

1. Recently, NASA confirmed that Saturn's rings are expected to 'disappear' in which year?

- A. 2024 December
- B. 2025 March
- C. 2026 April
- D. 2027 March



- ✓ NASA confirmed that Saturn's rings will appear to 'disappear' in March 2025 due to an optical illusion. Saturn's axis is tilted similarly to Earth's, causing its rings to face the Sun differently at various times. During part of Saturn's year, the rings shine brightly, while in the other part, only their underside is visible. This alignment makes the rings appear very thin and reflect little light, rendering them almost invisible from Earth. The last time this happened was in 2009.

2. Tianwen-3 mission is associated with which country?

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



- ✓ China will adhere to planetary protection guidelines for its Tianwen-3 mission. Planetary protection aims to prevent biological contamination between Earth and other celestial bodies. This principle is based on Article IX of the Outer Space Treaty (1967), which seeks to avoid harmful contamination of environments. The Tianwen-3 mission is China's Mars sample-return project, set for a proposed 2028 launch. It will involve sending two spacecraft—an orbiter and a lander—to Mars to collect and return samples of Martian rocks and soil to Earth.

3. Recently, the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) inaugurated a Tobacco Cessation Clinic (TCC) in which city?

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



- ✓ The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) inaugurated a Tobacco Cessation Clinic (TCC) in New Delhi on September 10, 2024. The clinic is a collaboration between the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre and the institute's Department of Pulmonary, Critical, and Sleep Medicine. The clinic's goal is to help people who are struggling with tobacco addiction.
- ✓ Tobacco use is a major public health issue in India, which is the world's second-largest consumer and third-largest producer of tobacco. According to the Global Adult Tobacco Survey 2 (GATS-2), 28.6% of Indian adults aged 15 and above use tobacco in some form.

4. Recently, who has been appointed as new finance secretary of India?

- A. Arun Kumar
- B. Susheel Kumar Trivedi
- C. Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- D. Jitendra Kumar



- ✓ **Tuhin Kanta Pandey has been appointed as the new Finance Secretary. He is a senior IAS officer from the 1987 Odisha Cadre. He currently serves in the Finance Ministry, overseeing the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) and the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).**

5. Which country recently won the '4<sup>th</sup> Intercontinental Cup Men's Football Tournament'?

- A. India
- B. Syria
- C. Mauritius
- D. Singapore



- ✓ **Syria won the 4<sup>th</sup> Intercontinental Cup men's football championship, defeating India 3-0 in the final round-robin match. Mahmoud Al-Mawas, Syrian captain, received the winners' trophy and was named the Syed Abdul Rahim Player of the Tournament. The tournament, organized by the All-India Football Federation, took place from 3 to 9 September 2024 at GMC Balayogi Stadium in Hyderabad. Three teams participated: Syria, India, and Mauritius, in a round-robin format.**

6. Recently, where was the "2<sup>nd</sup> International Buddhist Media Conclave" organized?

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



- ✓ **The Second International Buddhist Media Conclave organized on 11th September in New Delhi. The theme is "Mindful Communication for Conflict Avoidance and Sustainable Development." The conclave will explore how Buddhist teachings can be integrated into modern media practices to address global issues and build trust in media. The event will also work on creating a network of Buddhist media professionals across Asia. Media representatives from 18 countries will participate in this event.**

7. Nuakhai festival is celebrated in which state?

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



- ✓ In Odisha, especially in the western and some southern regions, people are celebrating the 'Nuakhai' festival, which marks the start of the new rice season. On this occasion, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi introduced the CM-Kisan Yojana to support farmers with financial aid. Under this scheme, farmers will receive Rs 4,000 annually in two parts. Today, Rs 2,000 was deposited into the accounts of around 46 lakh farmers, with the remaining amount to be given on Akshaya Tritiya. A total of Rs 925.40 crore will be distributed to nearly 46 lakh beneficiaries.

8. Recently, the Prime Minister of India inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in which city?

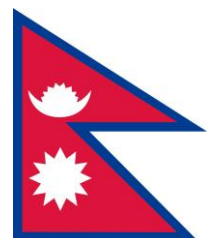
- A. Greater Noida
- B. Bhopal
- C. Jaipur
- D. Gandhinagar



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 on 11 September 2024 in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The event runs from 11 to 13 September and highlights India as a growing semiconductor investment hub. SEMICON India 2024 offers a platform for global semiconductor leaders, industry, and government officials to connect.
- ✓ The event is organized by SEMI, in collaboration with München India and supported by MeitY. The theme is "Shaping the Semiconductor Future." India's electronics sector is currently valued at \$150 billion, with a target of \$500 billion by 2030.

9. Recently, which country has become the 101st member to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- A. Pakistan
- B. Nepal
- C. Bhutan
- D. Croatia



- ✓ Nepal has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a full member. Nepal handed over its Instrument of Ratification to the ISA in New Delhi. This was done during a meeting between Nepal's Dr. Surendra Thapa and India's Joint Secretary Abhishek Singh. The ISA is a collaborative platform focused on increasing the use of solar energy technologies. Its main goals are improving energy access, ensuring energy security, and supporting energy transitions. ISA was initiated by India and France to combat climate change through solar energy deployment.

10. Nilgiri Mountain Railway is situated in which district(s) of Tamil Nadu?

- A. The Nilgiris
- B. Coimbatore
- C. (A) and (B)
- D. Kanyakumari



- ✓ **The Coonoor railway station, part of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR), is being transformed under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, drawing criticism from heritage enthusiasts. The NMR line, known as the Ooty toy train, runs 45.88 km from Mettupalaiyam to Ooty, located in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore and Nilgiri districts. The train first ran on June 15, 1899, after plans were initiated in 1854. The railway was operated by Madras Railway under a government agreement. In 2005, the NMR was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, highlighting its cultural and historical significance.**

11. Recently, which ministry organized the event 'Greening Steel: Pathway to Sustainability'?

- A. Ministry of Steel
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ **The Ministry of Steel organized the event "Greening Steel: Pathway to Sustainability" on 10th September in New Delhi. Various experts from ministries, academia, and think tanks attended the event to discuss sustainable steel production. The event featured a panel discussion on leadership and innovation for driving the green steel transition. The report "Greening the Steel Sector in India: Roadmap and Action Plan" was released, focusing on decarbonization strategies. This aligns with India's Net Zero emissions goal for 2070, as reducing carbon in steel production is vital to combat climate change.**

12. Recently, who chaired the first Governing Board meeting of the newly formed Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)?

- A. Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B. Home Minister Amit Shah
- C. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- D. None of the above



- ✓ **The Prime Minister chaired the first Governing Board meeting of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) in New Delhi. The government plans to engage retired scientists and professors as mentors for universities with lower National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) rankings.**

- ✓ Experts from IITs and national labs will provide mentorship, supported by government funding and postdoctoral support. The goal is to boost research capabilities in higher education institutions. The Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) Programme was also announced to promote research excellence. ANRF, established under the 2023 Act, will collaborate with industry, academia, and government for research.

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## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

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