

1. Recently, where was the '5th India-Maldives Defence Cooperation Dialogue' held?

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



- ✓ The 5th Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India and the Maldives was held in New Delhi on September 6, 2024. Discussions included bilateral military exercises, marking the first defence dialogue after recent tensions between the two nations. Earlier, the Maldives President, as part of his "India Out" campaign, had Indian military personnel withdraw and leaned towards pro-China policies. Recent cooperation between the two countries has improved following India's External Affairs Minister's visit to the Maldives and the Maldives President attending India's Prime Minister's oath ceremony.

2. Recently, the Union Minister of Science and Technology virtually inaugurated how many new NIDHI i-TBIs across India?

- A. 7
- B. 8
- C. 9
- D. 10



- ✓ The Union Minister of Science and Technology virtually inaugurated 8 new NIDHI i-TBIs and a Department of Science and Technology's initiative (DST-NIDHI) website at IIT Delhi, marking 8 years of DST-NIDHI. The National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) was launched in 2016 to nurture start-ups by supporting and scaling innovations. NIDHI involves central and state governments, academic institutions, financial bodies, and private sectors. It is funded by the National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB).

3. Which day is observed as "International Literacy Day (ILD)" every year?

- A. 6 September
- B. 7 September
- C. 8 September
- D. 9 September



- ✓ International Literacy Day has been observed globally on September 8th since 1967. The day highlights the importance of literacy in building a just, peaceful, and sustainable society. It serves as a reminder to policymakers, practitioners, and the public about literacy's role in personal and societal development. The observance emphasizes the global commitment to literacy as a fundamental human right.

4. Which state recently introduced India's first silicon carbide manufacturing facility?

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



- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi recently led the groundbreaking for India's first silicon carbide manufacturing facility. Developed by RIR Power Electronics Limited, the facility is being set up at EMC Park in Bhubaneswar with an investment of Rs 620 crore. This facility represents a significant advancement for India and Odisha in the global power electronics market. It aims to position Odisha as a key hub for semiconductor production.

5. According to recent report, which country has secured the top spot as biggest plastic polluter in the world?

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



- ✓ A study published in Nature reveals India is the world's largest plastic polluter, releasing 9.3 million tonnes annually. Plastic emissions are defined as materials moving from a controlled to an uncontrolled state in the environment. India's plastic pollution accounts for about 20% of global emissions. India generates around 0.12 kilograms of plastic waste per capita per day. Global plastic waste emissions were 52.1 million tonnes in 2020. Nigeria and Indonesia are the second and third largest polluters, with 3.5 and 3.4 million tonnes, respectively.

6. As per the Union Minister for Textiles, annual export of technical textiles will cross \$10 billion by which year?

- A. 2025
- B. 2030
- C. 2035
- D. 2036



वस्त्र मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
TEXTILES

- ✓ The Union Minister for Textiles announced that annual exports of technical textiles are expected to exceed \$10 billion by 2030. Technical textiles are materials designed for their functional properties rather than aesthetics. They include industrial, functional, performance, and hi-tech textiles. These textiles offer high physical, mechanical, thermal, and chemical properties for various industrial uses. They are used in sectors like construction, transport, defense, medical, and more, either on their own or as parts of other products. They are made from both natural and synthetic fibers and are categorized into 12 groups based on their applications.

7. Recently, the 5th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, also known as Swachh Vayu Diwas, is observed on which day?

- A. 1 September 2024
- B. 5 September 2024
- C. 7 September 2024
- D. 10 September 2024



- ✓ The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board hosted the 5th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies on 7 September 2024 in Jaipur. This day is also known as Swachh Vayu Diwas in India. Along with this, the 4th meeting of the Apex Committee of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) took place, chaired by Bhupendra Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The United Nations declared 7 September as the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies in 2019. The theme for 2024 is "Invest in clean air now."

8. Which city has secured first position in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS) 2024?

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



- ✓ Surat, previously ranked 13th, secured 1st place in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS) 2024 among 131 cities across India. The city scored 194 out of 200 marks and reduced PM10 levels by 12.71% in 2023-24. Surat was honored as a 'National Clean Air City' with ₹1.5 crore, a trophy, and a certificate at a ceremony in Jaipur. The Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan, initiated by the government, aims for a 30% reduction in air particulates and evaluates cities based on waste management, dust, emissions, and public awareness.

9. How many medals were won by India at the 2024 Paris Paralympics?

- A. 15
- B. 20
- C. 25
- D. 29

29

- ✓ The 17th Paris Paralympics concluded on 8 September 2024 with a ceremony at Stade de France, Paris. It was held from 28 August to 8 September 2024, organized by the International Paralympics Committee. The 18th Summer Paralympics will take place in Los Angeles, USA, in 2028. India won a record 29 medals, surpassing the 19-medal haul from the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics. China topped the medal tally with 220 medals, while India ranked 18th. Harvinder Singh and Preeti Pal were India's flag bearers at the closing ceremony.

10. Sukanya Samridhi Yojana was launched in which year?

- A. 2014
- B. 2015
- C. 2018
- D. 2020

2015

- ✓ The government introduced new rules for the Sukanya Samridhi Yojana (SSY), effective from 1 October 2024. SSY, launched in 2015 under the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" campaign, is a small-deposit savings scheme for girl children. Guardians can open an SSY account for their girl child, who must be under 10 years old and an Indian resident. The scheme allows a minimum deposit of ₹250 and a maximum of ₹1.5 lakh annually, with maturity at 21 years.
- ✓ Partial withdrawal up to 50% is allowed for education after age 18. SSY offers tax benefits under Sections 80C and 10 of the Income Tax Act. New rules require the transfer of guardianship from grandparents to legal guardians or parents, else the account will be permanently closed.

11. Recently, where was the 20th edition of India-USA joint military exercise 'YUDH ABHYAS-2024' conducted?

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



- ✓ The 20th edition of the India-USA Joint Military Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2024 began at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 9th to 22nd September 2024. Yudh Abhyas is an annual joint military exercise between India and the USA, ongoing since 2004. The exercise fosters cooperation between the two militaries, focusing on training, cultural exchanges, and developing joint operational skills. The previous edition took place at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, USA.

12. 'Sugamya Bharat App' is an initiative of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ Since its launch in 2021, over 1,400 accessibility complaints have been lodged through the Sugamya Bharat mobile app, with 75% resolved. The app is an initiative by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD).

- ✓ It helps people with disabilities and the elderly report accessibility issues in public infrastructure, transportation, and buildings. Complaints are filed using geotagged photos, sent to relevant authorities. The app will soon be upgraded with AI features, including a chatbot and multilingual interface. Partnerships with Mission Accessibility and I-STEM support the app's development.

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