- 1. NAMASTE Scheme is related to which group of workers?
- A. Agricultural workers
- C. Health workers
- D. Construction workers



- ✓ The Indian government launched the NAMASTE programme to support sewer and septic tank workers (SSWs) and mechanize sewer cleaning. Over 38,000 workers have been profiled, with 68.9% from Scheduled Castes, 14.7% from Other Backward Classes, and 8.3% from Scheduled Tribes. The programme aims to prevent deaths caused by hazardous manual cleaning, with 377 deaths recorded between 2019 and 2023.
 - 2. Recently, which state secured the top rank in the Urban Governance Index (UGI)?
 - A. Tamil Nadu
 - B. Kerala 🗹
 - C. Karnataka
 - D. Maharashtra



- ✓ Kerala has achieved the top rank in the Urban Governance Index (UGI), a study by the Praja Foundation assessing cities in India. Scoring 59.31 out of 100, it excelled in fiscal empowerment and local governance. Odisha followed in second place with a score of 55.10, highlighting the competitive nature of urban governance across India.
 - 3. What is the name of mission recently launched by Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways to promote cruise tourism in India?
 - A. Kalash mission
 - B. Cruise Bharat Mission ☑
 - C. Samudrayaan mission
 - D. None of the Above



✓ Union Minister Sarabanand Sonowal launched the Cruise Bharat Mission on 30 September 2024 in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The mission aims to make India a global hub for cruise tourism and top cruise destination. The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways will implement the mission with support from various regulatory agencies. The mission will run from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2029 in three phases.

- 4. 'Mount Erebus' is located in which continent?
- A. Australia
- B. Europe
- C. Antarctica
- D. Africa



- ✓ Mount Erebus, Antarctica's second-largest volcano, is unexpectedly spewing gold dust, surprising scientists. Typically, the volcano releases steam, gases, and rocks, but now tiny crystallized gold particles are also emerging. These particles have been found 621 miles from the volcano, valued at around \$6,000 (Rs 5 lakh). While other volcanoes produce gold in gas or liquid form, Mount Erebus uniquely releases solid gold particles carried by the wind.
 - 5. Exercise KAZIND is conducted between India and which country?
 - A. Egypt
 - B. Australia
 - C. Kazakhstan 🗹
 - D. Tajikistan



- ✓ The 8th edition of Exercise KAZIND takes place from 30th September to 13th October 2024 in Auli, Uttarakhand. It is an annual joint military exercise between India and Kazakhstan. The Indian side will be represented by 120 personnel from the KUMAON Regiment and the Indian Air Force. Kazakhstan's contingent includes personnel from Land Forces and Airborne Assault Troopers. The exercise aims to enhance joint military capabilities for counterterrorism operations in semi-urban and mountainous terrain.
 - 6. What is the name of the Indian-origin armoured vehicle being assembled in Morocco?
 - A. BMP-2
 - B. Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) ☑
 - C. Stryker
 - D. Sarvatra
- ✓ The Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) 8x8 is an Indian-origin vehicle undergoing final assembly in Casablanca, Morocco, as part of a strategic partnership between Tata Advanced Systems Limited and the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces. This light armoured vehicle can transport troops and perform various roles, including surveillance.



- 7. What is the projected fiscal deficit for India in 2024-25 as a percentage of GDP?
- A. 5.6%
- B. 4.9% ☑
- C. 6.5%
- D. 3.8%



- ✓ The fiscal deficit for India in the 2024-25 financial year is projected to be 4.9% of the GDP, a reduction from 5.6% in 2023-24. The government aims to contain the fiscal deficit at ₹16,13,312 crore, emphasizing the gap between revenue and expenditure. The fiscal deficit is crucial for understanding the government's borrowing needs and overall economic health, as it reflects the difference between total expenditure and total revenue.
 - 8. When is the 'International Day of Older Persons' observed every year?
 - A. October 1 🗹
 - B. October 2
 - C. October 3
 - D. October 4



- ✓ The 34th International Day of Older Persons is observed on 1 October 2024. The day highlights the challenges and opportunities of population ageing. It recognizes the contributions and wisdom of older persons. The UN defines older persons as 65 years or older; in India, it's 60 years or older.
- ✓ The day was first observed on 1 October 1991, after a 1990 UN resolution. The 2024 theme is "Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide."
 - 9. Which institution related to Yakshagana was recently accredited by the UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage?
 - A. Keremane Idagunji Mahaganapati Yakshagana Mandali 🗹
 - B. Srimaya Yakshaqana Kalakendra
 - C. Yakshagana Gurukula
 - D. Yakshagana Research Centre



✓ UNESCO has accredited the Keremane Idagunji Mahaganapati Yakshagana Mandali, founded in 1934 by Late Keremane Shivarama Hegde. The objective is to educate future generations and safeguard Yakshagana from decline, ensuring its relevance and vitality. Yakshagana is a traditional theatre form that originated between the 11th and 16th centuries in coastal Karnataka and parts of Kerala. It combines dance, music, dialogues, colorful costumes, and heavy make-up, inspired by the Vaishnava Bhakti movement.

- 10. Recently, who received the 'Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award' for the year 2022?
- A. Rajinikanth
- B. Mithun Chakraborty
- C. Kamalhassan
- D. Sathyaraj



- ✓ Legendary actor Mithun Chakraborty receives the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award for 2022, India's highest cinema honor. Presented annually at the National Film Awards by the Directorate of Film Festivals, it recognizes outstanding contributions to Indian cinema. The award includes a golden lotus, a ₹10 lakh cash prize, and a shawl. Established by the Government of India to honor Dadasaheb Phalke, the father of Indian cinema, the award was first given in 1969 to actress Devika Rani.
 - 11. Recently, which ministry has launched the "Jal hi AMRIT" program to incentivise states/UTs to promote efficient reuse of water?
 - A. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☑
 - B. Ministry of Jal Shakti
 - C. Ministry of Urban Development
 - D. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change



- ✓ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the "Jal Hi AMRIT" program under AMRUT 2.0 to enhance the quality of treated wastewater and promote its recycling in urban areas. The program aims to incentivize states and union territories to manage sewage treatment plants (STPs) for producing good quality recyclable water. It introduces a Clean Water Credit System to foster competition among cities and develop their capacities for effective water management.
 - 12. What is the name of world's first government-funded Multimodal Large Language Model, recently launched by India?
 - A. Antriksh
 - B. GTS-5
 - C. BharatGen
 - D. IndiaPT5



All BharatGen was inaugurated by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh in New Delhi as a generative AI aimed at improving public service delivery and citizen engagement. It is the world's first government-funded multimodal large language model, focusing on developing efficient and inclusive AI in Indian languages. The project will take two years to complete and will benefit government, private, educational, and research institutions.

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