 11 days. Initially a 5-year mission, it has been extended to 2025. During this extended mission, Juno explores Jupiter's moons Ganymede, Europa, and Io, as well as its atmosphere and rings.

9. Recently, which organization has successfully completed six consecutive development trials of High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) 'ABHYAS'?

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



- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) recently completed six successful trials of the High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) 'ABHYAS' in Chandipur, Odisha. Designed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Larsen & Toubro, ABHYAS provides realistic threat scenarios for weapon systems practice. It features autonomous flying, a laptop-based Ground Control System, and data recording capabilities for post-flight analysis.

10. Recently, where was the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) Annual Board meeting held?

- A. India
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Bhutan
- D. China



- ✓ India participated in the CLGF Annual Board meeting in Sri Lanka, focusing on "Reinforcing Social Resilience through Women's Political Representation." CLGF, headquartered in London since 1995, unites local governments and ministries across 56 Commonwealth nations, including India. It advocates for gender equality in local governance to support women's active participation in public life, aligning with SDG 5 goals.

11. Recently, an advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI) system for early detection of forest fires has been launched in which tiger reserve of Maharashtra?

- A. Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve
- B. Pench Tiger Reserve
- C. Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve
- D. Sahyadri Tiger Reserve



- ✓ An advanced AI system for early forest fire detection has deployed at Pench Tiger Reserve. Located across Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, Pench is known for its diverse forest types including Tropical Moist Deciduous and Teak. The reserve, designated a National Park in 1975 and Tiger Reserve in 1992, is divided by the Pench River and hosts a rich biodiversity.

12. Which organization created the national level geospatial databases for Bhuvan Panchayat 4.0 and National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM 5.0)?

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



- ✓ The Union Minister of State for Science and Technology launched two geoportals: Bhuvan Panchayat 4.0 and NDEM 5.0, both with national geospatial databases created by ISRO. Bhuvan Panchayat 4.0 aims to integrate space-based information for governance and research, focusing on spatial planning at the Gram Panchayat level. NDEM 5.0 provides a comprehensive geospatial database for nationwide situational assessment and decision-making during emergencies.

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1. What is the rank of India in the Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (AIPI) 2024?

- A. 65th
- B. 72nd
- C. 85th
- D. 62nd



- ✓ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has launched the AI Preparedness Index (AIPI) Dashboard, ranking 174 countries on their readiness to adopt AI technologies. Categories include Low-Income Countries (LIC), Emerging Market Economies (EM), and Advanced Economies (AE). Singapore, Denmark, and the United States lead the AE category, while India, an EM, ranks 72nd with a score of 0.49. China ranks 31st with a score of 0.63, reflecting its higher readiness compared to neighboring countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

2. Which city recently hosted the "Hunar" exhibition, a captivating display of Indian folk and tribal art?

- A. Varanasi
- B. Kanchipuram
- C. Dubai
- D. Paris



- ✓ The Dubai Art Centre hosted the "Hunar" exhibition, showcasing India's rich folk and tribal art heritage. Organized by Videsha Pandey, the exhibition features diverse works including a Ramayana painting, Aipan art from Uttarakhand, Madhubani art from Bihar, Warli art from Maharashtra, and Muria art from Chhattisgarh. The exhibition aims to highlight India's cultural diversity and underrepresented art forms.

3. Which state government recently announced the inclusion of a chapter on the Emergency in the state's school curriculum?

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



- ✓ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav announced a new school curriculum chapter on the Emergency of 1975-77, highlighting the "excesses and repression" during that period. This aims to educate the younger generation about the struggle against the Emergency.

4. Which state government recently launched the 'Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin' scheme'?

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



- ✓ The Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Scheme 2024, launched in Maharashtra, offers free education for girls and support for the unemployed. Eligible women aged 21-60 will receive Rs. 1500 monthly. Aimed at promoting financial independence and self-reliance, the scheme includes a budget of 46 thousand crores, providing various benefits to women, enhancing their development and overall well-being.

5. Recently, where was the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) meeting held?

- A. China
- B. France
- C. Indonesia
- D. Singapore



- ✓ India has been placed in the "regular follow-up category" by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) after its plenary meeting in Singapore from June 26-28, 2024. The meeting evaluated 17 countries on anti-money laundering, anti-terrorism financing, and anti-proliferation compliance. India, Russia, France, Italy, and the UK were kept in the regular follow-up, while one country was grey-listed. The FATF commended India's efforts but urged quicker prosecution in such cases.

6. What is the primary objective of the GSAT 20 satellite?

- A. Earth Observation
- B. Communication
- C. Weather Monitoring
- D. Navigation



- ✓ For the first time, ISRO will launch its latest large satellite, GSAT 20, on SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket. GSAT 20, a hi-tech communication satellite, weighs 4,700 kg and has a throughput capacity of 48 GBPS. It features 32 spot beams covering all of India, especially the Northeast. Owned by ISRO's commercial arm NSIL, it uses SpaceX due to the limitations of India's Launch Vehicle Mark 3.

7. Central Electronics Limited (CEL), which was recently granted 'Mini Ratna' status, comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Power
- C. Ministry of Electronics and Communication Technology
- D. Ministry of MSME



विज्ञान एवं
प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

- ✓ **Central Electronics Limited (CEL), recently granted "Mini Ratna" (Category-1) status, is a Govt of India Enterprise under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology. Established in 1974, CEL aims to commercialize indigenous technologies from National Laboratories and R&D Institutions. CEL excels in solar energy systems, strategic electronics, and various high-tech areas, producing solar cells, railway signaling equipment, and components for defense applications.**

8. What is the main purpose of the Sangyaan App, recently launched by Railway Protection Force (RPF)?

- A. To provide train schedules
- B. To educate and empower RPF personnel by providing information about criminal laws
- C. To monitor train ticket bookings
- D. To provide health tips to RPF personnel



- ✓ **The Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF) has launched the Sangyaan App, developed by the RPF Tech Team. It educates RPF Personnel on new criminal laws like Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) 2023. This mobile tool aims to enhance legal knowledge and operational relevance, offering comprehensive insights into legal provisions for effective RPF operations.**

9. Which ministry has recently launched virtual NQAS assessment and spot food licence initiative to ensure healthcare for all?

- A. Ministry of Women and Child Development
- B. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Power



स्वास्थ्य एवं
परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE**

- ✓ **The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched two initiatives: Virtual NQAS Assessment for Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAM) and Integrated Public Health Laboratories (IPHL), ensuring compliance with Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS). The Spot Food License Initiative uses the Food safety and compliance system (FoSCoS) platform for instant licensing and registration across India, aiming to streamline processes. These initiatives support "Healthcare for All" by enhancing real-time monitoring of health facilities and simplifying food safety compliance.**

10. Recently, where was the 29th edition of the biennial Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise held?

- A. Auckland, New Zealand
- B. Hawaii, USA
- C. Paris, France
- D. Kolkata, India



- ✓ **Indian multi-role stealth frigate INS Shivalik, deployed in the South China Sea and North Pacific Ocean, has arrived at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii, USA to participate in the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise.**
- ✓ **RIMPAC is the world's largest international maritime exercise, enhancing naval interoperability and trust among 29 participating countries. Led by the US Navy, the exercise includes diverse activities like symposiums, sports competitions, and integrated sea operations.**

11. Recently, the Central Railway has inaugurated its first-ever floating solar plant with a 10 MWp capacity in which lake of India?

- A. Lonar Lake
- B. Igatpuri Lake
- C. Periyar Lake
- D. Venna Lake



- ✓ **Central Railway has inaugurated India's first floating solar plant, a 10 MWp installation on Igatpuri lake in the Western Ghats. This initiative marks a milestone in Indian Railways' clean energy efforts, aimed at achieving zero carbon emissions by 2030.**

12. Keshava temple is located in which state?

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



- ✓ **Karnataka's Tourism Department is set to elevate the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Somanathapur, especially the Keshava Temple, as a key attraction in Mysuru's tourism circuit before Dasara this year. Located in Somanathapura town along the River Kaveri, the temple, completed in 1268 AD under Hoysala King Narasimha III, features a unique star-shaped platform with three sanctums. Recognized alongside Halebidu and Belur temples, it holds cultural significance as part of the Hoysala heritage.**

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1. What is the theme of Statistics Day, 2024?

- A. Use of data for decision-making
- B. Alignment of State Indicator Framework with National Indicator Framework
- C. Data for Sustainable Development
- D. End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition



- ✓ **National Statistics Day, celebrated annually on June 29 in India, honors Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis for his contributions to statistics and economic planning. Initiated in 2007, its goal is to raise awareness, particularly among youth, about the pivotal role of statistics in shaping socio-economic policies. The theme for 2024 is, "Use of data for decision-making".**

2. Recently, who has been appointed as the 35th Foreign Secretary of India?

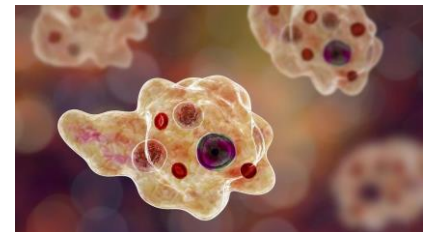
- A. Amitabh Kant
- B. Vikram Misri
- C. Ruchira Kamboj
- D. Ajay Bisaria



- ✓ **Vikram Misri has been appointed as India's new Foreign Secretary, succeeding Vinay Mohan Kwatra on July 15, 2024. Known for his expertise in China affairs, Misri served as India's ambassador to China during the 2019-2021 period, including the Galwan Valley clashes.**

3. What is *Amoebic Meningoencephalitis*?

- A. A common cold
- B. A rare, usually fatal infection of the central nervous system
- C. A type of cancer
- D. A bacterial infection of the lungs



- ✓ **Due to continued rain in Kerala, the health department cautioned against amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM), a rare, usually fatal brain infection caused by *Naegleria fowleri*. This amoeba thrives in warm, shallow waters and enters the brain through the nose. Early symptoms include fever, headache, and vomiting, progressing to stiff neck, seizures, hallucinations, and coma. Symptoms typically appear within five days of infection.**

4. Recently, which country has become the first country in the world to prepare a checklist of its entire fauna?

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



- ✓ India has become the first country to prepare a comprehensive checklist of its entire fauna population, documenting 104,561 species. This milestone, announced by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav in Kolkata, coincided with the launch of the Fauna of India Checklist Portal by the Zoological Survey of India. This portal, vital for scientific research, encompasses 121 checklists of all known taxa. The event also featured the 2nd Animal Taxonomy Summit-2024.

5. Which team won the 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup by defeating the South Africa team?

- A. India
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Australia
- D. New Zealand



- ✓ The Indian men's cricket team, led by Rohit Sharma, won the 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup by defeating South Africa by 7 runs at Kensington Oval, Barbados on 29 June 2024. This is India's second T20 World Cup win, following their 2007 victory. The final marked the T20 retirements of Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, and Ravindra Jadeja. It was also Rahul Dravid's last assignment as coach.

6. What is 'Snowblind'?

- A. Exoplanet
- B. Asteroid
- C. Malware
- D. Drugs



- ✓ A new Android malware called 'Snowblind' targets users to steal banking credentials by bypassing anti-tamper mechanisms using the 'seccomp' security feature. Snowblind repacks apps to avoid detection and utilizes accessibility services to remotely view screens, disabling biometric and two-factor authentication. It primarily infects devices via apps from untrusted sources and is most active in Southeast Asia, posing a significant threat to banking app security.

7. Which ministry has recently developed an eSankhyiki portal?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- D. Ministry of Defence



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is the nodal Ministry for integrated development of the national statistical system in the country in tune with the global statistical practices and data dissemination standards. MoSPI is committed to enhancing user

experience and data accessibility through use of cutting-edge technologies and the adoption of global best practices.

- ✓ In line with this mandate, the Ministry has developed an eSankhyiki portal to provide real-time inputs for planners, policy-makers, researchers and the public at large. The objective of this portal is to establish a comprehensive data management and sharing system for ease of dissemination of official statistics in the country.

8. Recently, which country has successfully developed and certified SEBEX 2, a new explosive that is 2.01 times more lethal than standard Trinitrotoluene (TNT)?

- A. India
- B. Bangladesh
- C. France
- D. Afghanistan



- ✓ India has certified SEBEX 2, an explosive 2.01 times more potent than TNT, developed for bombs and warheads. Approved by the Indian Navy, it's touted as one of the world's most powerful non-nuclear explosives. SEBEX 2 promises enhanced destructive capability without added weight, aiming to revolutionize military ordnance. Its development signals potential for significant exports in defense technology.

9. INS Ranvir belongs to which type of class?

- A. Seawolf
- B. Rajput
- C. Scorpene
- D. Kalvari



- ✓ Indian Naval Ship INS Ranvir, a Rajput Class Guided Missile Destroyer, arrived in Chattogram, Bangladesh for an Operational Deployment. Commissioned in 1986, the upgraded ship features state-of-the-art indigenous weapons and sensors. The visit includes professional interactions, community outreach, and sports with Bangladeshi naval personnel. INS Ranvir will also participate in a Maritime Partnership Exercise. This visit enhances India-Bangladesh friendship, cooperation, and regional security, aligned with India's SAGAR initiative.

10. Which day is observed as 'Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day' every year?

- A. July.01
- B. July.05
- C. March.29
- D. March.05



- ✓ Goods and Services Tax (GST) Day, observed annually on July 1, commemorates the implementation of India's transformative tax system. The 2024 celebration marks the seventh anniversary of GST, introduced to simplify the complex tax structure previously managed by central and state governments. GST revolutionized India's fiscal landscape, significantly impacting the economy by streamlining indirect taxes and fostering economic efficiency.
-

11. Recently, researchers from which state have developed a method to produce activated carbon for supercapacitors from coconut husks?

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



- ✓ Researchers at Government College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala developed a method to produce activated carbon from coconut husks for supercapacitors. This sustainable, efficient solution leverages the high surface area of activated carbon, making it ideal for high-performance supercapacitors. These devices store and deliver charge through reversible adsorption and desorption of ions, enhancing electrochemical energy storage.
-

12. MK Ranjitsinh & others vs Union of India & others case, recently seen in the news, is related with which issue?

- A. Poverty and Hunger
B. Climate Change
C. Triple Talaq
D. None of the above



- ✓ India's Supreme Court, in MK Ranjitsinh and others Vs Union of India & others case has set a precedent in climate change jurisprudence. The landmark judgment establishes the right to 'be free from the adverse effects of climate change' as a fundamental right under Articles 21 and 14 of the Constitution. This decision shapes India's climate policy by influencing governance and legislation, highlighting the judiciary's role in addressing environmental challenges and protecting citizens' rights.
-

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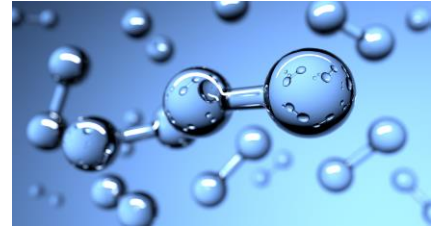
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1. Which institute recently developed an efficient method of hydrogen generation from methanol and formaldehyde combinations?

- A. IISER, Tirupati
- B. IIT, Roorkee
- C. IIT, Madras
- D. IIT, Delhi



- ✓ Researchers at IISER Tirupati devised a method to generate hydrogen efficiently using methanol and formaldehyde. They employed nickel catalysts, readily available in the market, without needing bases or activators. This hydrogen production enabled selective partial transfer hydrogenation of alkynes, converting them into alkenes. The method supports the synthesis of bioactive molecules.

2. Alexandria, a port city recently in the news due to the visit of INS Tabar, is located in which country?

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



- ✓ Indian Naval Ship Tabar recently visited Alexandria, Egypt, highlighting India's commitment to bilateral relations. INS Tabar, a Talwar-class stealth frigate commissioned in 2004 in Russia, embodies the motto "Guts and Glory." This visit underscores India's strategic maritime engagement, emphasizing regional cooperation and naval capabilities.

3. Recently, which organization has approved a \$1.5 billion loan to support India's green hydrogen initiatives?

- A. World Bank
- B. International Monetary Fund
- C. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- D. International Development Association



- ✓ The World Bank approved \$1.5 billion to support India's low-carbon energy development. The funding will boost green hydrogen, electrolyzers, and renewable energy. This aligns with India's National Green Hydrogen Mission and energy goals: achieving 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2070.

4. Recently, the Space Exploration and Research Agency (SERA) announced which country as a partner nation for the human spaceflight programme?

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



- ✓ US-based Space Exploration and Research Agency (SERA) and Blue Origin have partnered with India for their human spaceflight program. They will offer six seats on a future New Shepard mission to citizens from countries with limited space presence. New Shepard, a reusable suborbital rocket, will take the selected astronauts on an 11-minute journey past the Kármán line, the internationally recognized space boundary at 100 km.

5. Indian army recently conducted joint military exercise 'Maitree' with which country's army?

- A. Thailand
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Australia
- D. New Zealand



- ✓ The Indian Army commenced the Maitree exercise with the Royal Thai Army at Fort Vachiraprakan, Thailand, from 1 to 15 July 2024. Initiated in 2006, this bilateral exercise enhances defense cooperation. Seventy-six personnel from both armies, including the Ladakh Scouts, participate. The exercise focuses on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in urban and jungle environments, joint planning, tactical drills, and physical fitness.

6. Recently, where was the third United Nations conference on Afghanistan held?

- A. Doha, Qatar
- B. Astana, Kazakhstan
- C. New Delhi, India
- D. Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



- ✓ For the first time, the Taliban participated in the United Nations Conference on Afghanistan, held in Doha on 30 June and 1 July 2024. Despite attendance from 25 countries and organizations, including the EU and SCO, no substantial progress was made. The Taliban, represented by Zabihullah Mujahid, joined after their demands were met, excluding Afghan civil society representatives. India was represented by J.P. Singh from the Ministry of External Affairs.

7. Which organization has recently captured an epic view of the largest volcano in our solar system named Olympus Mons using the Mars Odyssey orbiter?

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



- ✓ **NASA's Mars Odyssey orbiter captured an epic view of Olympus Mons, the largest volcano in the solar system. Launched in 2001, Odyssey's mission includes mapping Mars' surface and serving as a communication relay. Olympus Mons, a shield volcano, is 24 kilometers high and 550 kilometers wide, dwarfing Earth's Mauna Loa. Odyssey holds the record for the longest active mission around another planet, scheduled to last until 2025.**

8. What is the primary objective of 'Project Nexus'?

- A. To improve domestic banking systems
- B. To enable instant cross-border retail payments
- C. To create a new crypto currency
- D. To monitor international financial transactions



- ✓ **The RBI joined Project Nexus, an initiative to enable instant cross-border retail payments by linking domestic Fast Payment Systems (FPSs). Conceptualized by the BIS Innovation Hub, Nexus provides a single-connection solution for seamless international transactions. It aims to connect FPSs of India and 4 ASEAN countries by 2026. Nexus will automatically link new member countries, enhancing efficiency, reducing costs, and improving international payment accessibility.**

9. 'Nouka Baich' is the traditional boat race of which state?

- A. Odisha
- B. Kerala
- C. West Bengal
- D. Manipur



- ✓ **With the south-west monsoon setting in, Nouka Baich boat races will soon begin in rural West Bengal. These traditional races occur from September to November, with increasing female participation. Linked to the worship of the Hindu deity Manasa, goddess of snakes, these races use various traditional boats, including the 90 ft long Sorengi. The races celebrate agrarian culture and the swollen rivers of the monsoon season.**

10. Recently, archaeologists have uncovered a 41,000-year-old ostrich nest in which state?

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



- ✓ Archaeologists discovered the world's oldest known ostrich nest, dating back 41,000 years in Andhra Pradesh. This find could offer insights into the extinction of megafauna in the Indian subcontinent. Megafauna, animals over 50 kg, include megaherbivores, megacarnivores, and megaomnivores. Anthropogenic pressures since the Late Pleistocene led to significant losses among megafauna like woolly mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers.

11. Recently, Sujata Saunik became the first female Chief Secretary of which state?

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



- ✓ Senior IAS officer Sujata Saunik became Maharashtra's first female Chief Secretary (CS), the 45th since the state's formation in 1960. She succeeds Nitin Kareer, who retired. Saunik will serve a one-year tenure until June 2025. Her appointment by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis was unanimous. The transition ceremony took place at Mantralaya, the State Secretariat in Mumbai.

12. Tianlong-3 space rocket is associated with which country?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Vietnam
- D. Indonesia



- ✓ The private Chinese rocket Tianlong-3 crashed after accidental launches during a test run. Developed by Beijing Tianbing (Space Pioneer), Tianlong-3 is a medium-lift orbital launch vehicle, partially reusable up to ten times, with the first stage capable of autonomous vertical landing. It can launch medium-sized payloads to low Earth orbit (LEO) and sun-synchronous orbit (SSO), and its performance is comparable to SpaceX's Falcon 9.

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1. Which ministry recently approved Rs 56 crore for the conservation of the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) and Lesser Florican?

- A. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Tourism



- ✓ **The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) approved Rs 56 crore for the next phase of conserving the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) and Lesser Florican. This program, running since 2016, aims for the long-term recovery of these critically endangered species, with around 140 GIBs and fewer than 1,000 Lesser Floricans surviving. Key efforts include breeding centers, in-situ conservation, artificial insemination techniques, and addressing threats like hunting and power line collisions.**

2. Recently, who won the Leon Masters Chess Championship for the 10th time?

- A. Fabiano Caruana
- B. Viswanathan Anand
- C. Sergey Karjakin
- D. Magnus Carlsen



- ✓ **Former world chess champion Viswanathan Anand of India won the Leon Masters chess championship for the 10th time by defeating Jaime Santos Latasa of Spain 3-1 in the final on June 30, 2024, in Leon, Spain. Anand, a five-time world champion, has previously won the tournament in 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2011, and 2016. The Leon Masters features four players, including Arjun Erigaisi and Veselin Topalov.**

3. Recently, which country's Navy has signed a deal with India's Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) for an 800-tonne ocean-going tug?

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



- ✓ **The Bangladesh Navy signed a significant deal with India's Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) for an 800-tonne ocean-going tug, part of a \$500-million line of credit from India for defence equipment. The contract was finalized in Dhaka, witnessed by GRSE and Bangladesh Navy officials. Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi's visit to Bangladesh coincided with the deal, emphasizing bilateral defence ties and exploring new naval cooperation opportunities between the two countries.**

4. Recently, which country has sent two trains carrying coal to India through the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) for the first time?

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. Ukraine
- D. Bangladesh



- ✓ Russia has initiated coal shipments to India via the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) for the first time. Two trains will travel 7,200 km from St. Petersburg to Mumbai port via Iran's Bandar Abbas port. INSTC integrates shipping, rail, and road networks, facilitating cargo movement between India, Iran, Azerbaijan, Russia, Central Asia, and Europe. Established in 2000, the corridor aims to enhance transportation cooperation, initially agreed upon during the Euro-Asian Conference on Transport.

5. Which state recently launched the 'NTR Bharosa pension scheme'?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Telangana
- C. Karnataka
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched the NTR Bharosa pension scheme on 1 July 2024, delivering pensions personally to beneficiaries. The scheme, a promise fulfilled by the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) government, increases monthly pensions for various categories: from Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000 for elderly, widows, and others, and up to Rs 15,000 for severely disabled individuals. The initiative aims to enhance social security.

6. Where was the 16th edition of the India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise 'Nomadic Elephant' held?

- A. Kolkata, West Bengal
- B. Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- C. Umroi, Meghalaya
- D. Guwahati, Assam



- ✓ The 16th India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant started at Umroi, Meghalaya, running from July 3 to 16, 2024. It involves 45 Indian personnel and Mongolian Army's 150 Quick Reaction Force Battalion. The annual event, alternating between the countries, focuses on counter-insurgency in semi-urban and mountainous terrain. Key attendees include Mongolian Ambassador Dambajavyn Ganbold and Major General Prasanna Joshi. The exercise enhances interoperability and defense cooperation.

7. What is the primary objective of the LOw-Frequency ARray (LOFAR)?

- A. To study the Earth's core
- B. To observe the Universe at low radio frequencies
- C. To monitor climate change
- D. To track asteroid movements



- ✓ Astronomers discovered a new radio galaxy using the LOw-Frequency ARray (LOFAR), a pan-European distributed radio interferometer developed by the Dutch Institute for Radio Astronomy (ASTRON). LOFAR observes the Universe at low radio frequencies (90-200 MHz) and can simultaneously observe multiple directions. It aims to explore the early universe, solar activity, and the terrestrial atmosphere.

8. What is 'Senna spectabilis'?

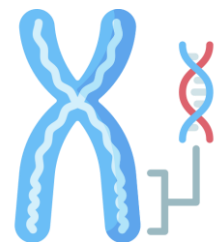
- A. Invasive plant
- B. Species of Fish
- C. Traditional irrigation method
- D. Communication satellite



- ✓ Environmental organizations recently urged the Forest department to maintain transparency in a project to extract Senna spectabilis from Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. Senna spectabilis, a legume family tree native to South and Central America, is invasive in India. Known for its bright yellow flowers and resilience, it was introduced for shade and fuelwood but now threatens native species due to its dense foliage.

9. What is Down syndrome?

- A. A genetic disorder caused by missing chromosomes
- B. A condition caused by an extra chromosome or piece of a chromosome
- C. A viral infection affecting the nervous system
- D. A type of muscular dystrophy



- ✓ A recent study potentially documents the first case of Down syndrome in Neanderthals. Down syndrome occurs when a person has an extra chromosome or a part of a chromosome, specifically an extra copy of chromosome 21, called trisomy 21. This genetic condition impacts mental and physical development, causing various challenges. Although individuals with Down syndrome share similarities, their abilities vary. The condition typically arises randomly during early fetal development and is not inherited.

10. Xenophrys apatani belongs to which species?

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



- ✓ Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India discovered a forest-dwelling frog, *Xenophrys apatani*, in Talle Wildlife Sanctuary, named after the Apatani community for their conservation efforts. This species is found in the Eastern Himalayan and Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspots. The Apatani, residing in Arunachal Pradesh's Ziro valley, speak Tani, worship the sun and moon, and celebrate festivals like Dree and Myoko. They practice integrated rice-fish farming, using rice varieties Emeo, Pyape, and Mypia.

11. Which government agency recently released the report titled "Improving the Culture of Research and Development (R&D) in State Universities and Institutes"?

- A. National Disaster Management Authority
- B. Intellectual Property Appellate Board
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India



NITI Aayog

- ✓ NITI Aayog's report on R&D in Indian state universities highlights a doubling of Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) to Rs 127,381 crore in 2020-21 from Rs 60,197 crore in 2010-11. Government sectors, including central and state governments, and higher education institutions drive GERD. R&D fosters innovation, aligns education with industry needs, and addresses societal challenges. However, challenges include low GDP spending on R&D compared to global peers, emphasis on teaching over research, and limited enrollment in advanced programs like Ph.D.

12. Recently, which organization announced the New World Soil Health Index at International conference on Soils?

- A. UNESCO
- B. UNICEF
- C. UNEP
- D. UNDP



- ✓ UNESCO introduced the New World Soil Health Index at an international conference in Morocco to standardize soil quality assessment globally. It aims to monitor soil degradation trends and improvements across different ecosystems. UNESCO will pilot sustainable soil management in ten Biosphere Reserves to develop best practices. Globally, soil degradation affects 75% of land, impacting 3.2 billion people, and is projected to reach 90% by 2050. In India, 32% of land is degraded, with 25% undergoing desertification due to various factors including deforestation and industrial pollution.

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1. Which state government recently announced plan to plant nearly 19 lakh palm trees to combat lightning deaths?

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



- ✓ The Odisha government plans to plant nearly 19 lakh palm trees in 2024-25 to mitigate lightning risks. Each forest block boundary will receive four palm trees, costing Rs 7 crore. Palm trees like Coconut and Palmyrah are part of tropical ecosystems, with Palmyrah designated as Tamil Nadu's State Tree. They act as natural conductors during lightning strikes, potentially saving lives. Male palm trees bear flowers, while females produce fruits.

2. Which ministry recently launched a portal 'Noble Initiative for Rewarding Mains Aspirants of National Civil Services Examination (NIRMAN)'?

- A. Ministry of Coal and Mines
- B. Ministry of Education
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Defence



कोयला मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
COAL

- ✓ The Union Minister for Coal and Mines launched the NIRMAN Portal, part of Mission Karmayogi. Announced by Coal India Limited (CIL), the portal aims to support UPSC Preliminary exam qualifiers from SC, ST, female, or third gender candidates with an annual family income under Rs 8 lakh. Eligible candidates, permanent residents of CIL's 39 operational districts, will receive Rs 1 lakh.

3. Recently, IAF chief inaugurated Weapon Systems School (WSS) in which city?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Kolkata
- D. Bhopal



- ✓ The Chief of the Air Staff inaugurated the Weapon Systems School (WSS) at Air Force Station Begumpet, Hyderabad. The WSS aims to modernize the Indian Air Force (IAF) by providing effect-based, contemporary training to officers of the newly formed branch. Flight Cadets in the WS Branch will undertake their second semester of training at this institute here.

4. Recently, Air India is establishing South Asia's largest flight training school in which state?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Meghalaya



- ✓ Air India is establishing South Asia's largest flight training school in Maharashtra's Amravati district with an investment of over ₹200 crore. Opening in the next financial year's first quarter, it will address the airline's need for 500-700 pilots annually, following a large aircraft order. In partnership with Maharashtra Airport Development Company (MADC), the 10-acre facility will train 180 commercial pilots yearly using 31 single-engine Piper aircraft and three twin-engine Diamond aircraft.

5. Recently, which country successfully test-fired an air-surface anti-radiation missile 'Rudram-1'?

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



- ✓ India successfully test-fired the Rudram-1, its first indigenous anti-radiation missile developed by DRDO for the Indian Air Force (IAF). Key features include a launch platform on Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jets, INS-GPS navigation, and a Passive Homing Head. It has a range of 100-250 km and speeds up to Mach 2. Rudram-1 enhances the IAF's Suppression of Enemy Air Defence (SEAD) capability, acts as a force multiplier.

6. Recently, which district's Panchayat in Kerala has constituted a technical committee to address the menace of water hyacinth?

- A. Kottayam
- B. Kannur
- C. Wayanad
- D. Thrissur



- ✓ The District Panchayat of Kottayam (Kerala) has formed a technical committee to tackle the water hyacinth problem. Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) is a fast-growing aquatic plant from Brazil that spreads through seeds and vegetative reproduction. It forms dense mats on water surfaces, blocking sunlight and reducing oxygen levels, which disrupts fisheries, transportation, and recreation. It's often called the "terror of Bengal" due to its invasive nature.

7. Which day is observed as 'International Plastic Bag Free Day'?

- A. July.03
- B. July.05
- C. November.05
- D. November.03



- ✓ **International Plastic Bag Free Day is observed on July 3 to encourage avoiding single-use plastics and combat plastic pollution. Established by Bag Free World, the day saw its first observance in 2008, initiated by Rezero, a member of Zero Waste Europe. In 2015, the EU passed directives to reduce single-use plastic bags. Bangladesh was the first country to ban these bags in 2022, followed by India and others.**

8. Which two organizations recently signed an MoU to develop AI tools for detecting and classifying large cardamom diseases in Sikkim?

- A. National Informatics Centre (NIC) and the Spices Board of India
- B. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the Spices Board of India
- C. National Informatics Centre (NIC) and the Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Spices Board of India



- ✓ **The National Informatics Centre (NIC) and the Spices Board of India have signed an MoU to develop AI tools for detecting and classifying large cardamom diseases in Sikkim. Led by NIC's AI Centre of Excellence in Kolkata, the project analyzes images of cardamom leaves to identify diseases early.**

9. Recently, where was the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held?

- A. Tehran, Iran
- B. Astana, Kazakhstan
- C. Beijing, China
- D. New Delhi, India



- ✓ **The 24th SCO Heads of State Meeting was held on July 4, 2024, in Astana, Kazakhstan. Hosted by President Tokayev, the summit admitted Belarus as the 10th full member. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi skipped the meeting, represented by External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar, who reiterated Modi's stance against terrorism. Key leaders, including Putin, Xi Jinping, and Erdogan, attended, emphasizing the priority of combating terrorism and radicalization.**

10. Recently, which government agency has launched the 'Sampoornata Abhiyaan'?

- A. National Informatics Centre
- B. NABARD
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. Ministry of Finance



- ✓ **NITI Aayog launched the 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' on July 4, 2024, targeting 100% saturation of 12 key social sector indicators across 112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks. Running until September 30, the campaign saw enthusiastic participation from officials, frontline workers, and citizens nationwide. Events included health camps, cultural programs, and awareness yatras, emphasizing community involvement and commitment to the campaign's goals from Jammu and Kashmir to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**

11. Which country hosts 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee?

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



- ✓ **India will host the 46th UNESCO World Heritage Committee session from July 21-31, 2024, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. This significant cultural diplomacy event will draw over 2,500 delegates from 195 countries, including state parties to the World Heritage Convention, advisory bodies, senior diplomats, heritage experts, and scholars. The gathering aims to discuss and decide on matters of global cultural significance.**

12. Which research institute of India has recently developed an anti-insecticide fabric that effectively neutralises organophosphate-based pesticides?

- A. Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture
- B. Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (inStem)
- C. National Institute of Biomedical Genomics
- D. Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research

- ✓ **In Bengaluru, the Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (inStem) has developed an innovative anti-insecticide fabric. This fabric utilizes nucleophilic small molecules that covalently bond to neutralize organophosphate-based pesticides upon contact, even after 150 washes. It aims to protect farmers from chronic pesticide toxicity by detoxifying pesticides through nucleophile-mediated hydrolysis.**

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1. 'Jaiva Gramam' campaign, a new initiative to promote organic farming, recently launched in which state?

- A. Bihar
- B. Haryana
- C. Punjab
- D. Kerala



- ✓ The 'Jaiva Gramam' campaign launched in Karumalloor, Kerala, aims to promote organic farming. Supported by the local panchayat and Lions Club, it encourages households to grow vegetables for Onam. Participants receive subsidies for saplings, fertilizers, and tools, and learn from experienced farmers. The initiative aims for sustainable agricultural growth, self-sufficiency in vegetable production, and preserving Kerala's farming heritage to boost farmers' economic prospects.

2. Technology Development Fund scheme is a flagship programme of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Coal and Mines
- B. Ministry of Education
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Defence



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

- ✓ The Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme, led by the Ministry of Defence and executed by DRDO under 'Make in India', promotes self-reliance in defence. It provides grants to Indian industries, MSMEs, start-ups, and academic institutions to develop defence and dual-use technologies not currently available domestically.
- ✓ The scheme fosters a culture of military technology design and development among private sectors, focusing on pioneering niche technologies and fostering collaboration among Armed Forces, research bodies, academia, and private entities.

3. Recently, which space agency has successfully launched the Advanced Land Observing Satellite-4 "DAICHI-4" (ALOS-4) to revolutionize disaster management?

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



- ✓ The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) launched the Advanced Land Observing Satellite-4 "DAICHI-4" (ALOS-4) on July 1, 2024, using the H3 Launch Vehicle from Tanegashima Space Center. ALOS-4 features a Phased Array type L-band Synthetic Aperture Radar-3 (PALSAR-3) and Space-based AIS Experiment (SPAISE3), enhancing its capability for high-resolution, all-weather observations. This satellite is pivotal for disaster management, offering extensive monitoring capabilities crucial for mitigating natural disasters and environmental monitoring.

4. Zika Virus Disease is a mosquito borne disease transmitted by which mosquitoes?

- A. Anopheles mosquitoes
- B. Aedes mosquitoes
- C. Culex mosquitoes
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **Dr Atul Goel, Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, issued an advisory to states following reported Zika virus cases in Maharashtra. The advisory emphasizes vigilance due to Zika's association with microcephaly and neurological issues in fetuses. States are instructed to monitor pregnant women for Zika, ensure health facilities are mosquito-free, and follow central guidelines. Zika primarily spreads via infected Aedes mosquitoes, and symptoms, when present, include fever, rash, and joint pain.**

5. Recently, the government of India signed a loan agreement with which institution to consolidate and strengthen India's health system preparedness to future pandemics?

- A. Asian Development Bank
- B. World Bank
- C. Reserve Bank of India
- D. State Bank of India



- ✓ **The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$170 million loan to enhance India's health system for future pandemics. Key signatories were Ms. Juhi Mukherjee and Ms. Mio Oka. The "Strengthened and Measurable Actions for Resilient and Transformative Health Systems Programme" aims to improve disease surveillance, human resources for health, and climate-resilient public health infrastructure, supporting initiatives like the National Health Policy 2017 and PM-ABHIM.**

6. Recently, Hemant Soren took oath as the Chief Minister of which state?

- A. Odisha
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Bihar
- D. Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ **Hemant Soren of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) was sworn in as Jharkhand's Chief Minister for the third time by Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan. Previously CM from 2013-2014 and 2019-2024, Soren resigned in January 2024 before his arrest in a money laundering case. Granted bail in June 2024, he leads the Mahagathbandhan alliance, which includes JMM, Congress, Rashtriya Janata Dal, and left parties.**

7. Recently, Sir Keir Starmer has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which country?

- A. United Kingdom
- B. Australia
- C. New Zealand
- D. Poland



- ✓ **Sir Keir Starmer has been appointed as the UK's 58th Prime Minister by King Charles III on 5 July 2024. His Labour Party won a landslide victory, securing 412 out of 650 House of Commons seats. He replaces Conservative leader Rishi Sunak, whose party won only 119 seats. Starmer will reside at 10 Downing Street, the official residence of the UK Prime Minister.**

8. Durand Cup is associated with which sports?

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



- ✓ **The 133rd Durand Cup, Asia's oldest club-based football tournament, starts on 27 July 2024 and ends on 31 August 2024. Matches will be held in Kolkata, Kokrajhar, Jamshedpur, and Shillong, with Jamshedpur hosting for the first time. The tournament features 24 teams from the Indian Super League, I-League, and Armed Forces. The opening match, semi-finals, and final will be in Kolkata. Mohun Bagan Super Giant is the reigning champion.**

9. Which state government has recently established a nine-member committee to investigate the contamination of the Kaveri River?

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



- ✓ **The Karnataka state government formed a nine-member committee to investigate Kaveri River contamination. The Kaveri River, also known as the Cauvery, is sacred to Hindus and originates from Brahmagiri Hill in the Western Ghats at 1,341m elevation. It flows 800 km through Karnataka and Tamil Nadu before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.**
- ✓ **The river basin covers 81,155 sq. km across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, and Puducherry. Major tributaries include the Harangi, Hemavati, Shimsha, Arkavati, Lakshmantirtha, Kabbani, Suvarnavati, Bhavani, Noyil, and Amaravati. Key dams are Krishna Raja Sagara, Mettur, and Banasura Sagar.**

10. Common Grass Yellow, recently seen in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, belongs to which species?

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



- ✓ For the first time, a large-scale migration of Common Grass Yellow butterflies was observed during a three-day survey at Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR). The Common Grass Yellow (*Eurema hecabe*) is a small butterfly found across Asia, North America, Africa, and Australia. They prefer open grassy or bushy terrains and exhibit vibrant yellow wings with seasonal color variations. Despite their widespread presence, they are listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List and are not protected under India's Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

11. Recently, where was the first International Conference On Steel Slag Road held?

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



- ✓ The 1st International Conference on Steel Slag Road was held in New Delhi by CSIR, where NITI Aayog released guidelines for using steel slag in road construction. This technology repurposes steel production waste, creating strong, durable, and eco-friendly roads.
- ✓ Processed steel slag offers high strength, hardness, abrasion resistance, and drainage capacity. It can partially meet India's annual demand for 1.8 billion tonnes of natural aggregates. India's first steel slag road was built in Surat.

12. Where was the 86th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission's Executive Committee (CEXEC) organized?

- A. London
- B. Paris
- C. Rome
- D. Geneva



- ✓ India participated in the 86th session of the Executive Committee of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) from July 1-5, 2024, in Rome. Represented by FSSAI CEO Shri G Kamala Vardhana Rao, India supported standards for spices, vegetable oils, and food safety. Key initiatives included guidelines for controlling Shiga Toxin-Producing *E. coli*, safe water use in food processing, and recycled materials in food packaging. The CAC, established by FAO and WHO in 1963, has 189 members, including India since 1964.

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1. What is the primary objective of the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

- A. To reduce carbon emissions by 50%
- B. To make India a global hub for producing, utilising, and exporting Green Hydrogen and its derivatives
- C. To develop electric vehicles infrastructure
- D. To promote the use of solar energy



- ✓ **The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy issued guidelines for funding under the National Green Hydrogen Mission, approved by the Union Cabinet on January 4, 2023. The mission aims to make India a global hub for producing, utilizing, and exporting green hydrogen. Key components include financial incentives for domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production, pilot projects, development of Green Hydrogen Hubs, the Strategic Hydrogen Innovation Partnership (SHIP) for R&D, and a coordinated skill development program.**

2. What is 'Apophis'?

- A. Asteroid
- B. Black hole
- C. Submarine
- D. Invasive weed



- ✓ **At Asteroid Day 2024, ISRO Chairperson announced plans to study asteroid, 'Apophis' in 2029 when it comes within 32,000 km of Earth to enhance planetary defense efforts. Discovered in 2004, Apophis is a near-Earth object once considered highly hazardous. However, radar observations in March 2021 confirmed there is no risk of Apophis impacting Earth for at least the next century.**

3. Recently, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared the mica mines of which state child-labor-free?

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



- ✓ **The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared Jharkhand's mica mines child labor-free on July 5, 2024. The initiative began 20 years ago, involving state and central governments, civil society, and local authorities. Around 20,000 children were previously employed in mica mining but have since been rehabilitated and enrolled in schools.**

4. Kaziranga National Park is located in which state?

- A. Nagaland
- B. Manipur
- C. West Bengal
- D. Assam



- ✓ A lone female gharial has been spotted for over three years in Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve. Gharials, or *Gavialis gangeticus*, are freshwater crocodiles once widespread across South Asia but now found mainly in fragmented populations in Nepal and northern India. They are critically endangered, with a global population reduced to a few hundred. Males can reach 20 feet, while females grow up to 15 feet.

5. Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS) Dam is located in which state?

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



- ✓ The Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) reservoir across the Cauvery River recently breached the 100-foot mark, with a maximum level of 124.80 feet. Located in Mandya, Karnataka, the gravity dam was constructed between 1911 and 1931. Named after Maharaja Krishna Raja Wadiyar IV and designed by Sir M. Visvesvaraya, its primary purposes are irrigation, hydroelectric power, and drought mitigation. The reservoir covers 130 sq. km.

6. What is the primary objective of the SEHER programme?

- A. To improve health care services
- B. To enhance financial literacy and business skills among women entrepreneurs
- C. To promote sports activities
- D. To develop new technologies



- ✓ NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and TransUnion CIBIL have launched the SEHER programme to enhance financial literacy and business skills among women entrepreneurs. This initiative aims to improve access to financial tools for business growth and job creation, supporting WEP's goal of improving financing for India's 63 million MSMEs. Launched in 2018, WEP supports women entrepreneurs through promotion, finance access, market linkages, training, mentoring, and business development services.

7. Kalamkari Art Form is related to which state?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Assam
- D. Nagaland



- ✓ **Kalamkari art, a once-flourishing hand-painted or block-printed cotton textile tradition, now struggles due to power looms and rising raw material costs. Practiced in Andhra Pradesh, Kalamkari originated in the Tilang region (now Andhra Pradesh and Telangana) during the 16-17th century under the Qutb Shahis of Golconda. The term "Kalamkari" combines "Kalam" (pen) and "Kari" (craftsmanship). It features two distinct styles: Srikalahasti and Pedana.**

8. Which ministry launched Indo-French Liver and Metabolic Disease Network (InFLiMeN) in collaboration with Government of France?

- A. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of External Affairs
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



विज्ञान एवं
प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ **The Ministry of Science and Technology launched the Indo-French Liver and Metabolic Disease Network (InFLiMeN) with the French government. InFLiMeN, based at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences in New Delhi, is a joint research program promoting scientific exchanges and collaborative projects to combat liver and metabolic disorders. Notably, every third Indian has fatty liver, which precedes Type 2 Diabetes, highlighting InFLiMeN's significance in addressing this issue.**

9. Which company has recently launched the world's first compressed natural gas (CNG)-powered two-wheeler?

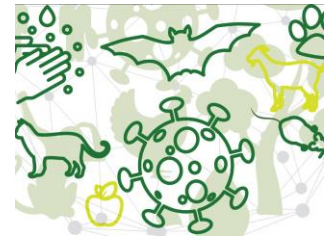
- A. Yamaha
- B. Bajaj Auto
- C. Hero
- D. TVS



- ✓ **Bajaj Auto launched the world's first CNG-powered two-wheeler, the Freedom 125, in Pune. Priced at around Rs 95,000, this entry-level vehicle aims to revolutionize the motorcycle market. CEO Rajiv Bajaj highlighted its freedom from petrol reliance. It has a 125cc engine.**

10. Which day is observed as World Zoonoses Day every year?

- A. July.06
- B. August.16
- C. August.06
- D. July.16



- ✓ World Zoonoses Day, observed on 6 July each year, commemorates Louis Pasteur's first rabies vaccine administered in 1885. It raises awareness about diseases transmissible between animals and humans, known as zoonoses. These diseases, caused by pathogens like viruses, bacteria, and parasites, can spread through direct contact, contaminated food or water, or vectors like mosquitoes. The 2024 theme, "One World, One Health: Prevent Zoonoses," underscores the global effort needed to break transmission cycles and prevent future pandemics.

11. Recently, the Government of India has mandated conformity to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for which materials?

- A. Stainless steel and Aluminium utensils
- B. Brass flanges
- C. Plastic products
- D. Wooden Handicrafts



- ✓ The Government of India recently mandated that stainless steel and aluminum utensils must adhere to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications. This move aims to improve kitchen safety, quality, and efficiency. Issued by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on March 14, 2024, the Quality Control Order requires the ISI mark on these utensils, with non-compliance subject to penalties.

12. "Iron-Dome" Akash Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM), recently seen in news, was indigenously designed and developed by which organization?

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



- ✓ The Indian "Iron-Dome" Akash Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) is competing with China's Sky Dragon-50 for an order from Brazil. Developed by India's DRDO and produced by Bharat Dynamics Ltd, Akash SAM defends against air threats, including fighter jets and ballistic missiles. It operates with the Indian Army and Air Force, featuring a Rajendra radar for target guidance.

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1. Habrocestum swaminathan belongs to which species?

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



- ✓ Researchers from Christ College, Irinjalakuda, discovered two new litter-dwelling jumping spider species in the southern Western Ghats' evergreen forests. Named Habrocestum swaminathan and Habrocestum benjamin, they contribute to the genus Habrocestum.
- ✓ These spiders play crucial roles in natural pest control and serve as indicators of ecosystem health. Habrocestum swaminathan was found near the Kunthi river, honoring MS Swaminathan, while Habrocestum benjamin, noted for its colorful patches, was discovered near Thusharagiri waterfalls and named after jumping spider specialist Suresh P Benjamin.

2. What is the primary function of 'Groynes'?

- A. To trap sediment and prevent longshore drift
- B. To create artificial reefs for marine life
- C. To facilitate beach nourishment through sand recycling
- D. None of the above



- ✓ In an effort to combat coastal erosion in Kerala's Poonthura region, the irrigation department plans to construct eight groynes costing Rs 17.5 crore. Groynes, typically made of wood, rock, or concrete, extend from shore into the sea to trap sediment, dissipate wave energy, and counter longshore drift. They reduce erosion, widen beaches, and require minimal maintenance, serving as durable structures crucial for stabilizing coastlines and supporting local activities.

3. Recently, which state has been honored with the Best Agriculture State Award for 2024 by the 15th Agriculture Leadership Awards Committee?

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



- ✓ The 15th Agriculture Leadership Awards Committee, chaired by Justice P Sathasivam, has named Maharashtra the Best Agriculture State for 2024. Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Eknath Shinde will receive the award in New Delhi on July 10. Recognized for its innovative agricultural policies and programs, Maharashtra's initiatives include the largest bamboo mission, extensive irrigation projects, and nano-technology fertilizer distribution.

4. Which ministry has recently launched Project Pari (Public Art of India)?

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



संस्कृति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
CULTURE

- ✓ The Ministry of Culture has launched Project PARI (Public Art of India) in conjunction with the 46th World Heritage Committee Meeting in New Delhi from July 21-31, 2024. Executed by Lalit Kala Akademi and National Gallery of Modern Art, this initiative aims to blend India's rich artistic heritage with modern themes. Over 150 artists will create public artworks, democratizing art and enhancing cultural engagement nationwide.

5. Recently, who won the 2024 Asian Billiards Championship in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia?

- A. Dhruv Sitwala
- B. Pankaj Advani
- C. Rupesh Shah
- D. Geet Sethi



- ✓ Dhruv Sitwala defeated Pankaj Advani 5-2 to win the 2024 Asian Billiards Championship in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. This victory marks Sitwala's third Asian billiards title, having previously won in 2015 and 2016. Advani, aiming for his third title and a hat-trick of championships, fell short in the final.

6. Where was the Asian Squash Doubles Championship 2024 held?

- A. Medan, Indonesia
- B. New Delhi, India
- C. Johor, Malaysia
- D. Kolkata, India



- ✓ Indian squash players secured two titles at the 2024 Asian Squash Doubles Championship in Johor, Malaysia. Abhay Singh and Joshna Chinappa won the mixed doubles, defeating Hong Kong's Tong Tsz Wing and Ming Hong Tang. In the men's doubles, Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar triumphed over Malaysia's Ong Sai Hung and Syafiq Kamal. The championship featured 33 teams from seven countries and was held from July 4-7, 2024.

7. What is CAMCOPTER S-100?

- A. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- B. Asteroid
- C. Newly discovered exoplanet
- D. Invasive plant



- ✓ **India is acquiring the Camcopter S-100 rotary unmanned aerial system from Austrian company Schiebel. This system will enhance the Indian Navy's ISR capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region, marking a significant technological collaboration. Schiebel, founded in 1951 in Vienna, specializes in high-tech unmanned systems with global facilities and a strong reputation for military, commercial, and humanitarian products.**

8. Gandaki River is a left bank tributary of which river?

- A. River Kaveri
- B. River Ganges
- C. River Narmada
- D. River Godavari



- ✓ **A 15-year-old bridge over the Gandaki River in Bihar's Saran district collapsed on July 4, the third bridge collapse in the district within 24 hours. The bridge connected villages in Saran to Siwan district. Over the past 17 days, 12 bridges have collapsed across Bihar. The Gandaki River, also known as Narayani and Gandak, originates in Nepal and flows into the Ganges near Patna, Bihar.**
- ✓ **Spanning 475 miles, it has a catchment area of 46,300 sq.km, with 7,620 sq.km in India. The river is bordered by the Himalayas, Ganga, Burhi Gandak Basin, and Ghagra Basin, with 1,710 glaciers and over 300 lakes in its upper catchment.**

9. Right to Repair Portal was launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Consumer Affairs



Right To Repair

- ✓ **The Centre has launched the unified Right to Repair Portal India, urging automobile companies and other sectors to participate. Led by the Department of Consumer Affairs, the portal aims to empower consumers with easy access to repair information, promoting reuse and reducing e-waste. Chaired by Nidhi Khare, the meeting involved major automobile associations and companies like TATA Motors, Mahindra, and Yamaha Motors India.**

10. What is Copernicus Programme?

- A. A new cybersecurity programme
- B. It is European Union's Earth Observation Programme
- C. It's a programme to observing wildlife migration patterns
- D. New Educational programme



- ✓ **June 2024 was recorded as the warmest June globally, with temperatures averaging 0.67°C above the 1991-2020 average and surpassing the previous high set in June 2023 by 0.14°C, according to the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S). C3S, part of the Copernicus Earth Observation Programme by the EU, supports climate policies and resilience efforts globally. It utilizes data from earth observation satellites and in situ sensors, processing it to provide authoritative climate information.**

11. How many new biosphere reserves recently added to World Network of Biosphere Reserves?

- A. 11
- B. 22
- C. 33
- D. 44



- ✓ **UNESCO designated 11 new biosphere reserves across Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Gambia, Italy, Mongolia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, and Spain, including two transboundary reserves. Biosphere reserves aid scientific research, inform environmental policies, and support local sustainable development. With these additions, the World Network of Biosphere Reserves now totals 759 sites in 136 countries, covering 7.44 million square kilometers.**

12. Which organization has recently unveiled the prototype of India's indigenous light tank 'Zorawar'?

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



- ✓ **The prototype of India's indigenous light tank, Zorawar, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T), was unveiled on July 6. Powered by a Cummins engine, it is designed for extreme weather and high altitudes along the northern border. Extensive trials will follow, aiming for Army user trials by August 2025. DRDO is also developing a new domestic engine for the tank.**

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1. Which organization recently launched an Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITBP) in the Kulathupuzha grama panchayat, Kerala?

- A. SEBI
- B. NABARD
- C. FCI
- D. Ministry of Tribal Affairs



- ✓ **The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched its first integrated tribal development program in Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat, Kollam, on July 8. Implemented by Thanal, the five-year project aims to enhance the livelihoods of 413 tribal families through diverse agricultural and non-agricultural activities. It includes water resource development, skill training, and the creation of a Tribal Farmer Producer Company (FPO) to empower the community economically.**

2. Recently, Rachel Reeves has become the first woman finance minister of which country?

- A. Australia
- B. United Kingdom
- C. Russia
- D. New Zealand



- ✓ **Rachel Reeves, 45, is the UK's first female Chancellor of the Exchequer. An economist with a BA from Oxford and an MSc from LSE, she worked at the Bank of England and in the private sector. Elected Labour MP for Leeds West in 2010, she became finance policy chief in 2021. Rachel Reeves aims to stabilize the UK's sluggish economy without raising income or corporation taxes.**

3. What is the primary function of 'Regenerative Braking'?

- A. To increase vehicle speed
- B. To convert kinetic energy into electrical power
- C. To enhance fuel combustion
- D. To cool down the engine



- ✓ **Regenerative braking, found in hybrid and full-electric vehicles, converts kinetic energy from braking into electrical power to charge the vehicle's high-voltage battery. Also known as a kinetic energy recovery system, it uses electric motors in reverse to act as generators. This system slows the car, aiding traditional brakes, improves fuel consumption, and reduces wear on brake pads by decreasing the overall braking load.**

4. What is the primary objective of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement?

- A. To promote tourism in marine areas
 - B. To address concerns over the long-term protection of marine biodiversity in the high seas
 - C. To regulate fishing activities in coastal regions
 - D. To enhance maritime trades
- ✓ **The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister, approved India signing the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, or 'High Seas Treaty'. Under UNCLOS, this treaty aims to protect marine biodiversity in the high seas through international cooperation, ensuring sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits. It promotes an ecosystem-centric approach, traditional and scientific knowledge, and minimizes environmental impacts.**

5. Recently, the CA Institute has initiated talks with which ministry to jointly develop an 'AI Audit Tool' to track performance of corporate India and detect corporate frauds?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
 - B. Ministry of Defence
 - C. Ministry of Science and Technology
 - D. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- ✓ **CA Institute and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) are collaborating to develop an AI Audit Tool to track corporate performance and detect frauds, announced President Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal. This tool will help companies remain 'going concerns'. ICAI has allocated ₹25 crore for AI tools, with plans to increase the budget to ₹100 crore.**



इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी एवं
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6. Recently, the government of India has designated which ministry as the nodal ministry for the Haj Committee?

- A. Ministry of Defence
 - B. Ministry of External Affairs
 - C. Ministry of Home Affairs
 - D. Ministry of Minority Affairs
- ✓ **The government has designated the Ministry of Minority Affairs as the nodal ministry for the Haj Committee, replacing the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). New rules, named the Haj Committee (Amendment) Rules, 2024, have been introduced. Officers from the ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs, Finance, and Civil Aviation will be nominated as ex-officio committee members. Previously, the MEA managed Haj pilgrimage administration under the Haj Committee Act, 2002.**



अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
MINORITY AFFAIRS
सत्यमेव जयते

7. Which two organizations recently signed an MoU to launch the “Sustainable Transport for Rural Entrepreneurs through Electric Bicycles” (STREE) program?

- A. Ministry of Rural Development & Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL)
- B. Ministry of Urban Development & DRDO
- C. Ministry of Agriculture & Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL)
- D. Ministry of Defence & ISRO



- ✓ **The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) signed an MoU with Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) to launch "Sustainable Transport for Rural Entrepreneurs through Electric Bicycles" (STREE) under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).**
- ✓ **STREE aims to empower rural women by providing green mobility via electric bicycles, enhancing livelihood opportunities and socio-economic status. CESL focuses on renewable energy and electric mobility solutions. DAY-NRLM promotes SHG women-led enterprises in diverse sectors.**

8. Recently, who has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian men’s cricket team?

- A. Gautam Gambhir
- B. MS Dhoni
- C. Yuvraj Singh
- D. Rahul Dravid



- ✓ **Gautam Gambhir, a former Indian cricketer, has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian men’s cricket team, replacing Rahul Dravid. Announced by BCCI Secretary Jay Shah on July 9, 2024, Gambhir’s term will last three years. He will oversee the team in key tournaments like the 2026 T20 World Cup, 2027 ODI World Cup, and 2025 ICC Champions Trophy. Gambhir starts his role in July with a tour to Sri Lanka.**

9. “Order of St. Andrew the Apostle” Award is the highest civilian honour award of which country?

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



- ✓ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi officially received Russia’s prestigious Order of St Andrew the Apostle, awarded in 2019 for his contributions to India-Russia strategic partnership and fostering friendly ties. Established in 1698 by Tsar Peter the Great, the honor recognizes exceptional civilian or military merit.**

10. Who has been chosen as India's chef-de-mission for the 2024 Olympics?

- A. Gagan Narang
- B. Mary Kom
- C. Neeraj Chopra
- D. Abhinav Bindra



- ✓ **Four-time Olympian and 2012 bronze medallist Gagan Narang replaced Mary Kom as India's chef-de-mission for the 2024 Olympics, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) announced. Mary Kom stepped down due to health issues. P.V. Sindhu will be the female flagbearer. The Paris Olympics will run from July 26 to August 11, 2024.**

11. Recently, India and Russia agreed to increase bilateral trade to 100 billion dollars by which year?

- A. 2025
- B. 2027
- C. 2028
- D. 2030

2030

- ✓ **India and Russia agreed to increase bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030 and use national currencies to bypass Western sanctions during the 22nd Annual Summit. Prime Minister Modi urged an end to civilian deaths in Ukraine. Russia will expedite the discharge of Indian recruits in its military.**

12. Which national park in Assam recently discovered the 'Salazar Pit Viper'?

- A. Kaziranga National Park
- B. Manas National Park
- C. Raimona National Park
- D. Nameri National Park



- ✓ **The Salazar Pit Viper, named after Salazar Slytherin from the 'Harry Potter' series, was discovered in Assam's Kaziranga National Park. Pit vipers are venomous snakes with heat-sensitive pit organs that detect infrared radiation from prey.**
- ✓ **Found in diverse habitats, they are mainly in tropical and subtropical regions, especially Asia and the Americas. The Salazar Pit Viper, first identified in Arunachal Pradesh in 2019, is nocturnal, and males have distinctive orange-to-reddish stripes.**

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1. Which organization recently upgraded the Regional Analysis of Indian Ocean (RAIN) system for gathering information on the health of the Indian Ocean?

- A. National Institute of Oceanography
- B. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)
- C. Indian Meteorological Department
- D. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



- ✓ **The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) in Hyderabad has upgraded its Regional Analysis of Indian Ocean (RAIN) system to include Sea Surface Height Anomaly (SSHA) alongside salinity and sea surface temperature. Developed since 2023 and implemented recently, the system aids in monitoring the Indian Ocean's health. Additionally, the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is currently neutral but is expected to turn positive, potentially increasing monsoon rainfall in India from August onwards.**

2. Anand Marriage Act provides statutory recognition to marriage rituals of which community in India?

- A. Muslim
- B. Sikh
- C. Jain
- D. Jews



- ✓ **The National Commission for Minorities held a video conference to discuss the implementation of the Anand Marriage Act, which recognizes Sikh marriage rituals. States like Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Meghalaya reported its implementation, while others assured to do so within two months. Originating in 1909 and amended in 2012, the Act allows Sikhs to register marriages outside the Hindu Marriage Act. Recently, Jammu and Kashmir framed rules for Anand marriage registration.**

3. Recently, India and which country signed Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for Organic Products?

- A. Hong Kong
- B. Taiwan
- C. Vietnam
- D. Japan



- ✓ **The India-Taiwan Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for Organic Products came into effect on July 8, 2024, announced at the 9th Working Group on Trade Meeting in New Delhi. This agreement boosts trade in organic products between the two countries. Certified organic products from India can now be exported to Taiwan and vice versa. Implementing agencies are India's APEDA and Taiwan's Agriculture and Food Agency. Key exports include aromatic plants, rice, and herbal tea.**

4. Recently, where was the 25th Prime Minister's Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) meeting held?

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



- ✓ The 25th Prime Minister's Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) meeting, chaired by Professor Ajay Kumar Sood on July 9, 2024 in New Delhi, reviewed various science and technology initiatives. Established in 2018, PM-STIAC advises on strategic matters, formulates missions like Deep Ocean Exploration, AI, National Quantum, Electric Vehicle, and AGNiI missions, and oversees their implementation across government agencies to advance India's scientific and technological capabilities.

5. Recently, which organization has released Financial Inclusion Index?

- A. Reserve Bank of India
- B. NABARD
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. SEBI



- ✓ The Reserve Bank's Financial Inclusion (FI) Index rose to 64.2 in March 2024, up from 60.1 in March 2023, indicating growth in financial inclusion across India. The index ranges from 0 (complete exclusion) to 100 (full inclusion) and comprises three parameters: access (35%), usage (45%), and quality (20%). The improvement was mainly driven by the usage dimension.

6. Which state government recently announced free higher education policy for EWS, SEBC, OBC girls?

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



- ✓ The Maharashtra government has announced a new policy making higher education free for girls from the Economically Weaker Section (EWS), Socially and Economically Backward Classes (SEBC), and Other Backward Classes (OBC). Effective from the 2024-25 academic year, this initiative aims to increase female participation in professional courses and aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP).

7. Recently, researchers of which institute have demonstrated a novel method to create mineral nanoparticles using microdroplets of water?

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



- ✓ Researchers at IIT Madras have discovered a method to create mineral nanoparticles using microdroplets of water, which are about 10 micrometers in size. This breakthrough has potential implications for the origin of life and agricultural soil replenishment. Microdroplets can break down minerals into nanoparticles faster than bulk water. Silica nanoparticles, for example, can enhance plant growth, potentially converting unproductive soils into fertile lands and improving food production and security.

8. Recently, which organization has launched the 'Medical Devices Information System' (MeDevIS)?

- A. World Health Organization
- B. World Bank
- C. UNICEF
- D. UNDP



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched MeDevIS (Medical Devices Information System), an online platform providing global access to information on 2,301 types of medical devices. This resource aids decision-making for the selection, procurement, and use of medical devices for diagnostics & treatment of various diseases. The platform covers over 10,000 medical technologies, from simple tools like thermometers to complex equipment like defibrillators and radiotherapy devices, enhancing access and navigation for healthcare providers.

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

- A. To Leave No One Behind, Count Everyone
- B. Safeguard the health and rights of women and girls
- C. Gender equality and reproductive health
- D. Family Planning is a Human Right



- ✓ World Population Day is observed annually on July 11 since 1990, focusing on population growth, environmental impact, and development issues. Established by the UNDP in 1989, the date marks the global population surpassing five billion on July 11, 1987. The 2024 theme is, "To Leave No One Behind, Count Everyone".

10. Which country is the host of 'Exercise Pitch Black 2024'?

- A. India
- B. France
- C. Australia
- D. New Zealand



- ✓ An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent arrived at RAAF Base Darwin, Australia, for Exercise Pitch Black 2024, from July 12 to August 2. This biennial, multinational exercise, the largest in its 43-year history, involves 20 countries, 140+ aircraft, and 4400 personnel. Focusing on night operations and Large Force Employment warfare, it includes IAF's Su-30 MKI, C-17 Globemaster, and IL-78 aircraft, enhancing international cooperation and best practices.

11. What is the primary objective of Borehole Geophysics Research Laboratory (BGRL) scientific deep-drilling programme?

- A. To study marine biodiversity
- B. To explore for fossil fuels
- C. To understand reservoir-triggered earthquakes
- D. To search for underground water sources



- ✓ The Borehole Geophysics Research Laboratory (BGRL) in Karad, Maharashtra, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, leads India's deep-drilling programme. It aims to reach 6 km into the earth's crust to study reservoir-triggered earthquakes in Maharashtra's Koyna-Warna region, prone to seismic activity since the 1962 impoundment of the Koyna Dam. This effort advances seismology and technological innovation, vital for understanding geohazards and developing geo-resources.

12. Recently, scientists have discovered a new species of a shield-tail snake in which region of India?

- A. Western Ghats
- B. Eastern Ghats
- C. Trans Himalayas
- D. Aravalli Range



- ✓ Researchers recently discovered a new species of shield-tail snake, *Uropeltis caudomaculata*, in the Meghamalai-Munnar landscape of the Western Ghats. Named for the yellow spot on its tail, this non-venomous species is distinguished by its increased number of ventral scales and is found exclusively in the Meghamalai Tiger Reserve, Periyar Tiger Reserve, and Yellapetty, Munnar. Shield-tail snakes belong to the Uropeltidae family, endemic to peninsular India and Sri Lanka. They inhabit hilly forests, burrow up to one foot below soil, and occupy tunnels in leaves, humus, rocks, and logs. They possess a keratinous shield at the tail tip.

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1. Which organization recently released 'Digital Economy Report 2024'?

- A. World Bank
- B. UN Trade and Development
- C. International Monetary Fund
- D. UN Development Programme



- ✓ **The UN Trade and Development recently released the Digital Economy Report 2024. It emphasizes the need for sustainable digitalization strategies. Internet users grew from 1 billion in 2005 to 5.4 billion in 2023. The ICT sector's global GHG emissions were 1.5-3.2% in 2020. Digital-related waste surged 30% from 2010 to 2022, reaching 10.5 million tonnes. Data centers consumed 460 terawatts hours in 2022, expected to double by 2026. Critical mineral demand may surge by 500% by 2050.**
- ✓ **Recommendations include adopting circular economy models, enforcing environmental standards, investing in renewable energy, and promoting sustainable business models.**

2. Umlingla Pass is located in which state/UT?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Ladakh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ **NewSpace Research and Technologies successfully tested a 100-kg Max Take Off Weight (MTOW) UAV at Umling La Pass. Located at 19,024 ft. in Eastern Ladakh along the Ladakh Range, Umling La Pass is the highest motorable road in the world, constructed by the Border Road Organization under Project Himank. The road enhances connectivity to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and improves local connectivity in the Chisumle-Demchok sector to Leh, boosting tourism. Other significant passes in Ladakh include Khardung La, Chang La, and Tanglang La.**

3. What is 'Salvinia molesta'?

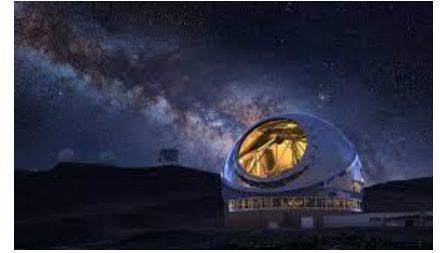
- A. Invasive weed
- B. Asteroid
- C. Earth observation satellite
- D. AI Tool



- ✓ **An exotic host-specific beetle, *Cyrtobagus salvinia* from Brazil, has eradicated the invasive weed *Salvinia molesta* from Sarani Reservoir (Satpura Dam) in Betul district, Madhya Pradesh. Located on the Tawa River, a tributary of the Narmada River, this reserve faced issues due to *Salvinia molesta*, a free-floating aquatic fern native to Brazil, also known as "Water Fern" or "Chinese Jhalaar." This weed also affects the ecology of Kerala, Odisha, Uttarakhand, and Maharashtra.**

4. Recently, Indian scientists have developed an open-source tool to generate an infrared star catalogue for which telescope?

- A. Himalayan Chandra Telescope
- B. Thirty Meter Telescope
- C. Cassegrain Telescope
- D. GROWTH-India Telescope



- ✓ Indian scientists have developed an open-source tool to generate an infrared star catalogue for the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT). This international project aims to revolutionize our understanding of the universe as the world's most advanced optical and infrared observatory. Key features include a 30-meter segmented primary mirror composed of 492 hexagonal segments, making it the largest in the Northern Hemisphere.

5. Recently, where was the NATO Summit 2024 held?

- A. Washington D.C.
- B. London
- C. Paris
- D. Sydney



- ✓ The recent NATO summit in Washington, D.C., extensively discussed Ukraine's potential membership. The alliance also considered providing at least €40 billion (\$43.28 billion) in military aid to Ukraine over the next year. NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance comprising 32 member states.

6. Bhoj Wetland is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Bhoj Wetland in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh is at risk of being delisted from the Ramsar Convention's list of Wetlands of International Importance due to potential ecological damage. Concerns have been raised about proposed road construction impacting the wetland's catchment area. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat has requested clarification from India, marking the first step in the delisting process. India's Environment Ministry, the nodal authority for wetlands, will assess whether the construction will alter the wetland's ecological character.

7. What is 'Squalus hima'?

- A. A new species of dogfish shark discovered from southwest coast of India
- B. A novel type of coral reefs found in Arabian Sea
- C. An endangered frog species found in eastern ghats
- D. A newly discovered species of spider found in northeastern region



- ✓ **Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India discovered a new deep-water dogfish shark species, Squalus hima, off Kerala's southwest coast. This genus, known as spurdogs, features smooth dorsal fin spines, a small mouth, and no body spots. Squalus hima is distinct from other species in vertebrae count, teeth count, and fin structure. Exploited for liver oil rich in squalene, it's crucial for pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.**

8. Which state won the 'Best State in Horticulture Award 2024' in the Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024?

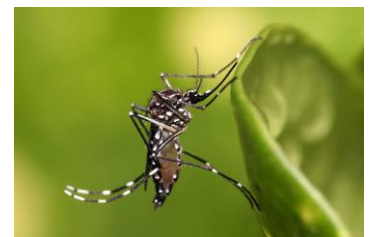
- A. Assam
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Nagaland
- D. Sikkim



- ✓ **Nagaland won the 'Best State in Horticulture Award 2024' for innovative horticulture programs benefiting many farmers and rural people. Women Resource Development and Horticulture Minister Salhoutuonuo Kruse received the award in New Delhi. The state's horticulture sector enhanced livelihoods, created jobs, ensured nutritional security, and achieved GI registration for three crops. Nagaland formed 13 farmers' producer companies and certified 6,800 hectares organically, earning national recognition.**

9. Dengue (break-bone fever) is transmitted by which type of mosquitoes?

- A. Anopheles mosquitoes
- B. Aedes mosquitoes
- C. Culex mosquitoes
- D. Culiseta mosquitoes



- ✓ **The High Court of Karnataka took suo motu cognizance of the dengue rise across the state. Dengue, a mosquito-borne viral infection common in tropical and subtropical areas, is spread by Aedes mosquitoes. While many infections are mild, severe cases can cause dengue hemorrhagic fever, leading to rapid breathing, vomiting, and bleeding gums. With 400 million infections annually, treatment focuses on supportive care, as no specific medicine exists.**

10. Technology Development Fund scheme is a programme of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE

- ✓ **The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) sanctioned seven new private sector projects under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme. Established to promote self-reliance in defence technology under the 'Make in India' initiative, the TDF is a Ministry of Defence program executed by DRDO. It supports MSMEs and startups, providing up to 90% funding for projects costing up to INR 50 crore.**

11. What is the main purpose of the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)?

- A. To increase foreign direct investment in India
- B. To simplify and streamline the process of remitting funds outside India
- C. To encourage foreign tourists to visit India
- D. To control the flow of foreign currency into India



भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Accounts (FCA) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) at GIFT City, Gujarat, under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).**
- ✓ **Introduced in 2004, LRS simplifies remitting funds outside India, allowing residents, including minors, to remit up to USD 250,000 per financial year. This excludes corporates and trusts, and covers any permissible current or capital account transactions.**

12. Which organization recently released the 'World Population Prospects Report 2024'?

- A. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
- B. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- C. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- D. World Bank



United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

- ✓ **The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) recently released the World Population Prospects Report, projecting the global population to peak at 10.3 billion by the mid-2080s, up from 8.2 billion in 2024. Key findings include a current fertility rate of 2.25 births per woman and a life expectancy of 73.3 years. India's population is expected to peak in the early 2060s.**

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1. Which country will host the 28th Malabar naval exercise in October, in collaboration with the United States, Japan, and Australia?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Myanmar



- ✓ India will host the 28th Malabar naval exercise in October, partnering with the United States, Japan, and Australia. The exercise aims to enhance military coordination and interoperability, focusing on advanced anti-submarine warfare and strategic naval maneuvers. It highlights India's strategic role in the Indo-Pacific region, emphasizing the importance of collaborative defense efforts among these nations.

2. What is the primary objective of Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) initiative?

- A. Increasing telecom services in urban areas
- B. Enhancing telecom networks in remote and rural areas
- C. Enhancing digital literacy in tribal areas
- D. Providing school kit to children in flood prone areas



- ✓ The Department of Telecommunications has proposed draft rules to implement the Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), aiming to enhance telecom connectivity in rural areas. The DBN will replace the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), which was created to provide affordable telecom services in remote regions using a 5% Universal Service Levy on telecom operators' revenue. Established under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, the DBN seeks to expand networks in underserved areas where private companies may not invest.

3. Recently, who has been conferred with the "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour), the highest civilian award of France?

- A. Koppu Sadashiva Murthy
- B. Roshni Nadar Malhotra
- C. Pushp Kumar Joshi
- D. Alok Ohrie



- ✓ Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chairperson of HCLTech, was awarded France's highest civilian honor, the "Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur," for her significant contributions to business and sustainability, as well as enhancing economic relations between France and India. The honor was presented by the French Ambassador to India, acknowledging her exceptional leadership and influence in international business and diplomacy.

4. Ariane 6 rocket was developed by which space agency?

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



- ✓ Europe's Ariane 6 rocket successfully launched satellites into orbit after a four-year delay. Developed by the European Space Agency (ESA) and Arianespace, this heavy-lift launch vehicle offers a cost-effective and flexible solution for commercial and government missions, utilizing both liquid and solid propellant engines. The ESA, established in 1975 and headquartered in Paris, coordinates space activities among member states and collaborates on projects like the International Space Station and the Rosetta mission.

5. What is the primary objective of the 'eSwasthya Dham portal'?

- A. To book accommodation for pilgrims
- B. To monitor the health parameters of Char Dham Yatra pilgrims
- C. To provide travel guides for pilgrims
- D. To facilitate payment for pilgrimage services



- ✓ The eSwasthya Dham portal, integrated with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), monitors the health parameters of pilgrims undertaking the Char Dham Yatra, which includes Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath. This initiative ensures a smooth pilgrimage experience, allowing pilgrims to create a 14-digit Ayushman Bharat Health Account number. Each site holds religious significance: Yamunotri is dedicated to Goddess Yamuna, Gangotri to Goddess Ganga, Kedarnath to Lord Shiva, and Badrinath to Lord Vishnu.

6. Where is the world's largest Ramayan temple being constructed?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Bihar
- C. Kerala
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ The world's largest Ramayan temple is being built in East Champaran, Bihar. It will be three times larger than the Ram Temple in Ayodhya and taller than Angkor Wat in Cambodia. The temple features a 33-foot tall shivling, made of black granite from Mamallapuram, and includes 22 smaller temples dedicated to key deities from the Ramayana. The main shikhar rises to 270 feet, with architectural inspiration drawn from notable temples in India and Cambodia.

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

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



- ✓ **World Malala Day, celebrated on July 12th, honors Malala Yousafzai's advocacy for women's and children's rights. Born on July 12, 1997, in Pakistan, Malala survived a Taliban assassination attempt in 2012. She gained global recognition, speaking at the UN on her 16th birthday, being named one of TIME's most influential people in 2013, and winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014. She continues her education and activism from Birmingham.**

8. Recently, who won the bronze medal in the Shotgun Junior World Cup in Italy?

- A. Manu Bhaker
- B. Anjali Bhagwat
- C. Sabeera Haris
- D. Nandita Das



- ✓ **India's Sabeera Haris won the bronze medal in the women's trap event at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Italy, shooting 29 out of 40 targets. Carey Garrison of the US took gold with 40 out of 50 targets, and Italy's Sofia Gori earned silver with 39 hits. Indian shooters Bhavya Tripathi and Rajkuwar Ingle finished 26th and 33rd, respectively.**

9. Recently, which organization has approved \$1.5 billion loan to India to develop the country's low-carbon energy sector?

- A. World Bank
- B. IMF
- C. ADB
- D. NATO



- ✓ **The World Bank approved a \$1.5 billion loan to India for developing its low-carbon energy sector, following a similar loan in 2023. The low-carbon energy sector includes fuels like hydrogen and biofuels, which emit less carbon than fossil fuels. India aims for net-zero carbon emissions by 2070, supported by initiatives like the National Green Hydrogen Mission, which uses renewable energy for hydrogen production.**

10. Jimmy Anderson, who recently announced his retirement from international cricket, belongs to which country?

- A. Australia
- B. South Africa
- C. England
- D. Ireland



- ✓ James Anderson, one of cricket's greats, retired from international cricket on July 12, 2024, after England defeated the West Indies by an innings and 114 runs at Lord's. Anderson, a right-arm fast bowler, debuted in 2002-03 and retired as the highest wicket-taker among fast bowlers with 704 wickets in 188 Test matches. He played 21 years, becoming the second-most capped Test player after Sachin Tendulkar.

11. NavIC, formerly known as the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), developed by which organization?

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



- ✓ The DRDO has tasked a Bengaluru firm with developing a receiver chip for the Indian navigation system NavIC, created by ISRO. NavIC, the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System, consists of seven satellites providing precise positioning and timing information across India and 1,500 km beyond. It offers services for civilian and defense use, with accuracy better than 10 meters in India. NavIC signals are compatible with other global navigation systems like GPS, Glonass, Galileo, and BeiDou.

12. Recently, which organization announced Rs 750 crore 'Agri SURE' fund to promote innovation in agriculture?

- A. NABARD
- B. ICAR
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ NABARD recently announced the Agri-SURE fund to support start-ups and rural enterprises in agriculture. The ₹750 crore fund, with contributions from NABARD, the Ministry of Agriculture, and other institutions, will back 85 agri start-ups with investments up to ₹25 crore each. Agri-SURE focuses on innovation, technology, enhancing the value chain, creating rural linkages, generating employment, and supporting Farmers Producer Organisations. NABVENTURES will manage the fund.

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1. Shigella infection is an intestinal infection caused by which agent?

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



- ✓ **The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has partnered with an Indian manufacturer to produce a breakthrough vaccine for shigella infection, an intestinal disease caused by Shigella bacteria. Shigella causes symptoms like diarrhea, stomach pain, fever, and nausea. Highly contagious, it primarily affects children under five. No vaccine currently exists. Shigella causes about 125 million diarrheal cases and 160,000 deaths annually.**

2. Which institution recently released the 4th edition of SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) India Index 2023-24?

- A. NABARD
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Ministry of Jal Shakti
- D. SEBI



- ✓ **NITI Aayog has released the 4th edition of the SDG India Index 2023-24, assessing progress across 113 indicators for all States and Union Territories (UTs). India's composite score improved from 66 in 2020-21 to 71 in 2023-24, with significant advancements in Goals 1, 8, and 13. Thirty-two States and UTs are classified as front-runners, while Uttarakhand and Kerala topped the list with scores of 79. Chandigarh is the leading Union Territory.**

3. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, recently seen in news due to vulture conservation, is located in which district?

- A. Erode
- B. Coimbatore
- C. Tenkasi
- D. Kanyakumari



- ✓ **A recent study reveals a lack of awareness regarding vulture conservation in the key habitats of Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve in Erode district of Tamil Nadu. Established in 2013, Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve connects with Mudumalai and Bandipur Tiger Reserves and features diverse forests. It is home to notable wildlife, including elephants, tigers, and sloth bears. Key concerns for the reserve include sandalwood smuggling and poaching, which threaten its ecological balance and conservation efforts.**

4. Recently, the government has decided to observe which day as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' every year?

- A. June.25
- B. June.26
- C. July.25
- D. July.26



- ✓ The government will observe June 25 as 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' to commemorate the 1975 Emergency imposed by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This period saw widespread suspension of fundamental rights, detention of opposition leaders, and press censorship. The 38th Amendment Act made emergency declarations immune to judicial review, a provision later revoked by the 44th Amendment in 1978. The day honors those who suffered during this tumultuous time in Indian history.

5. Recently, which country secured their 2nd consecutive Copa America championship by defeating Colombia?

- A. Argentina
- B. Peru
- C. Venezuela
- D. Chile



- ✓ Argentina won their 16th Copa America title by defeating Colombia 1-0 in the final, held at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami. The tournament, hosted by the USA for the second time, featured 16 teams. Lautaro Martinez scored the winning goal in extra time. This victory marked Argentina's consecutive Copa America win and added to their 2022 FIFA World Cup triumph.

6. Who won the men's single title at the 2024 Wimbledon Tennis Championships?

- A. Roger Federer
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Carlos Alcaraz
- D. Max Purcell



- ✓ Carlos Alcaraz of Spain and Barbora Krejckikova of Czech Republic won the men's and women's singles titles at the 2024 Wimbledon Tennis Championships. Alcaraz secured his second consecutive Wimbledon title by defeating Novak Djokovic, while Krejckikova won her first Wimbledon title. The tournament, held from 1-14 July 2024, is the third Grand Slam event of the year and the only one played on natural grass.

7. Recently, Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli has become Prime Minister of which country?

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



- ✓ **Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli (K P Sharma Oli) was sworn in as Prime Minister of Nepal for the fourth time on 15 July 2024 by President Ram Chandra Paudel. Oli leads a coalition government after the fall of Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda's government. Per Nepal's constitution, the new government must seek a vote of confidence from the lower house within 30 days. Oli's previous terms were in 2015-2016, 2018-2021, and 2021.**

8. India will host the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in which state from November 20-24, 2024?

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



20th - 24th NOVEMBER 2024

- ✓ **India will host the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa from 20-24 November 2024. The announcement was made by Union Minister Ashwani Vaishnaw, with Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Minister Dr L Murugan present.**
- ✓ **Vaishnaw emphasized the government's commitment to supporting the media and entertainment sector and aims to make India a global content creation hub through supportive policies and strong intellectual property rights.**

9. Which state's natural farming model won the 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity?

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



- ✓ **The Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) initiative, launched by Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) in 2016, has won the 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity. Awarded by Portugal-based Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, the prize honors contributions to global food security, climate resilience, and ecosystem protection. APCNF shares the €1 million prize with soil scientist Rattan Lal and Egypt-based SEKEM. Selected from 181 nominations, the award jury was chaired by former German Chancellor Angela Merkel.**

10. Recently, Union Home Minister inaugurated 'PM College of Excellence' in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Colleges of Excellence in 55 districts of Madhya Pradesh. He congratulated the state for being the first to implement Prime Minister Narendra Modi's New Education Policy (NEP).
- ✓ He highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for India to excel globally by 2047, emphasizing the New Education Policy (NEP) introduced in 2020. Shah praised Madhya Pradesh as the first state to implement the NEP and its initiative to translate engineering and medical curriculums into the local language, aiding many students.

11. Mahabodhi Temple Complex is located in which state?

- A. Bihar
- B. Odisha
- C. West Bengal
- D. Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ A geospatial analysis using satellite images and ground surveys revealed "huge architectural wealth" buried in the Mahabodhi temple complex in Bodhi Gaya, Bihar. The Mahabodhi Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2002, marks the Buddha's Enlightenment spot. Built by Emperor Asoka in the 3rd century B.C., the current structure dates to the 5th-6th centuries and is a key example of early brick architecture and sculptural reliefs.

12. The Asur community primarily resides in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Odisha
- D. Kerala



- ✓ The Asur community, a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG), resides in the Netarhat plateau region of Gumla, Jharkhand. They will soon receive benefits under the Forest Rights Act. The Asurs, with a population of around 23,000 as per the 2011 census, are traditionally iron-smelters and now primarily cultivators. They speak the Asur language, part of the Munda family.

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1. What is the primary objective of the NASA's CHAPEA mission?

- A. To test new Mars rover designs
- B. To simulate year-long stays on the surface of Mars
- C. To develop new space suits
- D. To test solar panel efficiency on Mars



- ✓ **NASA's CHAPEA project simulates year-long Mars missions to assess food systems and human health. After a year in the 1,700 sq ft Mars Dune Alpha habitat at Johnson Space Center, a crew emerged. CHAPEA missions involve four crew members living in a 3D-printed structure that mimics a realistic Mars habitat. The data collected will aid future space missions, focusing on physical and behavioral health patterns.**

2. Kharchi Puja is celebrated in which state?

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



- ✓ **The Prime Minister of India recently extended wishes for Kharchi Puja, a key festival in Tripura celebrated in July-August on the eighth day of the new moon. The festival, meaning "cleansing of sins," involves the worship of fourteen deities by the Royal priest, Chantai. Held at the Chaturdasha Devata temple in old Agartala, the seven-day festival includes bathing the deities' heads in the Saida river and returning them to the temple.**

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

- A. July.15
- B. July.16
- C. August.15
- D. August.16



- ✓ **World Youth Skills Day, observed on July 15th, was established by the UN in 2014. It emphasizes the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship. The 2024 theme, "Youth Skills for Peace and Development," highlights the vital role of youth in promoting peace and driving sustainable development. This day serves as a global platform to raise awareness about youth skill development.**

4. Vibrant Village Programme comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of External Affairs
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS

- ✓ **Union Home Minister reviewed the implementation of the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP), approved in 2023 for the development of villages along the northern border in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and Ladakh. This centrally sponsored scheme, led by the Ministry of Home Affairs, focuses on skill development, livelihood generation, tourism, and financial inclusion. The program aims to enhance border security through increased community participation in border management.**

5. Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Telangana
- C. Assam
- D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ **The Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary in Telangana is being studied to potentially become the state's first Ramsar site. Located in the Medak district, it was originally a crocodile sanctuary and now hosts over 70 bird species, including the vulnerable mugger crocodile. Following the Manjeera River, the man-made reservoir supports irrigation and drinking water for Hyderabad and Secunderabad.**

6. Recently, which country has been chosen to host UN Climate Fund Board?

- A. Malaysia
- B. Philippines
- C. Indonesia
- D. India



United Nations
Climate Change

- ✓ **The Philippines has been selected to host the board of the "Loss and Damage" fund, a significant step in aiding communities affected by climate change. This decision arose during UN talks focused on financial support for nations impacted by global warming. The World Bank will temporarily oversee the fund for four years. The Philippines aims to enhance global climate policy discussions, given its vulnerability to natural disasters.**

7. Which organization recently awarded Captain Abhilash Rawat and his crew of oil tanker 'Marlin Luanda for Exceptional Bravery in Red Sea Mission?

- A. World Meteorological Organization
- B. International Maritime Organisation
- C. World Bank
- D. UNEP



- ✓ Captain Avhilash Rawat and his crew from the oil tanker Marlin Luanda have received the 2024 International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea.
- ✓ They were recognized for their determination during a rescue mission in the Red Sea, where they encountered a serious fire after an anti-ship missile strike, allegedly from Iranian-backed Houthi rebels. The award highlights the skill and bravery of Indian seafarers, as noted by India's Directorate General of Shipping.

8. Recently, Prime Minister of India inaugurated Indian Newspaper Society (INS) Towers in which city?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Bhopal
- C. Chandigarh
- D. Patna



- ✓ Prime Minister recently inaugurated the INS Towers in Mumbai, marking a significant development for the Indian Newspaper Society (INS), which originated in 1927 and was established as the Indian & Eastern Newspaper Society in 1939. The INS serves as a central organization for the press in India and Asia, focusing on protecting press freedom and authenticating circulation figures for newspapers and periodicals. Its members include owners and publishers of print media.

9. Recently, India signed an agreement with which country to implement four Community Development Projects?

- A. Marshall Islands
- B. Solomon Islands
- C. Papua New Guinea
- D. New Zealand



- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar emphasized the long-standing friendly relations between India and the Marshall Islands during the MoU signing for Four Community Development Projects. He highlighted India's responsibility to support Pacific Islands in sustainable development, addressing climate change, natural disasters, poverty alleviation, and healthcare. Dr Jaishankar affirmed that the Pacific Islands are significant ocean countries and valued India's partnership with them.

10. Which ministry is hosting the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum?

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



संस्कृति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
CULTURE

- ✓ India is hosting the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting for the first time from July 21-31, 2024, in New Delhi. The Ministry of Culture is organizing the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum, themed "World Heritage in the 21st Century". The forum, held at the Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute of Archaeology, will see 50 young professionals globally presenting to enhance their skills in heritage protection and sustainable development.

11. Recently, which research institute has been launched the 'One-Scientist-One Product' program?

- A. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- B. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)
- C. National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG)
- D. Institute of Economic Growth



- ✓ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched its 'One Scientist-One Product' programme on July 16, enhancing research in agriculture and animal husbandry. During its 96th foundation day celebration in Delhi, ICAR announced 323 new crop varieties, including 289 climate-resilient and 27 bio-fortified types. The programme was inaugurated by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

12. Recently, which Indian city created a world record by planting 11 lakh saplings in a day?

- A. Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- B. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- C. Kozhikode, Kerala
- D. Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ The Madhya Pradesh government set a new Guinness World Record by planting over 11 lakh saplings in one day in Indore. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav received the certificate from the Guinness Book of Records team. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also participated in the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 5. Indore, India's cleanest city, will see 51 lakh saplings planted under this drive.

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1. National Geophysical Research Institute is located in which city?

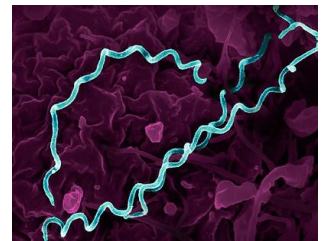
- A. Chennai
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Mumbai
- D. Kolkata



- ✓ Scientists from the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) have discovered evidence highlighting the ancient connection between the Indian subcontinent and Antarctica. Established in 1961, NGRI, based in Hyderabad, is part of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The institute conducts research in geodynamics, earthquake hazards, and natural resources to inform sustainable geo-resource use and improve resilience to natural hazards.

2. Syphilis disease is caused by which agent?

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



- ✓ Improved testing by the Mumbai AIDS Control Society (MDACS) has identified over 6,000 syphilis cases between 2018-19 and 2022-23. Syphilis, caused by the Treponema pallidum bacterium, is a sexually transmitted infection that can remain symptomless for years but may reactivate. It spreads through sexual contact and can affect unborn babies. Symptoms include painless sores and skin rashes. Treatable with antibiotics, penicillin is the most common medication, especially effective in early stages.

3. What is the primary objective of e-FAST India initiative?

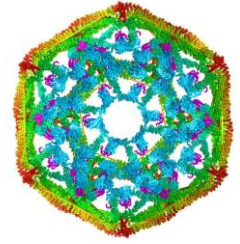
- A. Increase road infrastructure
- B. Decarbonize road-based freight transportation
- C. Promote electric vehicles for personal use
- D. Enhance fuel efficiency in trucks



- ✓ NITI Aayog has launched the 'NITI GearShift Challenge' under the e-FAST India initiative, aimed at decarbonizing road-based freight transportation in India to meet 2070 net zero commitments. Launched in September 2022, e-FAST promotes cleaner freight solutions through national and international collaborations, supporting pilot programs and technology integration. The initiative fosters discussions among stakeholders, including government bodies and logistics providers, to enhance the adoption of electric technologies in the freight sector, backed by 12 knowledge partners.

4. What are 'Chaperones'?

- A. Critical Minerals
- B. They are group of proteins
- C. These are invasive plants
- D. Newly discovered species of marine animals



- ✓ Researchers at the SN Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences are using a Covalent Magnetic Tweezer (CMT) to investigate protein molecules and the role of chaperones in their folding. Chaperones, group of proteins, crucial for preventing misfolding and aggregation, assist in proper protein formation, particularly under stress. Major human chaperones include HSP70 and HSP90. Misfolded proteins can lead to diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and congenital cataracts, highlighting the importance of chaperones in cellular function.

5. Which INS has been adjudged the Best Ship of the Eastern Fleet at the annual 'Fleet Awards Function-2024'?

- A. INS Delhi
- B. INS Karanj
- C. INS Shakti
- D. INS Vagir



- ✓ At the annual 'Fleet Awards Function-2024' in Visakhapatnam on July 14, INS Delhi was recognized as the Best Ship of the Eastern Fleet for its operational achievements over the past year. INS Kavaratti received the award for Best Ship in the Corvettes/OPVs/LSTs category. Additionally, INS Shivalik, INS Sumedha, and INS Sumitra were acknowledged as the most spirited ships of the Sunrise Fleet for their performance in various challenging missions.

6. Which organization recently released the 'Navigating New Horizons: A Global Foresight' report?

- A. United Nations Environment Programme
- B. United Nations Development Programme
- C. World Bank
- D. International Monetary Fund



- ✓ The UNEP's report "Navigating New Horizons" identifies critical global shifts exacerbating the triple planetary crisis of pollution, biodiversity loss, and climate change.
- ✓ It highlights the interconnectedness of today's global polycrisis, which includes wars, extreme weather, and pandemics, driven by globalization. Key issues addressed include changing human-environment relationships, resource scarcity impacting global security, technological innovations like AI, increased risks from autonomous weapons, mass displacement of 1.5% of the population, and rising eco-anxiety.

7. Which institute recently unveiled plans to use technology to enhance India's chess capabilities?

- A. IIT Kanpur
- B. IIT Madras
- C. IIT Mandi
- D. IIT Ahmedabad



- ✓ The IIT Madras Centre of Excellence in Sports Science and Analytics (CESSA) announced plans to leverage technology to enhance India's chess capabilities. This initiative aims to boost fan engagement, provide anti-cheating solutions, and enhance chess training programs. It includes launching new courses on NPTEL and future sports education programs.

8. APSTAR-6E Satellite was developed by which country?

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



- ✓ China's APSTAR-6E satellite has commenced operations after successful technical reviews in orbit and Hong Kong. Developed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, it is China's first all-electric propulsion communication satellite, launched on January 13, 2023. The satellite, designed to last 15 years, provides high-capacity broadband services across Southeast Asia.

9. Recently, the Serum Institute of India and Oxford University have launched a 'high efficacy' malaria vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, in which country?

- A. Mali
- B. Ivory Coast
- C. Ghana
- D. Nigeria



- ✓ Ivory Coast is the first country to deploy the R21 malaria vaccine developed by the Serum Institute of India and Oxford University. Authorized by multiple African countries, the vaccine aims to initially immunize 250,000 children, with plans to reach millions more with Gavi's support. Recommended by WHO for children under five, the vaccine targets a disease responsible for over 600,000 deaths annually, predominantly in Africa.

10. What is the primary purpose of the 'NERACE' web portal, recently launched in Shillong?

- A. To promote tourism in the Northeast
- B. To connect the farming community and buyers in the Northeastern region



C. To provide educational resources for students

D. To support local art and crafts

- ✓ **Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia launched the North East Region Agri Commodity E-Connect (NERACE) web portal and app in Shillong to benefit Northeastern farmers and buyers. NERACE supports products like spices, fruits, and vegetables, providing farmers with larger markets and better pricing. The platform supports seven languages and aims to connect producers, buyers, and service providers globally.**

11. Recently, the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated "Maitree Udyan" as a symbol of friendship in which country?

A. Vietnam

B. Australia

C. Mauritius

D. Singapore



- ✓ **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar inaugurated the India-Mauritius Maitree Udyan in Port Louis on July 16, 2024. He planted a tree alongside Mauritius Foreign Minister Maneesh Gobin. During his two-day visit, Dr. Jaishankar met with Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth, visited the India-assisted Civil Service College project.**

12. What is the name of the weight-loss drug recently approved by India's drug regulator?

A. Tirzepatide

B. Pyrazinamide

C. Niacinamide

D. Atovaquone



- ✓ **India's drug regulator has approved tirzepatide, a weight-loss drug. Both tirzepatide and semaglutide, FDA-approved, are polypeptides that boost GLP-1 and, in tirzepatide's case, GIP, regulating weight and glucose levels. They target neurons and brain mechanisms to induce satiety, suitable for those with a BMI over 27 and related health conditions. Side effects include nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain.**

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1. Tehri Hydro Power Plant is located on which river basin?

- A. Mandakini
- B. Bhagirathi
- C. Ramganga
- D. Tons



- ✓ A 2400 MW Hydro Power Complex is under construction in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand, on the Bhagirathi River. It includes the Tehri Hydro Power Plant, Koteshwar Hydro Electric Project, and Tehri Pumped Storage Plant. The Bhagirathi River originates from the Gangotri Glacier and becomes the Ganga at Devprayag. Key tributaries include Kedar Ganga and Jadh Ganga. Operational dams on Bhagirathi include Maneri, Joshiyara, Koteshwar, and Tehri Dams.

2. Harela Festival is celebrated in which state?

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



- ✓ On July 16, Sawan begins, marked by the Harela festival in Uttarakhand. This traditional Hindu festival, also celebrated in parts of Himachal Pradesh, is especially popular in Uttarakhand's Kumaun region. Harela symbolizes peace, prosperity, and the celebration of nature. It holds cultural and environmental importance, representing prayers for abundant harvests and prosperity through divine blessings.

3. Halwa ceremony is associated with releasing of which document?

- A. RBI's Annual Report
- B. Union Budget
- C. Economic Survey
- D. NITI Aayog's Annual Report



- ✓ The Union Finance Minister recently participated in a traditional 'halwa' ceremony, marking the final stage of preparation for the Union Budget 2024-25, set to be unveiled on July 23. This ritual involves serving 'halwa' to finance ministry officials and signifies the initiation of budget document printing. Officials enter a 'lock-in' period for confidentiality, staying in the Finance Ministry's North Block basement. This practice stems from a 1950 budget leak, leading to strict secrecy measures.
-

4. What is the name of nation's first toll-free narcotics helpline, recently launched Ministry of Home Affairs?

- A. Vikrant
- B. Nischay
- C. Manas
- D. Kaveri



- ✓ India launched its first national toll-free anti-narcotics helpline, '1933', along with an email service called MANAS (Madak Padarth Nisedh Asuchna Kendra) on July 18. Announced by Union Home Minister Amit Shah during the Narco-Coordination Centre meeting, the helpline aims to offer citizens a 24/7 platform to report drug-related crimes and seek assistance.

5. What is the primary aim of "e-mobility R&D Roadmap for India", recently launched by the Principal Scientific Adviser?

- A. To reduce the price of electric vehicles
- B. Achieving global leadership in electric vehicles (EVs)
- C. To promote electric vehicle sales
- D. To establish manufacturing units for electric vehicles



- ✓ India's "e-mobility R&D Roadmap" launched by the Principal Scientific Adviser aims to achieve global leadership in electric vehicles (EVs) within five years. It identifies key areas like Energy Storage Cells, EV Aggregates, Materials and Recycling, and Charging and Refueling for intensive research. India targets a 45% reduction in emission intensity by 2030, energy independence by 2047, and net-zero emissions by 2070, emphasizing EV adoption, indigenous energy storage, and renewable energy for charging infrastructure.

6. Which country recently hosted the 45th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) for the first time?

- A. Nepal
- B. South Korea
- C. Bhutan
- D. Maldives



- ✓ The 45th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) took place in Busan, South Korea, marking the country's first hosting of this global conference.
- ✓ Attracting 3,000 participants from 60 nations, the event highlighted South Korea's dedication to space exploration and international collaboration. Distinguished attendees included leaders from major space agencies, underscoring the significance of global interest in advancing space research and ambitious future projects.

7. Recently, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated India's first overseas Jan Aushadi Kendra in which country?

- A. Vietnam
- B. Indonesia
- C. Mauritius
- D. Malaysia



- ✓ External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar inaugurated India's first overseas Jan Aushadi Kendra in Mauritius, joined by Prime Minister Pravin Kumar Jugnauth. This project aims to provide affordable, Made-in-India medicines, enhancing healthcare in Mauritius. Jaishankar also inaugurated a Mediclinic in Grand Bois village, funded by Indian assistance, offering secondary healthcare to 16,000 residents.

8. Which Indian player won bronze medal at World Junior Squash Championship 2024?

- A. Shaurya Bawa
- B. Mohamad Zakaria
- C. Kush Kumar
- D. Anahat Singh



- ✓ Shaurya Bawa won a bronze medal at the WSF World Junior Squash Championships 2024 in Houston, USA, on July 17, 2024, after losing in the semifinals to Egypt's Mohamed Zakaria. This marks the second medal for an Indian male player in the tournament's history, following Kush Kumar's 2014 bronze. Indian female player Anahat Singh missed a medal, losing in the quarter-finals to Egypt's Nadien Elhammamy.

9. 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey' is related to which organization?

- A. DRDO
- B. Railway Protection Force
- C. ISRO
- D. Ministry of women and child development



- ✓ The Railway Protection Force (RPF) has rescued 84,119 children at risk in Indian railway stations and trains over the past seven years under Operation Nanhe Farishtey, launched in 2018. The operation focuses on runaway, abandoned, impoverished, disabled, or kidnapped children, protecting them from crime syndicates. Rescued children are handed over to the District Child Welfare Committee. In 2022, RPF rescued the highest number, 17,756 children.

10. What is the primary objective of ASMITA Project, recently launched by Ministry of Education and UGC?

- A. To promote and integrate Indian languages more deeply into the education system
- B. To replace English with Indian languages in all subjects
- C. To promote foreign languages in India
- D. To build new universities



- ✓ **The Ministry of Education and UGC launched the ASMITA Project to develop 22,000 books in Indian languages within five years. ASMITA (Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing) aims to enhance educational resources and integrate Indian languages into the education system. Thirteen nodal universities will lead this collaborative effort, with UGC creating a standard operating procedure for the book-writing process, ensuring quality and accessibility.**

11. What is late blight disease, which recently affected the potato crop across the country?

- A. Bacterial infection
- B. Fungal disease
- C. Viral infection
- D. Pest infestation



- ✓ **The Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) issued an advisory warning of a high risk of late blight disease in potatoes due to weather changes. Late blight, caused by *Phytophthora infestans*, is a serious fungal disease affecting tomatoes and potatoes. It spreads via infected transplants, volunteer plants, and certain weeds, with spores traveling long distances in storms. The disease thrives in cool, wet weather, causing repeated infection cycles.**

12. Jerdon's Courser is a nocturnal bird endemic to which region of India?

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



- ✓ **Jerdon's Courser, a critically endangered nocturnal bird, is endemic to the Eastern Ghats of India, specifically Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Scientific name: *Rhinoptilus bitorquatus*. Rediscovered in 1986 after being thought extinct, it inhabits open patches within scrub-forests. Recognizable by its grey-brown plumage, large eyes, and distinctive calls, it hunts insects by sight.**

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1. Common Services Centres is an initiative of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- D. Ministry of Urban Development



- ✓ **The Common Services Centres Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) celebrated its 15th anniversary. Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), CSC SPV oversees the CSC Scheme, part of the Digital India Programme. CSCs serve as access points for delivering government, private, and social sector services to rural citizens, promoting digital and financial inclusion across India.**

2. What is the primary aim of the U-WIN portal?

- A. To track COVID-19 cases
- B. To maintain an electronic registry of routine immunizations
- C. To manage healthcare appointments
- D. To facilitate telemedicine services



- ✓ **U-WIN, launching on August 15, will transform maternal and child healthcare in India by digitizing vaccination records, replacing the manual system used by ASHA and other healthcare workers. Replicating the Co-WIN system, U-WIN maintains an electronic registry of routine immunizations. Currently in pilot mode in all states and Union Territories except West Bengal, it records vaccination events for pregnant women and children aged 0-5 under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP).**

3. Recently, which institution has approved \$240.5 million in loans to advance rooftop solar system installations across India?

- A. Asian Development Bank
- B. World Bank
- C. International Monetary Fund
- D. European Investment Bank



- ✓ **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved \$240.5 million in loans to advance rooftop solar system installations across India, enhancing renewable energy access.**
- ✓ **The financing supports the Solar Rooftop Investment Programme under the Multi-tranche Financing Facility (MFF), with funds from ADB's Clean Technology Fund and Ordinary Capital Resources. Loans will be distributed through the State Bank of India and NABARD. As of now, India's rooftop solar capacity is 11.08 GW.**

4. Which organization recently published the 'Global Education Monitoring Report 2024'?

- A. UNDP
- B. UNEP
- C. IMF
- D. UNESCO



- ✓ UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2024 highlights the impact of climate change on education. Mandated by the 'Education 2030 Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action', it monitors SDG 4 (Quality Education). Key findings: Over 20 years, schools closed during 75% of extreme weather events, affecting over 5 million people. In India, early-life rainfall shocks impaired vocabulary, math, and non-cognitive skills.

5. Which state recently reported the cases of 'Chandipura virus infection' in children?

- A. Odisha
- B. Gujarat
- C. Haryana
- D. Punjab



- ✓ Recently, the Gujarat government reported six children dying from suspected Chandipura virus (CHPV) infection since July 10. CHPV, part of the Rhabdoviridae family, is transmitted by sandflies and mosquitoes, including *Aedes aegypti*. The virus, residing in the insects' salivary glands, can infect humans and domestic animals through bites. It can quickly progress to encephalitis, causing inflammation of the brain's active tissues and potentially affecting organs like the kidneys and liver.

6. Recently, which country hosted 9th Women's Cricket Asia Cup?

- A. Myanmar
- B. Australia
- C. France
- D. Sri Lanka



- ✓ The 9th Women's Cricket Asia Cup begins on July 19, 2024, in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, with Nepal facing the UAE. Held in the T-20 format, all matches, including the final on July 28, will be at Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium. Organized by the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), affiliated with the ICC, the ACC is led by BCCI General Secretary Jay Shah. India, the defending champion, won the 2022 edition.

7. Which two Indian space scientists received the honour at the Global Space Conference from the prestigious organization Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)?

- A. Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj
- B. Ajay Kumar Sood and Pawan Kumar
- C. Lalitha Abraham and Rajiv Gauba
- D. Ashwin Vasavada and Sharmila Bhattacharya



- ✓ Indian space scientists Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj received prestigious awards from COSPAR during its 45th scientific assembly in Busan, South Korea. Agrawal, a retired professor from TIFR, earned the Harrie Massey Award for contributions to X-ray astronomy and leading AstroSat. Bhardwaj, PRL Director since 2017, won the Vikram Sarabhai Medal for his work in planetary space sciences and key roles in ISRO's missions.

8. Recently, which state has secured the first place under the 'Best Performing State' category in the Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Odisha
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Bihar



- ✓ Madhya Pradesh topped the 'Best Performing State' category in the Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme, aimed at supporting street vendors affected by COVID-19. Assam was second in the 'Innovation and Best Practices Award' category. In urban local bodies, Delhi's Municipal Corporation led in loan performance, followed by Bengaluru and Ahmedabad. Kerala secured first place in the DAY-NULM SPARK category, with Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan also recognized. The PM SVANidhi scheme provides affordable loans and promotes digital transactions.

9. What is '*Phlogacanthus Sudhansusekharii*'?

- A. A new frog species discovered in Maharashtra
- B. Newly discovered plant species from northeast India
- C. An ancient irrigation technique
- D. Newly discovered fish species in Western Ghats



- ✓ Researchers from the Botanical Survey of India discovered a new plant species, *Phlogacanthus sudhansusekharii*, in Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh. This species, part of the Acanthaceae family and *Phlogacanthus* genus, honors Dr. Sudhansu Sekhar Dash for his contributions to plant research.

10. According to NITI Aayog report, India has set a target to achieve 500 billion US dollar in electronics manufacturing in value terms by which year?

- A. 2025
- B. 2027
- C. 2030
- D. 2032



- ✓ India aims to achieve \$500 billion in electronics manufacturing by 2030, targeting \$350 billion from finished goods and \$150 billion from components. The NITI Aayog report, launched by Vice Chairman Suman Bery, analyzes the sector's growth and challenges, highlighting a rise from \$48 billion in 2017 to \$101 billion in 2023, largely due to mobile phone manufacturing. The report outlines interventions needed for India to become a global electronics manufacturing hub.

11. Gaia Spacecraft was launched by which space agency?

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



- ✓ The Gaia spacecraft, launched by the European Space Agency (ESA) in December 2013, is mapping over a billion stars in the Milky Way from the second Sun-Earth Lagrange point (L2). It monitors stars 14 times a year, charting their positions, distances, movements, and brightness. Gaia aims to discover new celestial objects, study distant quasars, and test Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, creating a precise 3D map of our galaxy.

12. Recently, where was the 'International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL)' inaugurated?

- A. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- B. Rajkot, Gujarat
- C. Jaipur, Rajasthan
- D. Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ The International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL) was inaugurated in Rajkot, Gujarat, on 18th July 2024. As India's first such center, iCAL aims to set global standards for auditing local governance. It serves as a collaborative platform for policymakers and auditors, enhancing local government auditors' independence and acting as a knowledge center. iCAL addresses governance issues and promotes best practices among India's 2.5 lakh panchayats and 8,000 Urban Local Bodies.

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1. Which country recently developed the world's first dual-tower solar thermal plant?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. India
- D. South Korea



- ✓ China has unveiled the world's first dual-tower solar thermal power plant (TPP), enhancing energy efficiency by 24%. The plant features two 200-meter towers with thousands of mirrors that track the sun, achieving 94% reflection efficiency. It uses molten salt storage to retain excess heat, enabling continuous power generation even at night. This innovative design maximizes energy capture and storage, advancing solar power technology.

2. Recently, who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the US?

- A. J N Dixit
- B. Vinay Mohan Kwatra
- C. Nirupama Menon
- D. Surendra Kumar Adhana



- ✓ Vinay Mohan Kwatra has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the United States, as confirmed by the Ministry of External Affairs. A retired Indian Foreign Service diplomat, Kwatra has extensive expertise in relations with India's neighbors, the US, China, and Europe.

3. Adam's Bridge is separated by which two water bodies?

- A. Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea
- B. Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait
- C. Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
- D. Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea



- ✓ Scientists from ISRO successfully mapped the submerged structure of Adam's Bridge (Ram Setu), a 48 km limestone chain connecting Rameswaram Island (India) to Mannar Island (Sri Lanka). The bridge separates the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait, with shallow waters of 1-10 meters. Geological evidence indicates it was a former land connection, referenced in the Ramayana and Islamic legend, but submerged since 1480 due to natural calamities.

4. Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) is implemented by which two organizations?

- A. NABARD and RBI
- B. RBI and SEBI
- C. NABARD and SEBI
- D. SEBI and NITI Aayog



- ✓ The Union Government plans to raise the upper limit of short-term crop loans under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 5 lakh. Implemented from Kharif 2006-07, MISS offers subsidized short-term credit to farmers and is active from 2022-23 to 2024-25. Interest subvention is available to various banks, and the scheme is managed by NABARD and RBI. Eligible recipients include owner cultivators, tenant farmers, and SHGs.

5. Pralay Missile was developed by which organization?

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



- ✓ Armenia's interest in India's Pralay missile presents a significant opportunity for India. The Pralay missile is a 350-500 km short-range, quasi-ballistic surface-to-surface missile with a 500-1,000 kg payload, developed by DRDO for defense needs.

6. Recently, Union Minister of Coal and Mines inaugurated National Landslide Forecasting Centre in which city?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Bhopal
- C. Kolkata
- D. Varanasi



- ✓ The Union Minister of Coal and Mines inaugurated the National Landslide Forecasting Centre at the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Kolkata. The Bhusanket Web Portal and Bhooskhalan Mobile App were launched to facilitate landslide hazard data dissemination and forecasting. The GSI, established in 1851, focuses on geoscientific information and mineral resource assessment through surveys and research. The GSI headquarters is in Kolkata, with six regional offices across India.

7. Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) is a mission of which space organization?

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



- ✓ A study by the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) confirmed two black holes at the center of galaxy OJ 287, four billion light-years away. Launched by NASA in 2018, TESS searches for exoplanets around the brightest stars. It has found 410 confirmed exoplanets, ranging from small rocky worlds to giants. TESS orbits Earth in a unique high orbit.

8. Which organization recently released 'Towards Justice: Ending Child Marriage' report?

- A. UNICEF
- B. Childhood Education International (CEI)
- C. India Child Protection (ICP)
- D. Delhi Council for Child Welfare (DCCW)



- ✓ **India Child Protection (ICP) released the "Towards Justice: Ending Child Marriage" report. ICP, part of the Child Rights and Multi-Faith Initiative, addresses child abuse, trafficking, digital exploitation, and child marriage. Key findings: Assam's legal measures reduced child marriages by 81% from 2021-22 to 2023-24. Despite three girls marrying every minute (Census 2011), only three cases are reported daily. In 2023-24, 14,137 child marriages were prevented. With a 92% case backlog, clearing it could take 19 years.**

9. What is E. coli?

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



- ✓ **Paris' outdated sewage system has severely contaminated the Seine River with E. coli, a harmful bacterium. The Seine, France's second-longest river at 775 km, flows through Paris for 13 km and empties into the English Channel. E. coli, found in human and animal intestines, can cause severe symptoms like abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and kidney failure. It spreads via contaminated food and water tainted by fecal waste.**

10. Which day is observed as 'World Chess Day' every year?

- A. July.20
- B. July.02
- C. June.02
- D. June.20



- ✓ **World Chess Day, celebrated annually on July 20th, marks the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924. UNESCO proposed this day in 1966, recognizing chess for its intellectual benefits and cultural diversity. Originating in India as "Chaturanga" nearly 1500 years ago, chess is promoted as a game for all ages and backgrounds. FIDE was founded by chess organizations from eight countries.**

11. Recently, where was the centre of excellence on "Classical and Quantum Communications for 6G" inaugurated?

- A. Kolkata
- B. Chennai
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Bhopal



- ✓ Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Secretary (Telecom), inaugurated the Centre of Excellence on "Classical and Quantum Communications for 6G" at IITM Research Park, Chennai. This Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCoE)-India sub-centre aims to advance 6G technology with unprecedented speeds, ultra-low latency, and enhanced connectivity. It will unite academic and industry experts to innovate and shape global 6G standards and infrastructure. A workshop will foster collaboration on 6G R&D proposals.

12. What is the theme of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024?

- A. The Future is Now
- B. New Digital Universe
- C. Inclusive Innovations
- D. IMAGINE: A new CONNECTED world Intelligent



- ✓ Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia unveiled the theme for India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024, "The Future is Now," highlighting India's leadership in 6G technology and telecommunications. The event will showcase innovative solutions, host over 500 meetings with 1,000+ investors, and include MoUs to enhance cybersecurity.

13. What is 'Sagittarius A*?'

- A. Asteroid
- B. Black hole
- C. AI Model
- D. Invasive weed



- ✓ Scientists have discovered an intermediate-mass black hole at the center of a star cluster in the Milky Way, near the supermassive black hole Sagittarius A* (Sgr A*). Sgr A* is located at the galaxy's center, in the constellation Sagittarius, with an estimated mass of 4.3 million times that of the sun. It has a diameter of 14.6 million miles (23.5 million km) and is a strong radio wave source.

14. Which state government recently launched the Rajiv Gandhi Civil Abhaya Hastham Scheme?

- A. Telangana
- B. Karnataka
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Kerala



- ✓ **Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has launched the Rajiv Gandhi Civil Abhaya Hastham Scheme 2024. This scheme provides Rs 1 lakh financial assistance to economically weaker students (EWS/BC/SC/ST) who have passed the UPSC preliminary exam to help them prepare for the mains. The scheme aims to increase the number of civil employees in the state.**

15. Recently, which institute has received the best technology award for its pioneering work in the field of horticultural sciences?

- A. Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture
- B. Indian Institute of Spices Research
- C. Indian Institute of Horticultural Research
- D. Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology



- ✓ **The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) received the best technology award for its work in horticultural sciences. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan presented the award during ICAR's 96th Foundation Day. IISR's award-winning technology, "Process for instant soluble turmeric enriched spice flavoured milk powder," has been commercialized with Malabar Milk Producers' Union, resulting in products Golden Milk and Golden Milk Mix.**

16. Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme is a WTO- compliant scheme of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Commerce
- D. Ministry of Finance



वाणिज्य एवं
उद्योग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY**

- ✓ **The tea industry seeks higher rates under the RoDTEP scheme to boost export competitiveness. RoDTEP, a flagship export promotion scheme by India's Commerce Ministry, refunds unrebated central, state, and local duties on inputs.**
- ✓ **Announced in September 2019, it replaced the MEIS scheme following a WTO ruling. Effective January 1, 2021, RoDTEP supports crucial export sectors to enhance competitiveness, create jobs, and promote economic growth, aiming for Aatmanirbhar Bharat.**

17. Recently, which former Indian players were inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, USA?

- A. Vijay Amritraj and Leander Paes
- B. Ajay Ramaswami and Rohit Rajpal
- C. Mahesh Bhupathi and Rohan Bopanna
- D. Karan Rastogi and Jay Royappa



- ✓ Indian tennis legends Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj became the first Indian and Asian men's tennis players inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame, making India the 28th country represented. British sports journalist Richard Evans was also inducted. Paes was honored in the Player Category, while Amritraj and Evans were recognized in the Contributor Category. The Hall of Fame now includes 267 tennis legends from 28 nations.

18. Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES) is a planetary defence mission of which space agency?

- A. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- B. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- C. European Space Agency (ESA)
- D. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)



- ✓ The European Space Agency's Ramses spacecraft will accompany the asteroid Apophis during its close pass of Earth in 2029. The Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES) aims to intercept Apophis, which will pass within 32,000 km of Earth on April 13, 2029. Visible to 2 billion people, this rare event allows researchers to study Apophis's altered characteristics due to Earth's gravity, enhancing planetary defense capabilities.

19. Which Indian tennis player, in partnership with Albano Olivetti of France, has won the men's doubles title at the ATP Swiss Open 2024?

- A. Sumit Nagal
- B. Yuki Bhambri
- C. Somdev Devvarman
- D. Digvijay Pratap



- ✓ Indian tennis player Yuki Bhambri, with Albano Olivetti of France, won the 2024 Swiss Open Gstaad Men's Doubles title, held from July 15-21 in Gstaad, Switzerland. This ATP 250 event marked the 56th edition of the tournament. This victory is Bhambri's third ATP title. The pair defeated Fabrice Martin and Ugo Humbert in the final. Bhambri previously won titles at the 2023 Mallorca Open and 2024 BMW Open.

20. What is the primary purpose of a Radome?

- A. Enhance the Signal strength
- B. Shield a radar or antenna system from environmental elements
- C. Increase the antenna's size
- D. Decrease the antenna's power consumption



- ✓ **The Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL) has achieved a significant milestone by developing homegrown fused silica radomes for missiles. Radomes are protective enclosures that shield radar or antenna systems from environmental elements without affecting signal transmission. Made from rigid or flexible materials, radomes maintain antenna performance by reducing environmental impact, concealing electronic equipment, and preventing collisions with nearby objects. They ensure the antenna's durability and efficiency.**

21. What is 'Mesembrius bengalensis'?

- A. Spider
- B. Frog
- C. Fish
- D. Flower fly



- ✓ **Researchers from the Shadpada Entomology Research Lab (SERL) at Christ College, Irinjalakuda, reported two new flower fly species, Mesembrius bengalensis and M. quadrivittatus, from Kerala's Kole wetlands and Vilagan Kunnu hillocks. Flower flies, belonging to the Syrphidae family, mimic bees or wasps and are crucial pollinators. The Kole wetlands, Kerala's largest brackish tropical ecosystem, lie between the Chalakudy and Bharathapuzha Rivers.**

22. Which day is observed as 'National Flag Day' every year?

- A. July.22
- B. July.26
- C. January.26
- D. January.22



- ✓ **National Flag Day, observed on July 22, commemorates the 1947 adoption of India's tricolour flag by the Constituent Assembly, shortly before independence on August 15. This day celebrates India's historical achievement, diversity, and unity. It promotes understanding of the flag's significance through educational workshops, talks, and exhibitions, emphasizing values of democracy, inclusivity, and national pride.**

23. Manolo Marquez, who has been appointed as head coach of the Indian men's football team, belongs to which country?

- A. Australia
- B. Spain
- C. France
- D. Romania



- ✓ **Spaniard Manolo Marquez has been appointed head coach of the Indian men's football team, while also continuing his role with FC Goa in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 season. Marquez will assume the national team head coach role full-time after the ISL season. AIFF President Kalyan Chaubey announced the appointment.**

24. Recently, which two countries are planning to establish a Joint Crediting Mechanism for carbon trading and credit adjustment through a Memorandum of Cooperation?

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



- ✓ **India and Japan are planning to establish a Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) for carbon trading and credit adjustment through a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC). The JCM will be created under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement and will aim to reduce emissions, promote low-carbon technologies, and encourage economic growth. The JCM will also facilitate the sharing of emission reduction credits, the spread of decarbonizing technologies, and the implementation of mitigation actions.**

IMPORTANT LINKS

TNPSC Current Affairs

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<https://wp.me/p7JanY-ag8>

1. Recently, which state has released guidelines on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of the rare disease amoebic meningoencephalitis?

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



- ✓ Kerala has issued technical guidelines for diagnosing and managing amoebic meningoencephalitis. Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM) is a rare, often fatal infection caused by the brain-eating amoeba *Naegleria fowleri*, found in freshwater. Symptoms include headache, fever, nausea, and vomiting, typically after exposure to warm, stagnant freshwater. PAM has a high mortality rate over 97%. Treatment remains uncertain but should involve amebicidal drugs that can cross the blood-brain barrier.

2. Krishnaraja Sagar and Kabini dams are located in which state?

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



- ✓ A flood alert has been issued for low-lying areas downstream of Karnataka's Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) dam due to a water inflow exceeding 69,000 cusecs. The alert affects regions along the Cauvery River in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts. The KRS dam's inflow surpassed 60,000 cusecs for the second consecutive day, prompting a release of 50,000 cusecs. The Kabini dam also recorded high inflows. Rising water levels have led to the closure of tourist sites like Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary.

3. Which country will host the inaugural Olympic Esports Games 2025?

- A. Iran
- B. Saudi Arabia
- C. Jordan
- D. UAE



- ✓ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Saudi Arabia announced that Saudi Arabia will host the inaugural Olympic Esports Games in 2025. This historic partnership will last for 12 years, ensuring that the Olympic Esports Games are held regularly.

4. Recently, which state became the first in the country to introduce the concept of Gross Environment Product index?

- A. Kerala
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Meghalaya



- ✓ **Uttarakhand became the first state in India to introduce the Gross Environment Product (GEP) index, which measures the impact of developmental activities on the environment. Launched by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the GEP equation is based on air, water, soil, and forest quality indices. This initiative follows aims to balance economy and ecology by assessing environmental conditions directly affected by development.**

5. Recently, which Indian Shooter has been awarded the Olympic Order by the International Olympic Committee?

- A. Abhinav Bindra
- B. Jaspal Rana
- C. Manu Bhaker
- D. Pranju Somani



- ✓ **Indian shooting legend Abhinav Bindra has been awarded the Olympic Order by the IOC for his outstanding contributions to the Olympic Movement. The ceremony will be held on August 10 during the 142nd IOC Session in Paris. Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, won the men's 10m air rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Games. He has also served on the ISSF Athlete Committee and the IOC Athlete Commission.**

6. Upper Karnali Hydro-Electric Power Project is located in which country?

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



- ✓ **The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) will invest ₹290 crore in the 900 MW Upper Karnali Hydro-Electric Power Project on Nepal's Karnali River. This run-of-the-river project will supply power to Nepal, India, and Bangladesh for 25 years. Awarded to GMR Upper Karnali Hydro Power Limited in 2008, it will generate 3,466 million units of electricity annually, offsetting two million tons of greenhouse gas emissions.**

7. Which institution recently signed a Joint Letter of Intent with World Intellectual Property Organization to develop programs for countries in the global south?

- A. WAPCOS
- B. World Bank
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. IIT, Delhi



NITI Aayog

- ✓ On July 22, 2024, a high-level WIPO delegation signed a Joint Letter of Intent (JLoI) with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog in New Delhi. The JLoI aims to develop programs for innovation, entrepreneurship, and intellectual property in the Global South. WIPO, a UN agency, releases the annual Global Innovation Index (GII). In 2023, India ranked 40th, and in 2022, India saw the highest global patent filing growth at 31.6%.

8. Which day is observed as 'National Broadcasting Day' every year?

- A. July.20
- B. July.23
- C. July.25
- D. July.31



**National
Broadcasting Day
23 July**

- ✓ National Broadcasting Day is celebrated in India every July 23, marking the start of radio broadcasting on this day in 1927 by the Indian Broadcasting Company from Bombay. Renamed All India Radio (AIR) in 1936, it grew into one of the world's largest networks. Radio has been vital in connecting India, offering news, music, and stories, and playing a key role in historical events like the freedom struggle.

9. National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) is an autonomous research institute established under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- D. Ministry of Urban Development



- ✓ The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) is constructing a new ocean research vessel for India's Deep Ocean Mission to explore rare minerals in the Indian Ocean. Established in 1998, NCPOR is India's leading R&D institution for Polar and Southern Ocean research. It coordinates polar expeditions and scientific research in Antarctica, the Arctic, the Himalayas, and the Southern Ocean, and is located in Vasco da Gama, Goa, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

10. Charaideo Maidam is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Charaideo Maidam will become North East India's first world heritage site in the cultural category and India's 43rd overall. Located in Assam, these ancient burial mounds of Ahom kings and nobles date back to the 13th to 18th centuries. Revered as sacred by the Ahom community, the Maidams resemble large grass-covered hillocks. Kaziranga and Manas National Parks are the other world heritage sites from North East India in the natural category.

11. What is 'S. thermophilus'?

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



- ✓ Scientists at the Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) in India discovered a new strain of lactic acid bacteria while studying S. thermophilus. This gram-positive, non-motile bacterium, found in the digestive tract, produces lactic acid, aiding in food breakdown, nutrient absorption, and fighting harmful organisms. It improves lactose digestion, reduces inflammation, and lowers the risk of inflammatory bowel disease. S. thermophilus is used in yogurt production and probiotic supplements.

12. Which organization recently released the 'State of the World's Forests 2024 Report'?

- A. SEBI
- B. NABARD
- C. Food and Agriculture Organization
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ The FAO's "State of the World's Forests 2024" report, themed "Accelerating Forest solutions through innovation," highlights a decline in deforestation rates to 10.2 million ha per year in 2015–2020 from 15.8 million ha in 1990–2000. India ranks 3rd for average annual net forest area gain (2010-2020). Non-Timber Forest Products support 275 million Indian livelihoods. Innovation is crucial for climate resilience, bioeconomy shifts, and leveraging non-wood forest products' nutritional benefits.

13. Kalaripayattu is the traditional martial art form popularly practiced in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Punjab



- ✓ The Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports announced in the Lok Sabha that the Indian Kalaripayattu Federation has been recognized as the Regional Sports Federation to promote Kalaripayattu in India. This traditional martial art, originating in Kerala, is believed to have been established by the warrior sage Parasurama. The term "Kalaripayattu" combines "kalari" (place of combat) and "payattu" (fighting) in Malayalam.

14. Recently, which organization successfully carried out a second experimental flight for the demonstration of Air Breathing Propulsion Technology?

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



- ✓ ISRO successfully conducted the second experimental flight for Air Breathing Propulsion Technology, which uses atmospheric oxygen as an oxidizer instead of carrying one onboard. This makes rockets lighter and more efficient. However, the technology is applicable only within the denser layers of Earth's atmosphere (up to 70 kilometers altitude). Beyond this, rockets must switch to a stage with both fuel and an onboard oxidizer.

15. Which day is observed as 'National Income Tax Day' every year?

- A. 23 July
- B. 24 July
- C. 25 July
- D. 26 July



- ✓ Since 2010, India observes National Income Tax Day on July 24, commemorating the first imposition of income tax by Sir James Wilson in 1860. The day highlights the importance of timely tax payments for national development. The first observance marked the 150th anniversary in 2010. The Income Tax Act of 1922 established the framework for direct tax administration, later consolidated by the 1961 Act after Independence.

16. What is the primary goal of the MSME-TEAM Initiative?

- A. To assist MSMEs in obtaining loans
- B. To onboard five lakh MSMEs onto the ONDC platform
- C. To provide training for MSME employees
- D. To develop new marketing strategies for MSMEs



- ✓ **The Ministry of MSME launched the “MSME Trade Enablement and Marketing Initiative” (MSME-TEAM Initiative) under the RAMP scheme. It aims to assist five lakh MSMEs, including two and a half lakh women-owned MSEs, in onboarding the Open Network Digital Commerce (ONDC) platform. The initiative offers financial assistance for catalogue preparation, logistics, and packaging. Awareness workshops will target Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. The sub-scheme runs until March 2027.**

17. What is the primary objective of the Digital Postal Index Number (DIGIPIN)?

- A. To create a new postal code system
- B. To replace traditional addresses with QR codes
- C. To implement a new mail sorting system
- D. To establish a standardized, geo-coded addressing system in India



- ✓ **The Department of Posts launched the beta version of DIGIPIN, a geo-coded addressing system developed with IIT Hyderabad. DIGIPIN aims to simplify addressing for public and private services by creating and sensing geo-locations of addresses. This system will enhance public service delivery, emergency response, and logistics efficiency. It can be used as a base layer for various ecosystems requiring accurate addressing.**

18. According to Union Budget 2024-25, how many industrial parks have been sanctioned under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP)?

- A. 10
- B. 01
- C. 12
- D. 21



- ✓ **The Union Budget 2024-25 proposes creating twelve industrial parks under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme. The government will develop investment-ready industrial parks in or near 100 cities, partnering with states and the private sector. Industrial parks, like Andhra Pradesh’s Sri City SEZ, foster employment, shared infrastructure, enhanced productivity, and attract Foreign Direct Investment, expanding manufacturing activity.**

19. Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS) launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Power
- B. Ministry of Urban Development
- C. Ministry of Heavy Industries
- D. Ministry of Defence



भारी उद्योग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
HEAVY INDUSTRIES

- ✓ **The Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS) was launched in March 2024 by the Union Ministry of Heavy Industries to accelerate EV adoption and will end on July 31, 2024. With a total outlay of Rs. 500 crores, the scheme targets two-wheelers (private, corporate, and commercial) and three-wheelers (including e-rickshaws and carts). Eligible EVs must be manufactured and registered within the scheme's validity period.**

20. What is the primary aim of the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan?

- A. To improve the infrastructure in urban areas
- B. To enhance the socio-economic condition of tribal communities
- C. To promote digital literacy in rural areas
- D. To increase agricultural productivity



- ✓ **The Union Budget introduced the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan, aimed at improving the socio-economic status of tribal communities. The scheme will use a saturation approach to target tribal-majority villages and aspirational districts, focusing on education, health, and skill development. It plans to cover 63,000 villages and benefit 5 crore tribal people nationwide.**

21. How much funding has the Finance Ministry recently allocated for the Namu Drone Didi scheme?

- A. Rs 600 crore
- B. Rs 500 crore
- C. Rs 400 crore
- D. Rs 300 crore



- ✓ **The Finance Ministry has allocated Rs 500 crore for the Namu Drone Didi scheme, aimed at providing drones to 15,000 women self-help groups (SHGs) from 2023-24 to 2025-2026. This initiative trains women to become drone pilots, helping farmers with tasks such as fertilizer spraying, seed sowing, and crop monitoring. The program seeks to modernize agriculture and boost productivity by subsidizing up to 80% of drone costs, up to Rs 8 lakh per SHG.**

22. 'Operation Prahar' was launched by which state against the threats posed by the Naxalites?

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



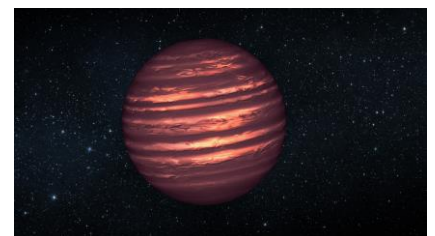
- ✓ Since Chhattisgarh's first tribal Chief Minister took office, Naxalite-related incidents have surged fivefold, including killings, arrests, and surrenders. This increase coincides with "Operation Prahar," a counter-insurgency effort targeting Maoist leaders. While aimed at neutralizing insurgents and disrupting recruitment, the operation has faced allegations of excessive state power and staged encounters, raising concerns about its impact on local Adivasi communities not involved with Maoist activities.
-

23. What is the purpose of developing a 'climate finance taxonomy' as announced in the Union Budget for 2024-25?

- A. To create standards for classifying climate-related financial instruments like green bonds
B. To guide investors and banks in directing investments toward sustainable projects to address climate change
C. To manage risks associated with climate change
D. To benchmark countries' progress in climate finance
- ✓ The finance minister announced the development of a 'climate finance taxonomy' in the Union Budget 2024-25. This system classifies parts of the economy as sustainable investments, guiding investors and banks in directing funds to combat climate change. It sets standards for climate-related financial instruments like green bonds and aids in climate risk management and net-zero transition planning. Countries such as South Africa, South Korea, and the EU have already developed similar taxonomies.
-

24. What are 'Brown Dwarfs'?

- A. Celestial bodies
B. Invasive plants
C. Species of fish
D. Drugs for TB



- ✓ Researchers using the James Webb Space Telescope have studied the atmospheric conditions of brown dwarfs. These objects, larger than planets but smaller than stars, are between giant planets and small stars in size. They accumulate material like stars and have hot silicate cloud formations. Unlike stars, brown dwarfs cannot sustain nuclear fusion, which is why they are called "failed stars." They retain H & He better than planets and have low metal content.
-

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<https://wp.me/p7JanY-ag8>

1. According to the Union Budget 2024-25, how much financial allocation has the Ministry of Railways received for the fiscal year 2024-25?

- A. Rs 1.78 lakh crore
- B. Rs 2.55 lakh crore
- C. Rs 4.34 lakh crore
- D. Rs 3.78 lakh crore



रेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
RAILWAYS

- ✓ For the fiscal year 2024-25, the Union Budget allocated a record ₹2.55 lakh crore to the Ministry of Railways, marking a 5.85% increase from the previous year's ₹2.41 lakh crore. Despite this significant funding boost, the Economic Survey 2023-24 highlights limited progress on key safety initiatives, including the deployment of the automatic train protection system Kavach and the overhaul of signaling systems at railway stations.

2. According to Union Budget 2024-25, how much funding has been allocated for the 'Khelo India' initiative?

- A. Rs 600 crore
- B. Rs 800 crore
- C. Rs 900 crore
- D. Rs 400 crore



- ✓ In the Union Budget 2024-25, the Khelo India initiative received ₹900 crore, a ₹20 crore increase from the previous year's allocation of ₹880 crore. Khelo India, focused on grassroots sports development, continues to be a top priority for the government. Launched in 2018, it has expanded to include Khelo India University Games, Winter Games, and Para Games. Numerous State Centres of Excellence have been established to support young athletes.

3. What is the rank of India in 'Henley Passport Index 2024'?

- A. 25th
- B. 52nd
- C. 82nd
- D. 28th



- ✓ The Henley Passport Index 2024 ranks the Indian passport 82nd, providing visa-free access to 58 countries, including Indonesia, Maldives, and Thailand. Singapore tops the index with visa-free entry to 195 countries, while France, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Japan are second with 192 destinations. Austria, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, South Korea, and Sweden share third place (191 countries), and the UK, New Zealand, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, and Switzerland are fourth (190 countries).

4. What is 'Tax Incidence'?

- A. The process of setting tax rates
- B. The division of tax burden between stakeholders
- C. The methods of collecting taxes
- D. The history of tax legislation



- ✓ **The Union government has stated that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) has reduced the tax burden on common people. Tax incidence refers to how a tax burden is divided between stakeholders such as buyers and sellers. There are two forms: statutory incidence, which determines who is legally responsible for paying the tax, and economic incidence, which reflects the final burden on economic welfare.**

5. Which day is observed as 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' in India?

- A. 25 July
- B. 26 July
- C. 27 July
- D. 28 July



- ✓ **Kargil Vijay Diwas, observed on 26 July, commemorates the Indian Army's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 Kargil Conflict. On its 25th anniversary, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits the Drass sector in Ladakh to honor the martyrs at the Kargil War Memorial. The Kargil War, fought from May 8 to July 26, 1999, saw Pakistani forces disguised as mujahideen infiltrating Indian posts. India's Operation Vijay successfully evicted them.**

6. Which country hosts 21st edition of the multinational joint military exercise Khaan Quest 2024?

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



- ✓ **Indian Army has participated in the 21st KHAAN QUEST multinational military exercise in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 27 July to 9 August 2024. Co-sponsored by the US Indo-Pacific Command and hosted by the Mongolian Armed Forces, KHAAN QUEST promotes regional peace and security. Initially a US-Mongolia bilateral exercise in 2003, it became multilateral in 2008. The exercise focuses on peacekeeping operations, enhancing skills for future UN peacekeeping missions.**

7. Recently, where was the country's 500th Community Radio Station inaugurated?

- A. Shillong B. Aizawl
- C. Kohima D. Gangtok



- ✓ On 25 July 2024, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnaw, announced the winners of the 10th National Community Radio Award and inaugurated India's 500th Community Radio Station at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Aizawl, Mizoram.
- ✓ Named Apna Radio 90.0 FM, it will provide weather updates, government schemes, and agriculture information. Community Radios, unlike public and commercial radio, are low-power stations operated by local communities in local languages, focusing on issues like nutrition and health. They can be set up by educational institutions, community-based organizations, registered societies, and trusts.

8. Recently, which shipyard has launched the first indigenously-built Talwar class frigate, 'Triput'?

- A. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)
- B. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)
- C. Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- D. Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)



- ✓ Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) launched the first indigenously-built Talwar class frigate, 'Triput.' Part of a 2016 India-Russia deal, Triput is among four Admiral Grigorovich class frigates, with two built in India via technology transfer. The Indian Navy already operates six of this class.
- ✓ INS Triput, 124m long and 15.5m wide, is powered by four gas turbines, reaching speeds of 28 knots with a 3200-ton displacement. It features stealth-enhancing hull design, advanced weapons and sensors, an Integrated Platform and Bridge Management System, and a robust air defense system with vertical launch long-range surface-to-air missiles.

9. What is the primary objective of the 'NPS Vatsalya Scheme'?

- A. To provide health insurance to tribal families
- B. To offer education loans to students for higher education
- C. To help parents and guardians plan for their children's future financial needs
- D. To plan for parents' retirement



- ✓ The finance minister announced NPS Vatsalya, a new scheme under the National Pension Scheme (NPS) to help parents and guardians plan for their children's future financial needs. Parents can open an account for their minor children, with funds accumulating until the child turns 18. Upon adulthood, the amount transfers to a standard NPS account and can be converted into a non-NPS plan.

10. What is the main purpose of the 'Skill Loan Scheme', recently mentioned in Union Budget 2024-25?

- A. To offer scholarships for higher education
- B. To provide institutional credit for skill development courses
- C. To fund start-up business
- D. To support home loans for skilled workers



- ✓ **The finance minister announced a revision to the model Skill Loan Scheme, now facilitating loans up to Rs 7.5 lakh, backed by a government-promoted fund guarantee. Introduced in July 2015, the scheme offers institutional credit for skill development courses aligned with National Occupations Standards and Qualification Packs, conducted by NSQF-compliant training institutes. It applies to all Indian Banks' Association (IBA) member banks and RBI-advised financial institutions.**

11. How much funding has been allocated for the IndiaAI Mission for 2024-25 by the Ministry of Electronics and IT?

- A. Rs 551 crore
- B. Rs 558 crore
- C. Rs 547 crore
- D. Rs 548 crore



- ✓ **In the Union Budget 2024, the Ministry of Electronics and IT received ₹551 crore for the IndiaAI Mission for 2024-25. Launched by the Government of India, the IndiaAI Mission focuses on leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) to boost economic growth, enhance governance, and improve citizens' quality of life. The mission aims to establish India as a global leader in AI innovation and adoption by developing advanced AI infrastructure, promoting AI applications, and supporting AI education and startups.**

12. Recently, where was the 14th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting (EAS FMM) held?

- A. Beijing, China
- B. Vientiane, Lao PDR
- C. New Delhi, India
- D. Jakarta, Indonesia



- ✓ **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended the ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference with India in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on July 26, 2024. His three-day visit from July 25-27 included participation in ASEAN-India, East Asia Summit (EAS), and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) meetings. The Lao PDR, as ASEAN chairman, hosted these events. Saleumxay Kommasith, Lao PDR's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, also attended. The conference saw foreign ministers from the 10 ASEAN member states.**

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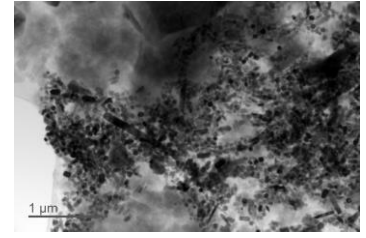
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1. Recently, researchers have spotted 'Magnetofossils' in which region of India?

- A. Ladakh
- B. Assam
- C. Manipur
- D. Gujarat



- ✓ Researchers have discovered magnetofossils, fossil remains of magnetic particles produced by magnetotactic bacteria, in rock varnish layers in Ladakh, India. These prokaryotic organisms align with the earth's magnetic field and are found in freshwater and marine habitats. They use the magnetic field to locate optimal oxygen levels. The bacteria contain iron-rich particles in small sacs acting as compasses, forming tiny crystals of magnetite or greigite. These crystals help them navigate changing oxygen levels in water.

2. Which ministry recently launched SIMS 2.0, the upgraded Steel Import Monitoring System?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Power
- C. Ministry of Steel
- D. Ministry of Science and Technology



इस्पात मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
STEEL

- ✓ The Ministry of Steel launched the 'Steel Import Monitoring System' (SIMS) 2.0 Portal, featuring a robust data entry system for consistent and authentic data, promoting transparency and accountability. Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries released the second volume of "Safety Guidelines for Iron and Steel Sector," aiming to enhance safety standards and reduce accidents.
- ✓ SIMS, introduced in 2019, provides detailed steel import data, aiding policy-making and industry growth. SIMS 2.0, with API integration and database connections, improves quality control, risk management, and Customs' analysis of steel imports, benefiting the domestic steel industry.

3. Recently, the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) discovered 1600 tonnes of lithium resources in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Rajasthan

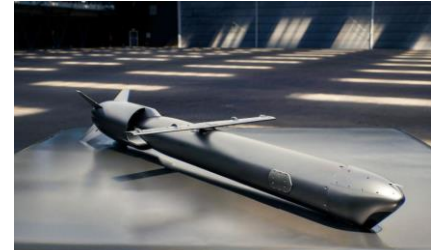


- ✓ Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced the discovery of 1,600 tonnes of lithium resources in Karnataka's Mandya and Yadgiri districts. The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), under the Department of Atomic Energy, identified these resources through preliminary surveys and subsurface exploration in the Marlagalla area.

- ✓ Lithium, a highly sought-after element globally, was first discovered in 1817 by Johan August Arfvedson. Derived from the Greek word "lithos" meaning stone, lithium is the metal with the lowest density, reacts vigorously with water, and is toxic in nature.

4. Recently, which country has unveiled the country's new air-to-surface missile dubbed "Wind Demon"?

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



- ✓ Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) recently unveiled the "Wind Demon," an advanced air-to-surface cruise missile designed for precise, long-range attacks at low cost. Developed by IAI, it can be launched from helicopters or aircraft to strike mobile and stationary targets without operator intervention. The missile has a range of over 200 kilometers.

5. Which country has emerged as the top recipient of Indian government aid to foreign countries, according to the Union Budget 2024-25?

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



- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs allocated ₹4,883 crore for aid in the 2024 union budget, strategically using financial assistance to meet foreign policy goals. Key allocations include the highest aid to Bhutan, and significant increases for Nepal and Sri Lanka. Despite past diplomatic tensions, Afghanistan and Maldives maintain previous aid levels. Myanmar receives aid as part of regional assistance. Africa, Central Asia, South Asia, and Latin America benefit from India's multilateral and bilateral aid programs. The Chabahar Port Project in Iran continues to receive ₹100 crore annually, unchanged for the past three years.

6. What is the main objective of the 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi' initiative?

- A. To improve nutritional standards in schools
B. To enhance early childhood care and education in Anganwadi centres
C. To promote adult education
D. To develop infrastructure for secondary education



- ✓ Launched on May 10, 2023, the 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi' (PBPB) initiative aims to upskill Anganwadi workers to enhance early childhood care, education, and nutrition services for children under six. By June 2024, 11,364 State Level Master Trainers and 1,877 Anganwadi Workers have been trained.

- ✓ The program focuses on transforming Anganwadi centres into learning hubs with quality infrastructure and play equipment. It includes two curriculum frameworks: "Navchetana" for children from birth to three years, emphasizing holistic stimulation, and "Aadharshila" for children aged three to six years, covering all developmental domains. Special attention is given to Divyang children.

7. 'Cassava villages' are located in which Northeastern state?

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



- ✓ In Mokokchung district, Nagaland, 'Cassava villages' are replacing plastics with compostable bioplastic bags made from Cassava starch, produced by the MSME Ecostarch. Cassava, a tropical crop native to South America, is known for its high starch content, making it ideal for bioplastics and bioethanol production.

8. SAMADHAN Portal was launched by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Labour & Employment
- D. Ministry of Urban Development



श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
**MINISTRY OF LABOUR &
EMPLOYMENT**

- ✓ The Ministry of Labour & Employment launched the SAMADHAN Portal to address industrial disputes for workmen, employers, and trade unions under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. It promotes efficiency and transparency through online filing, faster disposal, and internal monitoring. The portal also covers cases under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, and Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.

9. Recently, which ministry has unveiled a comprehensive report titled "Economic Case for Investment in the Well-being of Adolescents in India"?

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



स्वास्थ्य एवं
परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE**

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ Ministry of Health & Family Welfare released a report titled "Economic Case for Investment in the Well-being of Adolescents in India," highlighting key areas for investment in adolescent health.

India has the largest adolescent population (253 million) globally. Between 2000 and 2019, the adolescent mortality rate dropped by over 50%, and fertility rates fell by 83%.

- ✓ Secondary school completion rates more than doubled from 22% in 2005 to over 50% in 2020. However, fatal road accidents among adolescents under 18 increased by 22.7% from 2021 to 2022. Recommended interventions are projected to boost India's economy by 10.1% of annual GDP.

10. Recently, India signed a 'Cultural Property Agreement' with which country to prevent and curb the illicit trafficking of antiquities?

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



- ✓ On July 26, 2024, India and the USA signed their first-ever Cultural Property Agreement (CPA) to combat the illicit trafficking of antiquities. The agreement, signed by Shri Govind Mohan and US Ambassador Eric Garcetti at the World Heritage Committee in New Delhi, aligns with the 1970 UNESCO Convention. The CPA aims to secure India's cultural heritage and return smuggled artifacts.

11. India's first integrated agri-export facility has recently been approved for which port?

- A. Cochin Port
- B. Jawaharlal Nehru Port
- C. Deendayal Port
- D. Mangaluru Port



- ✓ India's first Integrated Agri-Export Facility will be established at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai, enhancing agricultural export and import capabilities. Ports Minister Sarbananda Sonowal approved the project to be developed in a public-private partnership. The facility aims to streamline logistics, reduce wastage, and provide better prices for agricultural products. It will support the export of key items such as non-basmati rice, maize, spices, onion, and wheat. Sonowal emphasized that this initiative is a significant step toward empowering farmers and boosting India's agricultural sector.

12. Recently, which country has assumed the Chair of Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (APDC) for 2024-25?

- A. India
- B. Indonesia
- C. Thailand
- D. Philippines



- ✓ India assumed the chairmanship of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) for 2024-25 on July 25, 2024, in Bangkok, Thailand, taking over from China. Rajendra Singh, Head of the National Disaster Management Authority, represents India. As chairman, he also chaired the 5th Board of Trustee meeting of the ADPC.
- ✓ Established in 1986, ADPC is a non-profit regional organization promoting disaster risk reduction and climate resilience in Asia and the Pacific. It addresses the impacts of natural hazards and climate change, supporting global initiatives on climate and urban resilience. Founding members include China, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

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<https://wp.me/p7JanY-ag8>

1. What is the theme of this year's Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog, recently chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- A. Viksit Bharat@2047
- B. Viksit Samaj@2056
- C. Digital India@2034
- D. Make in India



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi. The theme is Viksit Bharat@2047, focusing on making India a developed nation. Discussions will include the approach paper for the Vision Document on Viksit Bharat, fostering participative governance and collaboration between the Centre and States to enhance the quality of life. The meeting will address states' roles in achieving this goal. With aspirations to become a \$30 trillion economy by 2047, attendees include Chief Ministers, Union Ministers, and NITI Aayog members.

2. What is the primary mission of the GROWTH-India Telescope?

- A. To study the sun
- B. To observe explosive transients and variable sources, including near-Earth asteroids
- C. To monitor weather patterns
- D. To track satellite movements



- ✓ The GROWTH-India Telescope recently made a remarkable observation, capturing a 116-meter, building-sized asteroid during its closest approach to Earth. As India's first fully robotic optical research telescope, its primary mission is to observe explosive transients and variable sources, including near-Earth asteroids.
- ✓ Located at the Indian Astronomical Observatory in Hanle, Ladakh, at 4500 meters above sea level, it is among the highest observatory sites globally. Constructed through a partnership between the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) and IIT Bombay, with support from DST and the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum, it is part of the international GROWTH network, providing continuous monitoring of celestial events.

3. Recently, where was the 33rd edition of the Olympics started?

- A. London
- B. Paris
- C. Beijing
- D. Chennai



- ✓ The 33rd edition of the Olympics began in Paris, featuring 32 different sports. The first-ever Olympics were held in Athens, Greece, in 1896, and the Games occur every four years.
- ✓ The five Olympic rings symbolize the 'five parts of the world' where the Olympic movement prevails. The Olympic motto, 'Citius-Altius-Fortius,' translates from Latin to 'Faster-Higher-Stronger' in English.

4. Which day is observed as 'World Hepatitis Day' every year?

- A. 28 July
- B. 27 July
- C. 25 July
- D. 24 July



- ✓ World Hepatitis Day, observed on 28 July, raises awareness about viral hepatitis, an inflammation of the liver that can lead to severe liver disease and cancer. Millions die from hepatitis-related illnesses globally, highlighting the need for better prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Hepatitis is typically caused by viral infections but can also result from autoimmune conditions, medications, drugs, toxins, and alcohol. The theme for World Hepatitis Day 2024 is "It's Time for Action".

5. Recently, India has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by which year?

- A. 2025
- B. 2030
- C. 2035
- D. 2040



- ✓ India has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by 2030. Coal gasification is a thermo-chemical process that converts coal into carbon monoxide and hydrogen, producing syngas, dimethyl ether, ammonium nitrate, and methanol. Syngas can substitute for LPG and electricity generation, while dimethyl ether is an alternative for diesel engines, and ammonium nitrate can be used for explosives. This initiative aims to reduce reliance on imports, conserve foreign exchange, and support India's oil, gas, fertilizer, and petrochemical sectors. Currently, India imports about 83% of its oil, over 90% of its methanol, and 13-15% of its ammonia.

6. Mettur Dam is located in which district of Tamil Nadu?

- A. Salem
- B. Erode
- C. Dharmapuri
- D. Karur



- ✓ A warning has been issued to residents in low-lying areas near the Mettur Dam due to increased inflow. The Mettur Dam, built in 1934, is one of India's largest dams, located in Salem, Tamil Nadu, where the Kaveri River enters the plains. It is a masonry gravity dam with a length of 1700 meters, a maximum level of 120 feet, and a capacity of 93.4 tmc ft, creating the Stanley Reservoir.
- ✓ The dam supports the Mettur hydroelectric and thermal power plant, generating 32 MW. It irrigates 271,000 acres of farmland across Salem, Erode, Namakkal, Karur, Tiruchirappalli, and Thanjavur districts.

7. 'Tell Umm Amer' is located in which region?

- A. London
- B. Moscow
- C. Palestine
- D. Iran



- ✓ The World Heritage Committee (WHC) has recently included Palestine site of Tell Umm Amer in the UNESCO World Heritage Site List and the List of World Heritage in Danger. Located on coastal dunes south of Gaza City, Tell Umm Amer, also known as the Monastery of Saint Hilarion, was founded in the fourth century by Hilarion the Great. It represents the first monastic community in the Holy Land and was strategically positioned on key trade routes between Asia and Africa. UNESCO, a UN specialized agency established in 1946, aims to foster international collaboration in education, science, and culture to promote peace and sustainable development.

8. Which day is observed as 'International Tiger Day' every year?

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



- ✓ International Tiger Day, observed on 29 July since 2010, raises public awareness about threats faced by tigers due to illegal hunting and habitat destruction. The day originated from an international summit in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 2010, attended by 13 countries with significant tiger populations, including India. The summit aimed to address the dwindling tiger population caused by human encroachment and launched the TX2 goal to double the number of wild tigers by 2022. The 2024 theme, "Call for Action".

9. Recently, who became the first Indian woman to win an Olympic medal in shooting with a bronze at Paris?

- A. Vedika Sharma
- B. Manu Bhaker
- C. Anjali Bhagwat
- D. Manisha Keer



- ✓ Manu Bhaker of Haryana opened India's medal account at the 33rd Summer Olympics in Paris, winning a bronze in the 10-meter air pistol event on 28 July 2024. She became the first Indian woman shooter to win an Olympic medal in shooting. The Paris Olympics, held from 26 July to 11 August 2024, features 32 sports, with India competing in 16 disciplines. Bhaker, 22, scored 221.7 points to finish third in the eight-woman final. South Korean Oh Ye Jin won gold with an Olympic record of 243.2 points, and silver went to South Korean Yeji Kim with 241.3 points.

10. Recently, which country secured their first Women's Asia Cup title?

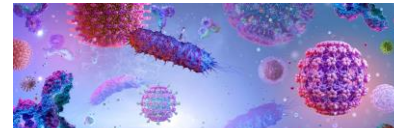
- A. China
- B. India
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Bangladesh



- ✓ The host Sri Lankan women's cricket team won their maiden Women's Cricket Asia Cup, upsetting the defending champion Indian team. In the final of the 9th Women's Cricket Asia Cup, held on 28 July 2024 at Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, the hosts defeated India by 8 wickets with 8 balls to spare. Sri Lanka became the third team to win the Women's Cricket Asia Cup, after India (seven times) and Bangladesh (once).

11. What is the main objective of Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)?

- A. To provide free healthcare services
- B. To strengthen and maintain a decentralized laboratory-based IT-enabled disease surveillance system
- C. To promote vaccination programs
- D. To conduct medical research on rare diseases



- ✓ In the past year, 1,862 disease outbreaks were reported to the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), with Kerala recording the highest number. The IDSP, launched in November 2004 with World Bank assistance, is a decentralized, state-based program by India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ✓ Its objectives include monitoring disease trends and responding to outbreaks through trained Rapid Response Teams (RRTs). The program integrates surveillance activities at central, state, and district levels, utilizes ICT for data management, and strengthens public health laboratories. Weekly data collection on epidemic-prone diseases helps identify trends.

12. E-Upahaar Portal was developed by which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Urban Development
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ Rashtrapati Bhavan will auction selected gifts presented to the President and former Presidents via the online portal E-Upahaar. Launched on July 25, 2024, by the President of India, E-Upahaar is designed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, to increase citizen engagement and support a noble cause, with proceeds going to children in need. Established in 1976, the NIC provides technology-driven solutions to Central and State Governments and operates under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

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